

Weekend Update:

Dear brethren in our Lord Jesus Christ at Wells,

Grace and peace from God the Father and the comfort and communion of the Holy Ghost be with you all. Amen.

So much can be said, and I don't have the time write of all of the good that has been wrought. "As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country" (Prov. 25:25). I desire to be this to you. Though there are griefs and rough parts of the iron, the Lord is comforting our hearts much by the grace of God in many here, the humility of the elders, the burden for souls (saved and unsaved). I remind you to pray for our brothers here, God has led them in a very peculiar way and is truly here, holding up this lampstand before the presence of his glory. May it ever be so!

Alfonzo arrived back home after fasting and praying for three days apart in Ponta Negra. He called me on the home phone here late that night, and it seemed just wanted to check on us and commend his love to us. O! how we love this dear brother. The next day we had a Bible study in Barranco. Lord, willing I will send a video of Psalm 23 that I made that night. The brethren here only sing the Psalms (straight from the scriptures), though they are not against hymns and often sing them at home. After some Psalms, Alfonzo preached a powerful, convicting, Holy Ghost filled sermon on the need for present progressive salvation to be maintained and the dangers that stand against that. It was so moving to the brethren that afterwards everyone fell on their faces and groaned and travails that the Lord would perfect and sanctify his bride, and they would walk worthy and be an acceptable sacrifice to the Lord. It was so glorious and powerful. I don't believe their was one dry eye. Finally I prayed. Though their was a language barrier, I believed we had the Lord's ear and I believed their would be agreement in the Spirit. I prayed for the unity of all of God's bride across the world and for their sanctification. I also felt expressly led to cry to the Lord mightily for Britney and Ashley. Thus I was not surprised to hear what was happening with them about that time and the next day. All glory to God!

The next day we went to Comas (the northern of the two churches here). By the grace of God, I was able to preach with much boldness and unction in the Spirit to the brethren there on a biblical church and the accompanying persecutions, afflictions and behaviors meet for such a calling. The Spirit was there. Afterwards, multiple groups gathered around for hours to hear from Matthew and myself. There was so much liberty of the Spirit and grace to preach that I felt, truly, like I could preach to them all through the night. At the end of the night, as I was preaching to a group of about 20, on girl finally said, "I need to confess something to you..." She said this with the utmost sobriety and trembling, before all. I said of course. She proceeded to share how when she first heard of us she saw the news and other reports on us and didn't trust us, and even told other of the brethren to beware. (Brethren, the whole time she was trembling and weeping telling me this). "But," she said, "as you were preaching today, I knew that God was speaking through you convicting me. And as you have been preaching now I know that God is trying to speak some things to me through you. I know God is with you. So I need you to forgive me." I was a bit overwhelmed by this myself that I had tears and was able to forgive her publicly, even as God for Christ's sake forgave me.

Hallelujah al Cordero de Dios!

We left with hugs and kisses from all the brethren! May God give us more of this Holy affection for one another in Wells, as they have for one another here.

Yesterday, we spent much of the day sorting out matters with Matthew's visa, and in the evening Alfonzo came over. We spent all evening in sweet fellowship in the word of God with him (and his wife some of the time). I also were able to preach on Skype to a Peruvian couple that lives now in Houston. They were truly astonished at the doctrine of the Lord. They want to come visit and it seems the Lord could very well desire to add them to our number. The husband's name is Armando Diaz, and they have a baby, but I forget the wife and child's name.

We spent hours late into the night at the table with Alfonzo reasoning with him on the doctrine of eternal security. Brethren, I've never had such a glorious conversation with a calvinistically inclined pastor in my life. He is humble and truly trembles at the word of the Lord. May God have mercy on him. I cannot lie against the Spirit, the Lord have to me a tongue of wisdom that no man could gainsay or resist. Praise him for that.

We called the embassy this morning and discovered that the earliest opportunity they have for Matthew to come in for an interview is next Thursday morning. O pray for us concerning these matters. The devil is greatly resisting us.

Pray also for the elders here as they are currently meeting speaking about these doctrinal matters. Alfonzo said last night that these things are very fearful to him, especially because they are coming from me (an elder at the only other church they know in America like ours). He is trembling, brethren. Pray for them: Eder (24), Junior (24), Alfonzo (44), Martin (50).

I am absent in body, but present with you in Spirit, my beloved brethren. I long that you all would prosper in my absence and that we all might be more like Jesus when we meet again.

We may be going to stay in Northern Lima today for a few days, to be around different brethren. Pray for strength in the Spirit. I am called on to preach and speak constantly. He upholds his indigno siervo.

Glory to God in the Highest!

Yours till death and then,
Jake

p.s. Concerning the music I have grievances, nothing that I have addressed yet, but I believe their hearts are right.