

**May 2017**  
**From the Desk of Rev. Chuck**  
Unity Church of Bakersfield  
1619 E Street, Bakersfield CA 93301  
[www.ucob.org](http://www.ucob.org)  
Church: 661-327-8614

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Dear Friends,

Recently I went to visit my sister in Opelousas, Louisiana. Several storms had hit the area over the course of the last few months and many people experienced rain and wind damage.

Wherever people gathered the topic of discussion often turned to God's hand being a part of what was happening in and around the area. As I listened to the conversations I started to remember that in the Old Testament the writers would often declare that it was the "Hand of God" that was the active force in their lives and affairs of the Hebrew people.

When Jesus went around the countryside teaching that God was a God of love and not devastation his message was clear: *"It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom."*

Now many of us have heard it said that, *"God can only do for you what He can do through you."* So I ask that you look at yourself as God's invisible hand. And as you do I would invite you to look at your hand and ask, "What meaning does it hold for you, what symbolic truth does it have for you?"

For me when I look at my hand I see it as a metaphor for Jesus's statement, *"It is the Father's good pleasure to give you the Kingdom,"* in that:

**H = Heavenly**  
**A = Assistance is**  
**N = Never**  
**D = Denied**

I'd like to share a story with you from a lady by the name of Esther McIntosh:

"I had only two one-dollar bills in my wallet and they had to last until payday, ten days away. My husband was away on business, and I was at home with our two children conserving every cent.

On Monday my father called to say he needed to attend a union meeting on Friday afternoon. Would I come and stay with Mother? She was bedridden with brain cancer and had to have someone help her with her medicine. I didn't hesitate to say yes. Bake then, in 1970, one dollar would buy enough gas to get there and back, and I would still have an 'emergency' dollar left.

All week long my five-year-old kept asking for a treat from the ice cream truck. And each time, I would open my wallet, show her the two one-dollar bills, and explain why we couldn't afford such a luxury.

When we arrived on Friday, Daddy's parting words were, 'Don't forget to give Mon her Dilantin,' her anticonvulsant medicine. But after he'd gone I discovered the bottle was empty. So Mother told me to check her purse and a couple of other places for loose change, but that was all I found - loose change. I telephoned my sisters, but no one was home. The prescription cost over eight dollars. Where would I get that money?

'God will take care of it,' Mother said. At my wit's end, I decided to go to the pharmacist's with my lone dollar and beg him to trust me for the rest. But when I looked into my wallet again, I was stunned. That single was a ten-dollar bill!"

This story demonstrates **Heavenly Assistance is Never Denied!** Regardless of what others may think or do. **The only person that can deny us of anything is ourself.** All our needs can be met - health, peace of mind, prosperity, divine order and harmony in relationships, etc.

Spirit, as God's HAND, is always present, always creating greater good that will bring us into a realization that God is the source of all things, if we are but open and receptive to it.

God is Substance and always available and always present and no one can keep us from it. An example of this is the very air we breath. It is invisible and all around us. We take in all that we need and can use, we can never deprive anyone else of all the air they are able to breath. There is always enough with plenty to spare because, like God, the air we breath is present in its entirety, it is the very substance that makes life possible.

Charles Fillmore had this to say about substance in his book, Prosperity, *"The spiritual substance is a living thing, not an inanimate accumulation of bread that does not satisfy hunger nor water that fails to quench thirst. It is living bread and living water, and he that feeds on God's substance shall never hunger or thirst."*

May each of you experience the "Hand of God" as this month blesses you with abundant blessings of every good kind.