

PENTECOST LOST

By

JAMES CLELL OCONNOR

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CHAPTER 1

PENTECOST LOST

Even the most casual observer cannot help but notice the rapid and dramatic changes that are taking place in the world today. The great majority of believers and even non-believers agree the end of this age is very near.

In the midst of this unrest the internet is making people strangers to family and friends while making them friends and family to people they have never been in the same city with. We see people sitting without awareness of those around them while being emotionally involved with others far away.

The lines between nations and people groups are being redetermined not by governments, but instead by web sites and pseudo face to face encounters on the computer and cell phone.

In this surreal world we find an ever-increasing indifference to the needs and feelings of those physically close to us. There is a detachment from community and responsibility as people with causal curiosity watch actual killings and all manner of evil in real time on the internet.

We are now in an age of those who are losing their natural affection and replacing it with a desire for knowledge without the cost of life experience.

Humanity is moving ever further from the reality of the here and now to a place of detached and somewhat divorced experience in relation to actual life.

We see this so much in the Church today as we embrace the concept of a Savior of our souls while living at a far distance from the reality and power of Christ. Where we meet Sunday after Sunday without the healing of the sick, the casting out of demons, and in setting the captives free.

After ministering in pastor's conferences and churches in America as well as the Philippines, Indonesia, Cambodia, Thailand, Myanmar, and Africa I have seen thi

tragedy. The end times spoken of in the Scripture is not only impacting the world around us but also the society of the Church as it brings forth a form of godliness while denying the power thereof.

I think one of the most pressing questions we must ask is where is the end times Church of reality promised in the book of Acts? Why doesn't the Church have the power that Jesus promised his disciples?

If Peter spoke on the day of Pentecost as being the end-times, how can we deny this truth as not being for today?

Is it any wonder that simple believers, without prejudice, or impure motive and with the simplicity of a child, ask why don't we see the healing of the sick and casting out of demons in our Church? You know like Jesus did and what the prophet Joel prophesied: like Peter proclaimed in the second chapter of Acts. Where is this power of the Spirit that was released on the day of Pentecost?

The society of the Church is moving in two directions wherever I have gone. The smaller part is alive with power and the true message of the Gospel, while the larger part is moving ever further from the truth. Many Churches have a belief system that has brought them to a place of great philosophical conviction while leaving them without the here and now reality of the power of the Cross.

"I am come to send fire on earth, and what will I, if it be already kindled? But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how am I straightened until it be accomplished! Do you suppose that I have come to give peace on earth? I tell you, No, but rather division."

—Luke 12:49-51

It is proper and fitting for me to ask, *"Have you received this baptism since you believed?"*

I think it would be good to write the things I now see as hindrances to the fullness of the Power of Christ that are so badly needed in our churches today.

CHAPTER 2

THE GREY HOUND

Growing up on a ranch in Eastern Montana during the mid-nineteen hundreds, I experienced things that were unique to this culture. The one I remember so well was the grey hound dogs my father had. The reason was they could run so fast. I now know they can run up to 60 miles per hour, but back then I only knew it was really fast and there was a serious need for them in our lives.

The greatest enemy to our financial survival was the Coyote. They would kill the young lambs and calves and take the profit we needed to survive in this large dry land. The good news was a coyote runs at a speed of around 45 miles an hour.

I can see even now, my father in his hat and spurs with his revolver around his waist, riding away with the pack of grey hounds in search of the coyote.

There was always the issue of the dog's love of chasing the rabbits.

As in all other cultures there were gamblers here also. They developed grey hound races where the dogs were raced, and the money was wagered as to which one was the fastest.

During this time there were dog race tracts the same as there are horse race tracts today. They were basically the same except with the dogs; there was no one riding the dog because they were too small. To solve this, they would place an artificial rabbit on a pole and run it around the tract a short distance in front of the dogs.

The dogs would run with such abandon chasing this fake rabbit some of them would at times overheat and even die.

Many years ago, I heard of an incident I have never forgotten that occurred during a grey hound race.

Many of these race tracts were located in the rural areas and on this day a most interesting thing happened. The race began with the well-trained dogs chasing the

artificial rabbit at full speed. Then unexpectedly a wild rabbit could be seen running from out on the prairie towards the track. The people could only watch in apprehension as it could be seen the live rabbit was going to go between the dogs and the fake rabbit. What was going to happen? What were the dogs going to do? Maybe, the wild rabbit would cross just before the rabbit pole, or could it be possible the rabbit might slow down and pass behind? All anyone could do was wait and see. As they watched, the living rabbit did pass between the dogs and the artificial rabbit in front of them.

Not one single dog changed their course as they gave everything they had, to continue their pursuit of that which was not real.

When I read my Bible and meditate on the verses that during these last days there will be those who have a form of Godliness and yet reject the power. Those of itching ears that will not endure strong doctrine, and of those ever learning and never coming to the truth. It is during these times and in my intercession for the Church I remember this story and wonder.

Have we too left the cross to now pursue an image without life?

CHAPTER 3

THE TRUE HEART OF GOD

Until we understand the heart of the Father, we will not see the church revived. We must embrace the totality of his commitment to reach this world with his love and mercy. You see God's heart has never changed in his love and desire towards the lost world (not the church).

“And what do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety and nine and go into the mountains, and seek that which has gone astray. And if so when he finds it, verily I say to you, he rejoices more at that sheep, than the ninety-nine which went astray. Even so it is not the will of my Father, which is in heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.”

—**Matthew 18:12-14**

“For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.”

—**1 Timothy 2:3-4**

“Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner that repents.”

—**Luke 15:10**

If this task left no stone unturned in heaven with God becoming man how much more must we give our lives to see it being finished.

The church must shift from a peace time society of self-betterment to a war time society and economy; focused on reaching the lost no matter the cost.

Let me give you an example.

In America we have countless believers who drive new cars. I know one of them who was intending to trade his vehicle for a new one. As he was going to do this, he realized if he drove his old one 3 more years, he would save \$30,000 dollars. He then sent the money overseas and purchased a building for a ministry school.

When we read of John the Baptist as he prepared the hearts of the people to receive the Messiah, he told them, *“He that has two coats, let him give to him that has none, he that has meat let him do likewise.”* He told the soldiers, *“Be content with your wages.”*

The fully sold-out disciple lives a life without luxury.

The purpose of the “purpose driven church” is not to build a church, but instead to embrace the heart of God and fulfill his burning desire that is focused on the fields so white unto harvest.

Ow, How I now plead with God for everyone setting in their chairs across America waiting for a second calling and looking to leadership for release, to wake up and look only to God. To comprehend they too must stand up and pay the price required to turn this world upside down again.

The church must understand the same as Jesus was sent to be a displaced and suffering servant working miracles so has Christ now ordained the Church.

CHAPTER 4

THE HOLY SPIRIT

How has the modern church somehow divorced itself from the Holy Spirit that was so freely given on the day of Pentecost?

After 50 years of carefully searching the Scriptures, I am convinced there is not one single verse to support this as being the plan of God. On the contrary Peter proclaimed in the latter days the Spirit was to be poured out upon all flesh.

As we study our Bibles, we see that God has decreed different dispensations for the Holy Spirit or we could say God has dealt with mankind in a progressive manner as time has unfolded.

The first dispensation of the Holy Spirit was during the time of the Old Testament.

The second dispensation was from the advent of Christ until the day of Pentecost.

The third dispensation is from the day of Pentecost until the time of Christ's return. This is the period we are living in today.

We can see a picture of these three dispensations in the account of Noah and the sending forth of the dove (the dove being symbolic of Holy Spirit.) Let's read Genesis 8:8-12

“Then he sent out a dove to see if the water had receded from the surface of the earth. But the dove could find no place to set its feet because there was water over all the surface of the earth; so, it returned to Noah in the ark. He reached out his hand and took the dove and brought it back to himself in the ark. He waited seven more days and again sent out the dove from the ark. When the dove returned to him in the evening, there in its beak was a freshly plucked olive leaf! Then Noah knew the water had receded from the earth. He waited seven more days and sent the dove out again, but this time it did not return to him.”

During the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit did not reside in the hearts and lives of men. The Spirit was given for specific times and purposes, but not released in the fullness we know it today, thus the dove found nowhere to rest his feet.

During the time of Christ here on earth the Holy Spirit was in the world through Jesus Christ, bringing reconciliation and peace between God and man. At the cross the penalty of sin was paid for by the suffering of Christ and the shedding of his blood. The offering of Christ as the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world replaced the enmity between God and man caused by the sin of the first man, Adam. It was replaced with forgiveness, grace, and mercy. Justice was satisfied as mercy triumphed. Thus, the dove returned in the evening with the olive leaf of peace.

During the dispensation we are now in the Holy Spirit has been released to dwell in the believer and remain in this world until the return of Christ. The Spirit poured out on the day of Pentecost continues to be poured out until the end of this age. Thus, the dove returned no more.

This is the time we are in now, which we refer to as the dispensation of the Church or New Testament. This time was spoken of prophetically by Jeremiah in chapter 31, verses 33-34.

“I will put my laws in their minds and write it upon their hearts, I will be their God and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying know the Lord, because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord.”

We find this reaffirmed in the New Testament in Hebrews 8:18-11,

“Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the people of Judah – not according to the covenant I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the Lord. For this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord; I will put my laws in their mind and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother,

saying know the Lord, for all shall know me, from the least of them to the greatest of them.”

When we look at the New Testament, we never read of Jesus going alone to communicate with the Father until after he was filled with the Holy Spirit. We find Jesus doing no miracles until after the day he was baptized in water by John the Baptist. It was there we read of the Spirit as a dove descending upon him, with the Father speaking “this is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.”

We read in Luke chapter 4 how Jesus being filled with the Holy Spirit, was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to there be tempted by the devil. After overcoming the temptation, it tells us he then returned in the **power** of the Spirit, and from that point he began his ministry. This is still the way to power for the believer the same as it was for Christ.

Jesus after his resurrection instructed his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until they were endowed with power from on high.

After receiving the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost the same power Christ exhibited was also seen in the disciples to the point even the shadow of Peter brought healing to the sick!

When Christ commanded his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them, he then explained to them the purpose of their receiving. *“You will be endowed with power from on high.”* Not to detract nor change in any way their salvation but rather to add to them the power to be witnesses unto the ends of the earth. They were to know the counselor and comforter as they continued to manifest the miracles the same as Christ did in reaching the lost.

Have we focused too much on teaching the benefits of Christ while ignoring this relationship now among us through this avenue? That which Christ spoke of when he told us he would not leave us orphans but would come and continue his daily miracles through us and among us in the personage of the Holy Spirit. That which carries us ever onward fulfilling the true desire and purpose of God. That which enables every believer to be as Christ as they go forth to proclaim the gospel to the ends of the earth.

In the conversion of the apostle Paul as Christ appeared to him on the road to Damascus, we read of Paul asking the Lord what he would have him to do. Jesus then instructed him to go to the street called Straight where he received the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 19, the first question the Apostle Paul asked the disciples when he reached Ephesus was, have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?

How, have we somehow confused ourselves away from the life and power of the third member of the Holy Trinity? To feel somehow this relationship just isn't that important. If Jesus himself instructed Paul that there was another experience between himself and the totality of the Christian faith, how dare we doubt and deny this?

In many churches today we find the belief that when we receive Jesus as our Savior, we also receive everything there is for us concerning the Holy Spirit. There is nothing further from the truth.

When it comes to speaking in tongues the response goes all the way from believing it is of the devil to, yes, we believe in speaking in tongues and the gifts of the Spirit, but they aren't important and rarely if ever seen in our services.

There is a truth found in 1 Corinthians 14:2, *"He that speaks in an unknown tongue speaks not unto man but unto God."*

The thought that man from his spirit can now speak directly unto God who is Spirit from his spirit has somehow been lost.

When we read verse 20 in the letter Jude wrote to the disciples exhorting them to earnestly contend for the faith we find, *"But you beloved building up yourselves in your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost."*

When Oral Roberts spoke of this he was rejected. This poor kid who had been born with a stuttering tongue and as a young preacher with no college degree who was being ridiculed as a "faith healer." When he endorsed speaking in tongues as a necessary part of knowing Christ, he was criticized and condemned by many churches.

He taught you can pray in tongues and then the Spirit will reveal the interpretation to your natural mind.

He said God had given him a piece of ground and as he walked over it while praying in tongues God gave him the details on how to build the biggest Holy Spirit filled University in the world.

I was 13 at that time and I am now 73. I remember the attacks against this belief and the reaction against the man from beginning to end. It has been led by disbelieving pastors and fueled by the media through the decades. After 60 years the verdict is now rendered. Oral Roberts University is now completed and impacting America and beyond to the whole world.

The apostle Paul said, *“I thank God I speak in tongues more than you all”* 1 Corinthians 14:18

“Tongues have been the making of my ministry”

—**John G. Lake 1870-1935**

John G. Lake was responsible for raising over 1,000,000 converts, 625 churches, and 1,250 preachers in 5 years. Upon his return to America Lake established a ministry in Spokane, Washington which resulted in no less than 100,000 miracles and healings over the next decade.

“God has ordained this speaking in an unknown tongue unto himself as a wonderful, supernatural means of communication in the Spirit.”

—**Smith Wigglesworth 1859-1947**

Smith Wigglesworth was a British Evangelist known for countless miracles and healings and the raising of 14 people from the dead.

“The more I pray and worship God in tongues the more manifestations of the other gifts of the spirit I have in my life too,”

—**Kenneth Hagin 1917-2003**

We must quit denying the reality of this power now ours through the Holy Spirit.

Why has the church for the most part denied the entrance of the living God into the realm of the now?

“You have heard, see all this; and will you not declare it? I have shown you new things, from this time, even hidden things, and you did not know them. They are created now.

—Isaiah 48:6-7

God is still creator God among his people today.

The Holy Spirit is not only inspiration, but he is also revelation, manifestation, operation, and the reality of the miracle power of God himself.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit prove the reality, Jesus is alive!

CHAPTER 5

HUMANISM

Perhaps the greatest conversion of any society in the history of the world has taken place in the United States of America during my lifetime. We have witnessed a strong Christian nation being converted to a society where people live in arrogant and open disdain to the beliefs and commands found in the Scripture.

I am amazed and grieved by the open depravity we are witnessing today, where the homosexuals and perverse stand in the pulpits and the homosexuals bring the news into the homes and lives of the Christian humanist. While feeding on this they continue sending their children to government schools that indoctrinate their children to be humanistic in their philosophy of life.

The present-day American church has far too often become a Church of saved humanist operating out of the soul and no longer a Church of the Spirit.

Very seldom can we find pastors living in Pentecost.

America has lost the Judeo-Christian philosophy that everything has been created out of nothing as God spoke it into existence. That man has been created in the image of God and for God's glory. That the same as God reigns in sovereignty over all eternity so God has created man with a free will to reign over his own destiny. The Christian lives knowing through his decisions and through faith in God man can do all things through Christ who strengthens him. That on the one side God has set the boundary he will not allow us to be tempted beyond what we can bear, but with every temptation provide a means of escape. On the other side he has promised whatsoever we ask in faith, believing we will receive. That if we will seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, all things will be added unto us. That our greatest purpose here on earth is to love God with all our heart, our mind, our soul, and with all our strength. To love our neighbor as ourselves. That man is born in a fallen state through the disobedience of Adam and must be redeemed from his sin through the shedding of innocent blood. That every sin will be judged. That through accepting the sacrifice of Christ's blood on the cross and

repenting of his sin man can find peace with God. That In doing this he will know the peace and love and the beauty of life Christ died for us to experience. That in the end we will enter heaven and be with him forever in paradise.

Their basis of all thought and reason (philosophy of life) as being based on Scripture has been lost.

In sharp contrast to this, Humanistic philosophy rests in the belief that the human species is supreme in existence. The belief that man, through a natural process of evolution has ascended to the highest form of intelligence. That moral correctness is found in the center of the present moral values and beliefs of the present human group.

Humanism teaches and believes that society through logic and reason sets the values and boundaries. Anything that cannot be explained and proven through scientific experiment and testing must be rejected. Any suggestion of a realm beyond the human mind's ability to perceive also must be rejected.

Those who dare suggest otherwise are simply inferior and ignorant.

A humanist believes the world is without spirit or supernatural influence and any change can be explained as being by natural process of time and chemistry. They dismiss all suggestion of theism (belief in God), as being human tradition and merely superstition.

Many scholars believe and teach that humanism had its origin and identity in Francesco Petrarca; born in Italy at the beginning of the thirteenth century. He is commonly referred to as the father of humanism. We know it goes back far beyond this. Many have held the belief of man having government over the world through their own logic and reason ever since the garden of Eden.

The Supreme Court of the United States in 1961 made the judgement that Humanism is a religion. This was done in the case: *Torcaso v. Watkins*, 367 US 488.

In saying religion is not to be taught in government schools in America, the Christians have deceived themselves because humanism is alive and well and being taught there every day. It is planted in the lives of the children to reject all things spiritual outside of that which can be proven through experiment and verified with scientific proof.

It was in a sociology class at the University of Montana in 1967 I was first taught that man has evolved from the lower species and is a product of the highest form of this process. Who he is, has evolved through his heredity and environment. That man is born good with the changes he needs accomplished through human reasoning and by changing the outward circumstances, rather than the inner man. That it is here he will find fulfillment and peace.

In the winter of 1978, I did a study of humanism in the Library at Brooks Institute in Santa Barbra California as a research project for Youth with a Mission. I was amazed as I read the series of instructions in the issues of the National Education Associations periodical. They were teaching the teachers how to remove a faith centered belief system from the children in their very first years of being in the public school and how to replace it with a core belief and understanding of humanism. For the past forty some years I have remained a lonely prophet against this as I have watched the government schools change American from a Judeo/Christian philosophy to a Godless society of humanism.

The Christian has been so deceived in believing the battle was about education when it has always been about the philosophy of our society.

When reading the second addition of the humanist manifesto of 1973 we read, *“As nontheist, we begin with humans not God, nature, not deity.”* And also, *“We can discover no divine purpose or providence for the human species. While there is much, we do not know, humans are responsible for what we are or will become. No deity will save us; we must save ourselves.”*

The doctrine of the present-day Church rejects this and maintains belief in a God created world.

The issue of the Church is when Christian children go to school and are taught humanism for 5 days a week and theism for one hour on Sunday. They become convinced even though there is a God, he doesn't have relevance concerning the affairs of life. Without realizing it they become well educated in soul while remaining ignorant in Spirit. Humanism twists and changes Christianity from being a relationship with a

divine person, in every way real among us and reduces it to abstract belief and philosophy.

Over time this has replaced the reality of living in relationship with the almighty God to a life based within the soul while being guided by logic and reason. They continue to embrace the philosophy of Christianity, but instead of becoming people full of the Spirit who by faith release the reality of God in the now they have simply become a saved humanist.

We now have believers with no concept of a God that is involved in manifested presence and power that they are to manifest and proclaim in public. They have replaced power and reality and traded it for evermore learning and emotions and feelings while singing as they watch their society as it turns into a cesspool of depravity.

They continue moving the teachings forward without the reality of Christ and his power so richly promised the Church today. They are diligent in their programs and politics while abandoning the pursuit of Pentecost.

This humanist perspective has left us as those who rest increased in goods believing we have need of nothing while we remain wretched, and miserable, poor, blind and naked.

Before you reject this, I want to ask you how many times in the last 6 months has your pastor prophesied and how many demons have you seen cast out of people and how many have been physically healed?

Because of the influence of humanism in the Church, we now find the Church being content with a society where the realm of the natural dominates everything within the Church. In this we find the divorce rate of Christians being close to the same percentage as the nonbeliever. They struggle to live a purpose filled life from the realm of the soul rather than walking in the Spirit. They invest themselves in their self-efforts as they seek to build the purpose filled church. There they have come to live with this acceptance of the absence of God's reality and power which is a glaring contradiction to that which is openly shown and promised in the Scriptures.

The humanist by contrast declares you cannot make something out of nothing, for every action there must be a reaction. Thus, the life of miracles through faith has been robbed from the church.

This truth God created a man with age in place the same as he did the mountains millions of years old is now being treated as a fairy tale. The Almighty God who created all things from nothing by his word and did it all in 6 days by faith is now many times rejected; with various theories from logic and reason. Because of this rottenness in the core beliefs of the humanist Christian, they then live with a God no longer relevant nor needed in the making of daily life decisions.

Humanism has so invaded the church we now have the preachers through logic and reason trying to apologize and explain that which can only be received by simple faith.

I even had a pastor suggest to me there aren't any demons in America.

Seldom will we find teaching concerning the spirit realm, let alone witness the discerning of spirits being practiced by the pastor.

To me it is almost humorous if wasn't so tragic, as I hear of the multitudes of professional ministers suffering stress and "burn out" while elevating the office of pastor above the high priesthood of every believer. They counsel the people through their soul-based concept of ministry, instead of availing themselves of the gifts of the Holy Spirit alive in body of Christ when allowed. They deny the counselor known in Scripture as the Holy Spirit. In place of prophecy, the word of wisdom, word of knowledge and the discerning of spirits they seek deliverance through the humanist concepts of logic and reason. They analyze and appeal to the person's soul, rather than availing themselves to the reality of the spirit within man.

The belief and experience of true Christianity as the body made up of high priest; with every person to have input as the Spirit wills, has been replaced with the old Levitical style of service. The total rejection of the New Testament order of a fivefold ministry for the equipping of the saints; so, they will do the works of the ministry and come to the fulness of Jesus Christ is not even a desire, let alone something worthy of making any change for.

This same God is alive and well in the church today among us! Here! Now! The same as he was yesterday and will continue to be tomorrow and forever.

The Church has moved from total reliance upon the Spirit of God, to a Church of leadership and authority through man with logic and reason having now replaced revelation. In place of faith and obedience we find human effort.

We have forgotten the command of God given to the priest when they came near to minister unto him in Ezekiel 44:18, *“They shall not gird themselves with anything that causes sweat.”* This self-effort birthed in the minds of men is simply sweat and dead works. Instead of a Church that knows and obeys the Spirit’s voice we have it operating from what man perceives as good and evil.

The Church for the most part has lost its comprehension and possession of the anointing of God. It has been replaced with education. Not understanding that education can correct, perfect, and direct the anointing but is not one and the same. This has taken the Church further and further from the presence and power of the reality of Christ and replaced it with a humanist pursuit of God through the efforts of mind and soul.

Due to the influence of humanism in the Church the people seek pastors through application. We find leadership based on education and training. You never see on a pastor’s application the question concerning the realm of the Spirit and the anointing. The Church for the most part has resigned itself to being an organization teaching the Jesus of history while denying the living truth that Jesus is alive today among us in the Holy Spirit.

Humanism in our secular education within our government schools has corrupted the education in our churches to the place we live no longer hungering for the Spirit’s reality and power. We rest content believing that being without it is acceptable and pleasing to God. We live in deception, believing the gifts of the Spirit unimportant and unnecessary. Being mature is interpreted as peace and prosperity rather than power and fruit. We live content and happy in our concepts and rationalizations while failing to believe and possess the power of Pentecost.

Many years ago, I taught an adult Sunday school class in one of the larger churches in Helena, Montana, USA. In this class we prayed for people to be filled with Holy Spirit. I cannot tell you the grief that struck my heart years later as I read in the cities’

newspaper of this church now having a ministry of people driving by and receiving their easter egg dye packages for the celebration of Easter.

Somehow, we have to stop believing that man through proper teaching and enlightenment of the soul will bring the reality and power of Christ to the fullness Scriptures teaches we are to be living in. We must move beyond the enablement of the Holy Spirit concerning the sanctification of the soul into the release of the Spirit's deliverance and healing through the human spirit.

Elders in the church are placed there not to enlighten our minds but rather to develop us in serving the voice and will of the Holy Spirit, thus releasing the reality of Christ own words, *"greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."*

We can see this in Acts 6 where the apostles rejected authority over the money to commune with God more fully in prayer and to the ministry of the word.

There is an ever-increasing thirst for authority over the natural, while at the same time an ever-decreasing desire for the reality of the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

The true Gospel is not centered on man and his life today, but rather on God himself and the eternal life of man. It is to be lived through broken servants as they manifest the reality of Christ the same as Peter and Paul.

After so many years of secular education's influence we now find churches. increasing in membership and wealth, contented in this while believing they control their own destiny as they plan their own lives. The Biblical truth that the Holy Spirit is to be heard and obeyed is lost to them. Instead of prayer leading to prophecy, the humanist Church is full of self-improvement teachings and prospering of the soul. The leadership is forever perfecting their authority and leadership skills while never taking the cross and entering the realm of the Spirit.

The church is filled with the teachings of self-promotion, and how self-improvement in the natural is the way to become happy and fulfilled. "God is here to help you." The preachers teach humanism and man's success and promotion without the confrontation of the Lordship of Christ and that life begins in our death at the foot of the cross.

This has led to a church that has become a place of compromise instead of those who turn the world upside down as they change the society around them.

Too often we live in this relationship of “philia” love convinced Jesus came to serve us and to bring us to ever increasing self-fulfillment here on earth. The subtle shift from God as center to man being the center has robbed the church. It has increased in material wealth while becoming bankrupt in spiritual things. The relationship now ours with the living God has been lost, that which can only be found in the baptism of the Holy Spirit. True conversion has been traded for feelings and philosophy with the focus self rather than Christ.

The generations have increased in education and wealth while becoming bankrupt in anointing and expression of Christ’s reality.

Not long ago we had an older lady working in our business who had been attending church for many years. She wasn’t feeling well and was going to the Doctor. When my wife, Dolly asked if she could pray for her, she said yes please do, and then hurried out to her appointment without letting Dolly minister. This woman had been in church for many decades! Being, a believer with a corruption in her beliefs she did not understand she was under spiritual attack. After brushing off my wife’s offer of prayer she then had an accident the next day, breaking her wrist and bruising her face terribly. You see the influence of humanism had separated her from discernment as to the spiritual realm of deliverance and healing.

During our school last year on Negros Island in the Philippines, we were asked to Mayo’s home to pray for their son, a young professional. He had been to the doctors and through tests and x-rays it had been determined he had cancer with deterioration of the bone. When we prayed for him to receive healing (therapeuo) and ministered deliverance (sozo) he was delivered and healed. This was confirmed by the doctors who told him he was well and recommended he should rest more.

You might say why do you see these things in other countries and not so much in the church here in America? I will give you one big reason by giving you an example. We all know what sweat is. When we work hard sweat will appear on our bodies. It is the same with the power of the Spirit. We read in Mark 16 where Jesus said, “*Go ye into all the*

world and preach the gospel to every creature,” and then he said, *“and these signs shall follow them that believe.”* The same as sweat follows hard work so these signs shall follow those who take up the cross and obey, *“Go ye into all the world.”*

The American church recognizes education and religious standing rather than anointing confirmed by signs following. Yes, fruit not only involves kindness but also a love so great it heals the sick, casts out demons and sets the captives free.

Jesus is the same here today as when he himself lived upon the earth. We experience him through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The humanist influence also can be seen in the area of missionary outreach. The realm of logic and reason has replaced the anointing of the Holy Spirit. The church quickly embraces the giving of tithes so the humanist can pay his 10% God tax, his government tax and then spend the rest in selfish pursuit for the enrichment of self and family. The belief in a missionary department with only a special few being called satisfies their conscience. This is so tragic as the church in their soulish realm denies the Spirit realm where we give 100% unto Christ. We then enter a relationship with the Holy Spirit from our spirit and give 100% to God’s glory as he instructs us in the how where and when.

Budgets and church boards have replaced prophets and power.

The logic of man has replaced faith with all future plans being made and voted on well in advance.

The thought of knowing the voice of the Holy Spirit to govern or to move beyond the natural realm is often rejected as being unwise and not logical. It is considered ignorant and illogical to think that God might do something beyond what the people have the resources to achieve. Only that which is accepted by our humanist concept of what reality is survives the vote of man. This has gone so far that many denominations will no longer allow a missionary to go forth without his money secured in advance. Once they have the money and college degree, they are then free to go without the anointing and power of Pentecost.

One of the saddest results of the humanist influence in the modern Church is the end result of the pastors. Instead of them increasing in maturity, power, and stature in

Spirit, they resign themselves to a career of religious pursuit among the people, within their own limits of logic and reason. Pastors have become unwise comparing themselves, among themselves where they find acceptance among their peers who also have no power. The result is not a church of five-fold ministers alive in the Spirit sending forth disciples to heal the sick, cast out demons, and raise the dead, but rather a senior pastor fat in philosophy and starving in Spirit: retiring to comfort while the Church continues to decline.

Oh, that God would return the heart of David to the Church!

We read in 2 Samuel 21:18 as David grew old, he went forth in battle with his army around him. The day came as it does to all men. He grew faint and fell in the battle, no longer the young man who had slain his tens of thousands; but a tired brave old man time would soon take away. It tells us as this once great warrior fell that day fighting the giant a young soldier trained in his army stepped up and struck the Philistine and killed him.

Pentecost never retreats and never retires until the next generation full of the fire and wind steps over them to continue the victory!

In Pentecost there is power with no possibility of retirement. *“My Father works even until now, and I work.”*

Another place we find the influence of humanism is in the teaching concerning the rhema word. It is so true that which we find in Romans 10:8 that the rhema is near you even in your mouth. We add to this Proverbs 18:21 where we read the power of life and death are in the tongue. Too often we find those who maintain a humanist concept of a God; twisting and comingling this great truth and prostituting it; by seeking to use the anointing for their own prosperity and self-fulfillment.

When I hear someone preaching on all the great blessings of following God, I want to stand up and shout Amen. Oh, how God wants to bless us indeed! It states in Hebrews 6:13-19 we live with God’s covenant of blessing being the anchor to our souls.

Galatians 3:29 tells us if we be in Christ, we are sealed into God’s covenant blessing!

In knowing this we see the impact of humanism in the preaching of the Church. The Biblical truth that man was created for God (Revelation 4:11) has been slowly changed to the humanistic new age belief God was created for the success and glory of man in this temporal life of today.

From this perversion within the humanist Church, we see people boasting of their great wealth with no conviction toward the poor and starving true Church out in the fields so white unto harvest. Within their prosperity they seek self-fulfillment while having no compassion nor conviction towards saving the lost and setting the captive free.

The eternal perspective of “*sell what you have and take up the Cross*” has been replaced with a temporal theology of man’s exaltation with no regard for the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The question is not whether it is right or wrong to be wealthy: the question is do we have the eternal perspective Moses had when he refused the prosperity of Pharaoh’s court and chose to suffer affliction with the people of God.

The saved humanist has lost the concept we find in Hebrews 11:35 “*of not accepting deliverance that they might obtain a better resurrection.*” They savor not the things that be of God, but the things that be of men.

Every person who truly has Christ in them and yields to the Holy Spirit will have a life changing burden to reach the lost. They will join Christ in fulfilling the heart of their Father God by leaving their heaven, taking their cross, dying to self and giving their everything. “*Herein is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit: so, shall you be my disciples.*”

When this becomes our life, we will know the true fire of Pentecost and find our gold tested in the fire, spoken of by Christ in Revelation 3:18.

This subtle shift from man being created for God’s pleasure to man’s success being the reason for God; has taken over the Church for a large part across America and is now influencing the whole world. Native pastors are being taught how to seek money and blessing as the true evidence of God among us. This is being done by men who couldn’t cast out a demon or minister healing to anybody. We have replaced the soldier enduring

hardness with the humanist exalting himself believing if there is a God, he belongs in the back seat and desires to promote the man.

This will raise up the kings and champions of the church of the antichrist; with the Lordship of Christ being lost.

The modern Church with their belief in theory, while being powerless in Spirit will be those the Antichrist will come to and use to usher in his kingdom with the promise of peace.

Humanism has left us unwilling to suffer for Christ while living without feeling any obligation to Christ to answer his call to *“go ye into all the world and preach.”* We have denied death of self and picked apart the Scriptures to justify ourselves in living without the Holy Spirit’s anointing while being content without the power.

May God grant us grace to repent and return unto Jerusalem to find again the fire and the winds of the Holy Spirit.

Let us reach for that which the Apostle Paul wrote of in 1 Corinthians 4:19, *“I will know not the word (logos) of those who are puffed up, but the power.”*

CHAPTER 6

LOSS IN INTERPRETATION

The Bible will always be God's eternal Word. It will never change, and any change throughout time will not be found in the Scriptures themselves, but rather in the interpretation and understanding of the believer.

When we have a misunderstanding of what the Bible says we will never be able to fully walk in the light.

Some errors within our beliefs can be caused by the loss in translation from one language to another. Because of this the doctrine of the church can be changed due to this misperception and misunderstanding.

I would like to call attention to some of the Greek words in the original manuscripts compared with the words in the English translations. I hope as we do this it will help us better understand the loss of Christ's reality and power that we see in the Church today.

In translating the Scriptures from the original Greek manuscripts into the English language, as commissioned by King James of England in 1604 we find the council of scholars took two Greek words and used the English word, "Word" for both of them. One of the words in the original Greek was logos and the other rhema. This can easily be proven by anyone who wants to take the time and verify it in a Strong's or Young's concordance.

The first question is, is there a difference? And the answer is yes there is.

The word "logos" is well accepted by Christians to mean God's eternal word: We understand from reading John 1:1-4 that the "logos" was Christ and through Christ were all things made. With this "word" being taken by the Church as being the Bible or Holy Scriptures. We read in Matthew 24:35 where Jesus tells the people, "*Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words (logos) shall not pass away.*"

As I mentioned above in John 1:1-4 we find the word Logos as being one and the same with God the creator and with Jesus Christ likewise being one with God. We read in 2

Peter chapter 1 verses 17-21: that Peter after speaking of his hearing a voice from heaven established the “more sure word of prophecy” as having greater authority than that which he had heard in voice. Here we find again the word referred to as “logos.”

2 Timothy 2:15, Study to show yourself approved unto God, rightly dividing the word (logos) of truth.

In Revelation 19:11-13, we read, *“And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse: and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called the Word (Logos) of God.”*

The problem is as true as this is concerning the word Logos, it is not the definition of the word rhema which the English translation has hidden within the word, “word.”

The second word “Rhema” has a much different meaning. It’s meaning is commonly explained as God’s logos (the reality of God) being manifested in power at a specific time and place. We find in Hebrews 11:3, *“Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed/created by the word (rhema) so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”* In Hebrews 1:3, *“Who being in the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word (rhema) of his power, when he had purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of God.”* We see here Christ the Logos upholds all things by the rhema.

In reading these verses we begin to change our understanding of the “word/rhema” from being the unchanging eternal word of God to an understanding that rhema is the manifested logos in time, place, and power. Thus, the Holy Spirit is living among us manifesting God’s presence and power as the “rhema.” We begin to understand the same as Jesus/logos is entire and eternal in every way, so the “rhema” is now Jesus among us in the person/presence and power of the Holy Spirit.

We read in John 14:18 where Jesus said, *“I will not leave you orphans, I will come to you.”* Some translations have substituted comfortless in place of orphans. I do not agree with this. The only other place the Greek word “orphous” is used in the New Testament is found in James 1:27 where it is interpreted as the word fatherless, and it is from this

word the English word orphans originated. So, to say Jesus is not present in the same power and presence in the world today as he was when he walked here simply doesn't agree with the reality of Scripture. Jesus told his disciples he would be alive among them as the Holy Spirit!

We cannot deny this as we read the book of Acts and see the miracles of Christ being continued by the Church long after his return to heaven.

With this understanding we are now free to no longer treat as a fairy tale the promise of Jesus, that greater things than he has done will be continued in us today.

When the Church teaches the Baptism of the Holy Spirit was only for the early church and speaking in tongues and miracles are not for today, we have to deny all the Scriptures that speak of the rhema of God. Those Scriptures we have mistaken as being in reference to the logos instead of the rhema.

In removing the distinction between logos and rhema we have produced an impotent Church of mental agreement without healing, deliverance, and the power of Pentecost.

Jesus is now among the Church as the Holy Spirit. Yes, they are both God. Jesus said in John 10:30 *"I and my Father are one."* We find in Acts 5:3 where Peter in speaking to Ananias said, *"why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Ghost"* and in verse 4, Peter identifies the Holy Spirit as God when he said, *"you have not lied unto men, but unto God."*

Somehow the Church for the most part has reduced the Holy Spirit to someone unseen, unheard, and unknown. He has been reduced to a mental belief and at best recognized as a warm feeling and a vague impression of their conscious mind.

The Holy Spirit is God's living presence (rhema) among us.

Until we recognize the Holy Spirit as God living among us and in us, we will not live with the faith necessary to live in Pentecost.

When we go back through our Bible and begin to divide the word of God rightly, we begin to have a seismic shift in our concept of who God is in our daily relationship with him.

The first place this impacts us is when we analyze what Jesus was really saying to the devil in Luke 4:4 when we read, *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.”* First, we know Jesus said I am the bread of life. We then find he did not refer to the logos, but instead to the rhema when he said, *“by every word.”* We then interpret this as Jesus saying man cannot live by me only but also needs to live in relationship with the Holy Spirit (the rhema) or living word also.

We read also in John 15:7, *“If you abide in me and my words abide in you, you will ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.”* I was told this meant I must learn and know my Logos/Bible. Now we all know that we are to know and learn our Bible because it tells us this throughout the rest of Scripture. But here in both of these Scriptures the word, “word” is not logos, but instead it is rhema. When I understand this, I now realize I am not only to know the logos in my soul, but I am also to live in relationship with the living rhema word as it manifests itself in me every moment of every day. It is in this state of relationship with the rhema (Holy Spirit) I can then realize 1 Corinthians 4:20 where we read, *“For the kingdom of God is not in word (logos) but in power.”*

Another place we will find the word being rhema is in John 15:7, *“if you abide in me (not only in mind and soul but also in my spirit) and my words (rhema) abide in you, you will ask what you will, and it shall be done unto you.”* Again, in John 17:17, *“Sanctify them through your truth: your word (rhema) is truth.”* Romans 10:17, *“so faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word (rhema) of God.”*

I always understood when the Bible said in Ephesians 5:26 where it speaks of Christ sanctifying and cleansing the church with the washing of the water by the word, we were talking about the Bible here. When we read this in the original, we again find the word rhema. Not only am I to read and know my Bible (Logos) with my understanding, but beyond this I am to know a relationship of the rhema, or Holy Spirit interacting with my spirit as I grow into the fullness of Christ.

This morning on Facebook someone posted a picture of the devil coming to attack them and them holding up the Bible as their sword. We are quick to say amen. This is good, but here again we find in Ephesian 6:17 we are to take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word (rhema) of God.” A relationship with the power and presence of God

in the here and now! Not only holding up the Logos from our own soul and mental effort and belief, but also in faith releasing the rhema (God's presence and power here now.) as we stand against the wiles of the devil.

It is in not understanding this we have come to be a people who do not recognize nor value the reality of God among us. The church has come to believe that it is through the educating of the people in the Logos and the history of Jesus among us that we will obtain all God has for us. In not defining the rhema and replacing the seeking of it with education of the soul we have distanced ourselves from the anointing. Thus, we do not understand and no longer possess it in the church. The living relationship with the manifestation of the gifts of the rhema (Holy Spirit) has been lost.

Let us repent of our soul centered philosophy and start living in the actual reality of our Christian experience.

I know many, many, people who profess to be "Spirit filled." They can tell you the time and place they received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Somehow, they never found a relationship with the rhema. When their mind and logic could not receive it, they rejected it and never found the power of the Holy Spirit spoken of by Jesus in Acts 1:8. Instead of becoming as Paul who said, "I pray in tongues more than you all, they went back to living in the realm of their soul. They believed speaking in tongues to be of no real value. They had no understanding that speaking in tongues is speaking to God as it tells us in 1 Corinthians 14:2, *"he that speaks in an unknown tongue speaks not unto men, but unto God."* It is the avenue by which the Holy Spirit edifies us to release the rhema. Because of the misunderstanding and indifference to this they never came into the place of manifesting the reality of the rhema through the gifts of the Holy Spirit in their lives. They never understood tongues have been given to edify us and move us from being dominated by the mind and soul to someone who is full of the healing power and deliverance of Jesus Christ. They have gone on to live their lives in the realm of the soul instead of in the purpose of the Spirit. Because of this misunderstanding they begin to teach doctrine that speaking in tongues is not for today. In doing this they have limited themselves to operating in the soul realm understanding the Logos while never experiencing the rhema of God's power and reality today.

They have failed not only themselves but also the Church.

When we receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speak in new tongues, we will for the first time move in the realm of our spirit man taking authority over our voice beyond the limit of our soul realm of logic and reason. This is the entrance of God's spirit (rhema) into the reality of the present. Here we for the first time release the power from on high beyond the control of our soul (understanding) and give the Holy Spirit the avenue to release the gifts identified in 1 Corinthians chapter 12 and further explained in chapter 14. It is through these gifts we release the rhema of Jesus among us today.

The present-day Church in not placing value on this release of the rhema/Spirit has lost the power of Christ being manifested among them.

We must understand the Church today is not without power, it simply does not release the power that is theirs. Jesus is here now as the Holy Spirit the same as he was when he was here in the flesh. We have not been left orphans, we now heal the sick, cast out demons and manifest the resurrection power that is ours through the rhema among us as the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER 7

SAVE

I want to share with you something Jesus said in the Bible in Matthew 18:11: I quote, *“For the son of man has come to save that which is lost.”* We also read in Acts 2:21 where Peter in quoting the prophet Joel from the Old Testament said, *“and it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”* You see the Bible says this because Jesus really is the way, the truth, and the light, and no one can be forgiven and go to heaven without repenting of their sins and receiving him as their Savior.

We all know there is only one mediator between God and man and that is Christ Jesus. We hold this belief and rest content looking to the future day when he will return.

But I am afraid sometimes we just know this without realizing the magnitude of what Jesus was saying when he said he has come to seek and to save.

I want to share something with you, I hope will help you understand.

When, we read these verses in the original Greek manuscript, we find the word that has been translated saved, is the word, “sozo.” Before you say, “so what?” let me tell you where else we find the same word also being used in the Bible. This will help us see how much more Jesus was saying and what a small part of the true gospel we preach and possess. We all remember the woman with the issue of blood who pressed through the crowd and touched the hem of Christ garment and was made whole. We read Jesus turned and said, “your faith has made you whole.” In the original manuscript we find he said, “your faith has “sozo” you.” Same word. In Mark 10:52 when Jesus spoke to blind Bartimeus as he healed his blind eyes, he said, “thy faith has made you whole (sozo).” Same word. When the man came and told Jairus his daughter was dead in Luke 8:29, Jesus said “fear not, believe only, and she shall be made whole (sozo)! Same word again. When we read the account of Jesus casting the demons out of the man and into the swine, we see in Luke 8:36 it says, *“They also which saw it told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed (sozo).”* Jesus said in Mark 16:16 *“He that*

believes and is baptized shall be saved (sozo).” In Mark 6:56 And whithersoever he entered into villages, or cities, country, they laid the sick in the streets, and besought him that they might touch as if it were but the border of his garment: and as many as touched him were made whole (sozo).

When Jesus said he came to seek and to save (sozo), he was saying I have come to do all of the above! I have come to heal your issue of blood, give sight to the blind, bring you back from death to life, and deliver you from your legions of demons.

Somehow, we have twisted the word saved (sozo) to mean getting to go to heaven and have lost the complete proclamation Jesus made that he is truly the living God among us today. When we read in John 3:17 *“For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved (sozo)”* we must accept the truth healing and deliverance are as much in the now as eternal salvation. We would never say to someone who wanted to receive Jesus as their Savior; Oh! that cannot be now! But you see we cannot separate eternal salvation from healing and deliverance. Here! Now! Today! In Jesus Christ!

May God give us grace to see and know when we in faith speak in Jesus’ name, we release the “sozo” we now possess as a new creation in Jesus Christ.

We keep wondering why Jesus doesn’t heal today. It is because we have no faith, he wants to do it. We have separated the being born again from the total “sozo” of Christ’s redemption. Our false interpretation and lack of faith stop him from using the avenue he has chosen for us through the gifts of the Holy Spirit to give this world the “sozo” he released at the cross.

We cannot separate ourselves from the calling and responsibility this understanding brings to us as a believer.

Oh God now delivers us from our ignorance and impotence so the reality of Jesus Christ might dwell among us again!

CHAPTER 8

LOVE

We find in the English translation of the Bible the two words philia and agape being combined into one word. Love is used for the both of them.

When we study these two words, we find here again very different meanings.

The word philia means to love with having common interests and desires. Philia love is self-fulfilling for both parties involved. This is experienced and practiced by everyone, both saved and unsaved. We find the root of this in our natural man/soul.

“Agape” is a direction or choice of our will that finds joy in something other than ourselves. The word “agape” is not found in classical Greek literature, but only in revealed religion. “Agape” love gives the other person not what they desire nor deserve, but rather what is best for them without thought of the price it costs the giver. This can only be through the Spirit.

The most perfect example of this is, “for God so loved the world he gave his only begotten son.” This love made complete through the agape love of Jesus at the cross.

This is the love the Christian swears themselves to in the marriage vow. “For richer or for poorer, in sickness or in health, until in death we do part.” We see the giver giving that which is right and best for the recipient with no thought of themselves.

We also see this being not only the calling of Christ but also ours in Luke 9:22-24 *“The Son of man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be slain, and be raised the third day. And he said to them all, if any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall find it.”*

For the Church to truly take up the cross it must move from a relationship of soul while living in Philia love to a union with Christ releasing agape love.

From our philia love we embrace everything that brings mutual blessing through the Cross, as we seek to distance ourselves from the agape love that demands we take up the cross and share in its sufferings.

In listening to the modern day preaching, we find ministries making millions of dollars preaching a Philia relationship with God. They continually proclaim the untold benefits of the cross which are fully ours to receive unto ourselves yet they never preach the calling to take up the cross.

We read in Philippians 2:5 where God commands us to surrender our success and pattern ourselves after Jesus. “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God: but made himself of no reputation, and took upon himself the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in the fashion of a man, he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.” The humanist preacher abiding in philia love fails to confront the people with the true calling of Christ into this selfless relationship of agape love.

Christ’s crucifixion without self-crucifixion and self-denial is simply glorified humanism.

Frankly some pastor’s conferences are just like the large conventions of Amway and many secular service clubs. They encourage everyone to believe in themselves for success and then present a strategy of growth for the organization. They then throw in the preaching Jesus died for your success! The people who attend become blessed in their philia relationship with God. They then leave to continue bringing disciples unto themselves while denying the true calling of Christ to deny themselves to the point of surrender and embracing agape love.

Only agape love can build the true kingdom of God, which advances the success of the other while taking no thought concerning oneself.

Until the humanist Church moves from a philia relationship with God to an agape relationship, we will not possess the full gospel of healing the sick, casting out demons and setting the captives free.

If you need proof of this look at the result of the American Gospel on the American society over the last 40 years.

The humanist preachers abiding in philia love do not challenge the self-seeking to take up the Cross and join Christ in true Christianity. That which causes the Church not so much to prosper and find self-healing, but rather to recon themselves dead unto Christ as they join him in paying the price for others to be saved.

It is when we find agape love, we like Paul yearn to know *“the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable with his death.”* (Philippians 3:10)

It is here we find the power of Pentecost. It is here we find the agape love of God taking the true Gospel of Christ unto the billions still waiting.

It is here we will find the signs following. It is here we find those who abide in Philia love being impotent or absent.

The American Christian in following the mega stars are led onward with an almost fanatic pursuit of philia relationship embracing the prosperity and fulfillment of the believer and their family. Deceived into believing this to be the purpose of the cross. They gladly trade this for true union with Christ. They believe this is God’s will and here they will focus and believe themselves pleasing to God. The truth is there is more to the Cross! If this was all its about, we would see the power and reality of Christ as he heals the sick, casts out demons and raises the dead among them. They settle instead for the never-ending teaching that produces a philos form of Godliness that denies the agape relationship found only in taking up the cross.

It is from the Church of philia love we find pastors retiring from the battlefield and the second generation becoming well educated and successful with nobody’s children stepping over them and taking the cross. They never embrace the agape love that produces a life of self-denial and preaching the gospel. The next generation becomes professionals living in comfort while lacking both the affection and conviction to count it all dung for the excellency of the calling to ministry. They reject the plan of God that requires them to join Christ in not bringing peace but the sword; in dividing households against themselves and taking his baptism of the Holy Spirit’s reality and

power to the world. This isn't even a concept in their minds, let alone a reality, in their pursuit of the blessings and benefits.

There is a blindness in the Church today that rejects in practice that which is eternal in truth. I remind you again of 1 Corinthians 4:20, *"the kingdom of God is not in logos, but in power."* *"And he who does not take his Cross and follow after me is not worthy of me."*

Matthew 10:38

CHAPTER 9

TEMPORAL VISION

The influence of humanism can be seen in the way the American church focuses on life today. Their theology is, give your tithe and then be wise and put the rest into your own retirement. Everybody knows how foolish it is not to prepare for your later years. Be at peace at any cost and know God does not want any to suffer. Live in comfort, and the rapture will get us before it starts to get rough. The thought of an eternal retirement plan is never even a consideration. The average believer knows they need to get their storehouse full so they can retire here below. They rest content Jesus has them covered for the afterlife.

The thought they could be stripped naked when they get to heaven never occurs to them.

“For no other foundation can no man lay than what is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man builds upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble, every man’s work shall be made known: for the day will declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man’s work of what sort it is. If any man’s work remains which he has built thereupon, he will receive a reward. If any man’s work is burned up, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved.”

—1 Corinthians 3:11-15

“Because you say I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing ; and do not know that you are wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel you to buy from me gold tested in the fire, that you may be rich; and white raiment so that you will be clothed, and that the shame of your nakedness does not appear; and anoint your eyes with eye salve that you might see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten be zealous therefore and repent.

—Revelations 3:17-19

Yes, some believers will stand naked before everyone on judgement day.

The American church needs to be reintroduced today to the judgements found in Revelation chapter 20.

It tells us the “the things” written in the books were opened.

For the most part the American Christian believes there is only the one book, the Book of Life.

There is the Book of Life from which everyone that has ever lived will be judged, and we all know those who do not have their name written there will be thrown into the lake of fire. But what about the other books? It tells us the dead were judged of those things which are written in the books according to their works.

“And that servant, which knew his Lord’s will, and did not prepare himself, nor do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stipes.”

—**Luke 12:47**

Salvation gets you to heaven, but your works will determine if you will be naked there; or whether you will receive the silver and gold you have purchased from Christ that has been tested in the fire. (As he counsels us all to do.) Revelation 3:18

Those who have set every Sunday as spectators watching the mega ministry on tv or the local pastor are as naive as the man who goes to a construction site and watches the other people work. When it is time to get paid, the foreman is going to say, you have got to be crazy.

Those who are sending their money to the rich TV pastor are simply burying their talent and insuring their own nakedness before Christ on judgement day. They will again be spectators sitting ashamed while watching the awards ceremony, only now it is eternal.

The disciple must repent of placing the temporal before the eternal and focus his life on the talent God has given him for advancing the gospel.

Without shame the modern Church preaches a no sacrifice *“Jesus paid it all”* theology that takes the believer out of the streets where they belong and leaves them as emotional babies weeping in worship at the altar while remaining without fruit.

They have developed self-focused believers resting in comfort, and have stolen their eternal rewards from them.

There is only one theology in the Bible, forsake your own life, take up the cross. Sell what you have and invest all you are and all you will ever be here below: so, you will shine like the stars in eternity. Daniel 12:3

Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord listened and heard them; so, a book of remembrance was written before him for those who feared the Lord and who thought upon his name. *“They shall be mine,”* says the Lord of Hosts on the day that I make them my jewels; and I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him. Then you will return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serves God and those who do not serve him. Malachi 3:16-18

CHAPTER 10

LOSS OF INTIMACY

In this the new world of the internet, Facebook and Twitter have replaced the actual experiences of life with the abstract. Interaction of touch, feelings, and love found in close relationships is now distorted to the untouchable and oft times distorted abstract.

We now see many believers establishing the same pseudo relationship with Christ, while losing the desire of personal relationship and intimacy. Living with the pretense without facing the responsibility.

Some years ago, I was in a Pentecostal church and found myself in a conversation with two of the older members who had been in leadership positions there for many years. They were relating how they were waking up more in the night than when they were younger. They then went on to discuss what they had watched on Christian television before returning to bed and going back to sleep.

I immediately felt a grieving in my heart and asked them if they ever considered maybe God was calling them to himself in prayer and intercession?

The true church has, and always will continue moving forward on its knees in personal relationship and intimacy with Christ.

For a large part this ministry has always been carried out by the older saints and the families praying together as a unit.

The old-fashioned house to house prayer meeting is being replaced by the man centered program driven church. It is accepted to live feeling spiritual while watching the ministry on Sunday. This then continues throughout the week by living the abstract during the week on the internet and TV.

The church must come back to a living position of responsibility and sacred trust in not only praying *“thy kingdom come thy will be done”* but beyond this to *“here am I send me.”*

The heaven, even the heavens are the Lord's: but the earth has he given unto the children of man. Psalms 115:16

God gave dominion of the earth unto Adam, and he has never taken it back. (Genesis 1:28)

By the sin of Adam this authority was surrendered to the Devil, thus Satan became the God of this world (2 Corinthians 4:4)

Upon his resurrection Christ ascended into heaven and there presented his blood before the judgment seat of God in heaven.

“Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him; he has put him to grief: when thou shall make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the Lord shall prosper in his hand. He shall see the travail of his soul and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities.”

—Isaiah 53:10-11

And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them in it. (Colossians 2:15)

When Christ rose from the grave, he did not destroy Satan, he simply re-established man's place of dominion over him here in the earth.

It is important we understand this clearly.

After the death and resurrection of this one-man Jesus Christ; the position of lordship was taken back from Satan and restored unto man.

Christ following his triumph over Satan transferred this authority to the church for them to realize and manifest through faith.

“All power has been given unto me in heaven and in earth, go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.”

—Matthew 28:18-20

“Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: by whom we have access by faith into this grace, wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.”

—Romans 5:1-2

As Christ was, so now are we, the Church today.

As foreign as this may seem to many, God now waits for the intercessor’s prayer to release His kingdom authority across the world today.

The same as Jesus told those who sought to arrest him, thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? The Church now dwells in this position. The same as Jesus, we can call to the Father to send angels to fight in the battles with us.

“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities and powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

—Ephesians 6:12

The Church must renew their understanding and return to this sacred calling of the kingdom’s responsibility.

Several years ago, I was teaching in a Bible School. I asked the students if they were interested in attending a conference where someone many considered the greatest Spirit filled minister in the world would be ministering. They were all so excited and happy. When I told them someone was willing to pay all their expenses, there was clapping and celebration. I then told them the directions. We all turned in our Bibles and read Matthew 6:6, *“when you pray, enter into your closet, and when you have shut the door, pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret shall reward you openly.”* They were disappointed but that changed as they come to a new understanding of the position now theirs in Jesus Christ.

American Christianity has seen a change from the individual believer knowing their position in Christ to living their lives no longer believing God is all powerful, sees

everything, knows everything, and is everywhere present. Instantly present on the scene any time we speak his name.

They have lost the foundation of their theology in knowing that by faith in Jesus all things are possible. That by accepting the sacrifice of Christ they have become the righteousness of Christ himself and there will never be anyone more qualified or called by God to experience his proclamation:

“Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that believes on me, the work that I do he will do also; and greater works than these shall he do, because I go unto my Father, and whatsoever you will ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the son. If you shall ask anything in my name, I will do it.”

—**John 14:12-14**

The believer must turn from their super star mentality of the presence and power of the far away God to a personal intimacy with the God that reveals our Christ as he so desires to be in us; and yearns to go forth with us, to fulfill the desire of the Father in saving the lost.

We read in Genesis 4:1, *“now Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived and bare Cain.* We find in the original Hebrew the word “knew” is “yada.”

There is the story told of a young man and woman who fell deeply in love during their Bible school days. The young man with a calling to the west and the young woman knowing her calling to the East. At the end the school they were married. That afternoon they boarded their different ships and answered God’s call. They remained faithful and loved each other as they served the Lord. They wrote letters back and forth as the years went by and when they died, they still loved each other fervently. As much as they loved one another with all their hearts, they never knew “yada.”

You see yada produces life.

There is a pseudo love found in the modern churches of today. A Christianity of large gatherings, giving of money so God will make them rich, and emotionalism while never finding union with the cross. This is so far from the reality that brings them to the power needed to change the society around them. To obey Christ and take the gospel to

the ends of the earth. To see the signs following and the true love of Christ revealed in the casting out of demons, the healing of the sick and the setting the captives free.

Do we really know yada?

We read in Daniel 11:32 where it is speaking of how as the end times come upon us the Anti-Christ will raise up and corrupt the people by flatteries. We also read concerning the true church: *“but those that do know (yada) their God shall be strong and do exploits.”*

God is still calling for the virgin heart to come into the secret bridechamber of his love; to go and shut the door on their closet. To find the “yada” of the true Church. This and this alone will reveal the true Christ.

CHAPTER 11

THE MYSTERY OF MAN

The God is Spirit and man is spirit!

When we observe the teachings of the modern church and even when we study those of the Bible Colleges, we find there is a lack of understanding concerning man. Very rarely will we find someone who clearly teaches the living relationship between the spirit of man and the Holy Spirit.

There is a big difference between the relationship of the mind and soulish realm with the teachings of Christ and a relationship with the actual reality and power of Christ through a “now” relationship with the Holy Spirit.

When you ask, how do we worship God in spirit most teachers teach that it is through the soul and do not comprehend the relationship of man’s spirit with the Holy Spirit. The things of God that cannot be understood by the human mind. The things that can be are well received and taught while the things outside of this are for the most part ignored and neglected.

I was taught the people who enter into this realm are mystics, and to “stay on track” you should avoid going there.

I was also taught in Bible College you can-not distinguish between soul and spirit, when the Bible clearly teaches that we can. There is a difference between the soul, or in Greek, “psuche,” and spirit, which in Greek is “pnuema.”

We read in Hebrews 4:12, *“For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”*

As you study further you can find many other verses making this distinction.

We first see this distinction in Genesis 2:16 & 17, where God commanded Adam: *“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”* We find in Genesis chapter four that the body of Adam and Eve did not die and neither did their souls. They continued to possess a mind, will, senses and emotions. They continued to live and have a family, but they were no longer alive in spirit.

Jesus came with the message you must be born again. He confused Nicodemus when he said, *“that which is born of the flesh is flesh and that which is born of the spirit is spirit.”* Jesus tells us in John 4:23, *“The hour comes and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeks such to worship him.”* The apostle Paul adds to this in Romans 8:14: *“they that are led by the Spirit of God, they are the son’s, of God.”*

Even the teachers that believe in man being spirit, soul, and body teach the Spirit comes through revelation to the soul, as a divine influence enabling us to obey God. This is true, but the Holy Spirit also manifests himself in many ways among us beyond the realm of the soul. The Spirit is Jesus in our midst. The Holy Spirit must be released beyond the constraints of the soul and the believers understanding. When this is allowed the Holy Spirit/Jesus presence will be evident in the Church. We will then know Christ today the same as he was yesterday and tomorrow.

Many years ago, I was ministering in the Masonic retirement home in the Helena Valley in Montana USA. After I finished the service, an elderly lady came forward. When I asked Mary how she was doing she asked me to pray for her pneumonia. As I began to pray, she made a noise that sounded to me like she was having an attack on her breathing. I immediately stopped praying and placed my hands on her shoulders and said with alarm, *“Mary are you all right?”* She looked at me like a mother looks at a disobedient child and commanded me, *“Keep praying young man I am being healed!”*

Let me give me give you another example.

I was ministering in a Church in Bacolod, on Negros Island in the Philippines. I had been asked to share on releasing the Holy Spirit. After much prayer I did so. They had the large fans going and people kept interrupting the service by adjusting them, leaving

to get more clothing to keep warm, and other things. It seemed to me like a disaster as I struggled to teach. I was sure no one was listening. I remember at the end of the service I walked down to the front row and put my head in my hands and prayed, God forgive me for this terrible service. After the people for the most part had left and as I sat there, I heard someone at the rear of the church weeping. I turned to see who it was and why they were crying. As I watched a man came up the aisle towards the front. He began to put a hand over his right eye and then his left. He kept saying again and again, "I can see, I can see! As he reached the front of the church where the pastor and I were standing he said, "Pastor I did not know you have a mustache. You look good with your mustache!" All glory and praise to my God!

You see God works beyond the soul and conscience as we go to the closet and find "yada" with him.

We should never allow our soul, nor our man-made schedules and pursuits to limit the Spirit's power.

Many Churches judge the presence of the Holy Spirit by feelings and emotions while remaining in the soul realm. It is true feelings and emotions are involved during the Holy Spirit's presence, but not one and the same as continuing on to the releasing of the Spirit's power. When the Holy Spirit is released, people will be changed. When we remain in the soulish realm of feelings and emotions, there will be no lasting results. We witness this as people laugh, weep in worship, dance, and shout, and are slain in the Spirit again and again, while over time remaining without the actual power of healing and deliverance being released among them. They never seem to find the true heart of the Father that yearns for the fields so white unto harvest.

How many times when talking about the gifts of the Holy Spirit that release the power of deliverance, and healing I have heard the minister say, yes but love is greater.

This is true, but when we believe the love of God can be released and realized without the power of God being manifested through healing and deliverance, we live in relationship to an abstract and far away God.

Can anyone actually believe the true love of God does not demand us to move with his compassion in healing the sick and setting the captives free?

It is in this “yes but” excuse of the modern-day preacher we find the religious spirit of the end time church, the same as the religious leaders of Jesus time. They embrace and magnify the history and doctrine of the Church while at the same time resisting and denying the living reality of Christ’s love and power among us. Somehow, we have lost the truth of 1 Corinthians 4:20, *“For the kingdom of God is not in word (logos), but in power.”*

Rightly dividing the spirit from the soul.

We read of Adam and Eve after their spirit was dead, having a new concept of what was right and wrong. They were aware they were naked and needed covering so they produced from their minds a solution, thus the fig leaf covering. Did they need a covering? Yes, but not of themselves, thus God through the blood of an innocent animal covered them. It is here in this beginning of fallen man; we see the conflict between the logic of man verses the realm of the Spirit. Man trying to do that which only God’s grace and mercy can do.

The soul realm of man has great power and can produce many great things in the pursuit of God. We read in the 11th chapter of Genesis where the natural man without God’s Spirit built a tower intending to reach into heaven. It was so great even God himself marveled at it and said, *“and now nothing shall be restrained from them, which they have imagined, to do.”*

There is an eternity of difference between that which originates in the soul of a man and that which begins in the Spirit of God.

There is also a great difference in that which originates in the Spirit of God and then brought forth through faith and obedience and that which is birthed by the Spirit; and then taken by man to be governed by the logic of soul as man attempts to bring completion.

We see this in the life of Sarah and Abraham as they looked at the situation of their old age and made the decision to substitute Hagar in the place of Sarah in producing God’s chosen seed. Instead of waiting in faith for God’s miracle, they produced out of their soulish realm of logic and reason that which caused grief and pain to the plans and purposes of God.

We can see this again in the account of David knowing it was God's will that the ark of the Covenant be returned to its rightful place. He then instead of obeying God, went forth by his own strength of soul and logic; placing the ark on the ox cart. Again, the grief and pain as David's servant Uzzah was killed.

We find this so much in the church of today. Well educated and well-meaning people trying to move God's plans and purposes forward through the realm of logic and soul. A present-day example of this is the never-ending leadership conferences void of spirit power. The letters and flyers that are being mass mailed in Jesus' name asking for more money.

When people who do not know the voice of God and only embrace that which they perceive as right and wrong we have a group under the authority of man instead of God.

There is nothing more destructive and harmful than being in a group teaching submission while being controlled by the soul/minds of men who are outside the will and purpose of the Holy Spirit. They maintain authority over the believer while keeping them spectators having no authority in Christ to heal the sick, to cast out the demons, or set the captives free.

The true Church is and always will be controlled by the Spirit and not by man.

I was in a group for several years that taught Apostolic authority. One day one of the leaders said to me. "We are sending out green apples." They were violating the will of the Holy Spirit. Today I look back to see the many lives damaged and ministries lost. In the beginning they possessed a great anointing and calling. Over time they disobeyed the Holy Spirit and moved forward in soulish pursuit. It saddens me this group of churches no longer exist.

When we remain in the realm of the soul it brings us to a Christianity of embraced mental agreement leading to a false sense of maturity. Always learning while leaving us struggling to experience God's reality and power. Thus, in these end times we find people having a form of Godliness while rejecting the reality and power of God. The God of Spirit ever yearning to bring all believers to the stature and fullness of Christ.

We must graduate from agreeing with to the flowing in actual relationship of the Holy Spirit from our spirit as well as from relationship between the Spirit and our soul.

The difference between Old Testament and New Testament

It is important we understand the difference between the relationship of the Holy Spirit and man in the Old Testament and the change in this relationship after Pentecost. When this is not defined, we find a corruption of doctrine that cripples and limits our experience with God.

We read in the Old Testament in Exodus 25:10-22 God commanded Moses to make an Ark of shittim wood and place it behind the veil within the Holy of Holies. In verse 22, *“And there I will meet with you, and I will commune with you from above the mercy seat.”* We further read in Exodus 29:44-46, *“And I will sanctify the tabernacle of the congregation, and the altar: I will sanctify also both Aaron and his sons, to minister to me in the priest’s office. And I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God. And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, that brought them out of Egypt, that I may dwell among them: I am the Lord their God.”* We read in Deuteronomy 23:13-14, *“And you shall have a paddle upon your weapon; and it shall be, when you ease yourself (go to the toilet), you shall turn back and cover that which comes from you. For the Lord your God walks in the midst of your camp to deliver you, and to give up your enemies before you. Therefore, shall your camp be Holy.”* *“I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God.”* Exodus 29:45

God was among the people with access to his presence being found by the high priest within the Holy of Holies. Only the high priest could enter there once a year and all others were forbidden. Communication between God and the people came through the instruction of the priests; which they heard in the ear and assimilated into the soul.

In Jeremiah we read in 31:33 *“But this shall be the covenant I will make with the house of Israel; after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.”* We read in Matthew 27:51 as Christ died on the Cross, *“and behold the veil in the temple was torn in two from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent.”*

The presence of God found in the Holy of Holies found in the Old Testament at this time was released to those who receive Christ.

When we read in the New Testament 2 Corinthians 6:16, *“And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God; as God has said, I will walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”* We see a difference. In the Old Testament God was among the believers, today he walks in us! Instead of us carrying a paddle to keep the camp clean we are now the camp of God and are commanded, *“Be ye Holy, for I am Holy!”*

We understand that in the Old Testament God related to man through the soul or mind. This has changed in the new Covenant. We are now alive in Spirit with Jesus/the Holy Spirit /God now in us.

In the Old Testament man walked in obedience to the law. In the New Testament man walks in union with the Spirit.

We no longer walk under the law of the ten commandments, but rather we walk in this inner relationship. It is here we now manifest the perfect law of liberty where we love the Lord our God with all our heart and all our soul and all our strength and our neighbor as ourselves. In doing this we fulfill from the heart the law, and everything contained in the 10 commandments.

I think all Christians agree and embrace the truth as Peter confessed in Matthew 16:16, *“And Peter answered and said, ‘Thou art the Christ, the Son of the Living God.’”*

The continuance of God’s presence being among us and in us with the power to heal the sick, cast out demons and set the captives free is not so commonly embraced and realized. That which was spoken of by Jesus in John 14:16 & 17, *“And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another comforter, that he may abide with you forever; even the spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees him not, neither knows him: but you know him; for he dwells with you, and shall be in you.”*

So much of the Church today is bound by the minds and logic of men operating from their souls. This Biblical truth of the power of the resurrection now available to every believer has been stolen by the deceiver. The modern church has been reduced by tradition and false teachings to believing the voice and power of God being beyond themselves. They remain controlled by the soul without ever releasing the Spirit realm

reality of God now living in them and themselves as being the actual temple of the Holy Spirit.

When we need to see the context surrounding Galatians 5:25, *“If we live in the Spirit, let us walk in the Spirit.”* The Holy Spirit comes to our souls and gives us the grace to crucify the flesh with its passions and desires. This is step two that after being born again we must complete this as we begin our walking in the spirit. We then become the vessels God desires us to be in the power and purposes of Pentecost. Not to live as others live, but in the Spirit as a vessel releasing the power and reality of Christ. We are now to be the same as the early disciples. Nothing has changed in the heart of God.

The quenching of the Holy Spirit by the believer and the Church is without doubt the greatest hindrance to the reality of Christ being the same today as yesterday and forever.

Our traditions and disbelief have robbed us of the power and authority of Christ that has now been transferred into the man and is to be released through obedient faith.

Too often man ignores the Holy Spirit concerning the leadership of the Church. They have rejected Christ himself and his words found in Matthew 20:25 and 26, *“you know that the princes of the gentiles, exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them. But it shall not be so among you; but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister.”*

By teaching man’s authority, we have forsaken the authority of the Holy Spirit and replaced it with the realm of logic and soulish power. How can a “church leader” be so vain as to preach his own authority while being impotent in the realm of Christ’s authority and power against demons, sickness, and disease?

Out of this mistaken position we find vast numbers of teachings and seminars labeled leadership conferences which teach the work of the soul in developing people to be “a part of the team.” They are masters, in religious pursuits and crowd development while never daring to admit they are impotent and useless in healing the sick and manifesting the reality of Christ today. They fail to recognize the leadership of the Church is already appointed by God to the Holy Spirit, with themselves as nothing more than servants to his will. They have been ordained to release the healing power of Jesus Christ and not to control and quench it. I would to God we could realize the five-fold ministry has been

given as servants to the Church and the Church has never been given to them to be as the gentiles in exercising authority over it.

Let us see the clear example of the authority of the Holy Spirit and the submission of the leadership in the book of Acts. In chapter 13 we read in verse 2, (with no mention of pastors or apostles being among them) *“As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. (3) And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. (4) So they, being sent forth by the Holy Spirit, departed”*

Now let’s see an example of them later moving in the soul realm of logic and reason or we could say “in the flesh.” In chapter 15 we find Barnabas and Saul having returned to Antioch after a fruitful time of being led by the authority of the Holy Spirit. Paul then said to Barnabas, *“let us go and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord and see how they do.”* As we continue reading, we find this caused an argument that resulted in their separation. There is no mention of fasting and prayer nor of the Holy Spirit speaking anything. By verse 6 we find the Spirit forbidding Paul and Silas from preaching the word in Asia. In verse 7 we find them trying to go into Bithynia only to be stopped again by the Holy Spirit. It was only after the Spirits correction through a vision were Paul and Silas able to again preach the gospel with great impact and much fruit being added to the church.

No matter how called and gifted or how great your most admired and famous minister is they become nothing more than someone resisting and frustrating the will of God as they pursue the will of God from that which originates in their flesh.

The modern Church is so empty of those willing to fast and pray and minister unto the Lord.

When the Holy Spirit does speak direction or change in leadership or ministry it is too often taken into the soul and minds of men and then rejected. This brings the group to being empty vessels producing impotent converts of no power and no fruit.

I have heard teachers say in the early Church there was plurality of leadership. That is spoken by someone who believes the leadership of the Church is found in man. The reason the early Church had the power to heal the sick and cast out demons was because

everyone understood there is only one leader in the true Church and that is the Holy Spirit with man being servant.

Oh, how much of what we call church today is simply the fig leaf efforts of man building Babel.

“Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word.”

—Acts 8:4

Are you called? Only the devil himself would dare to question the high priesthood now ours in Jesus Christ. Simply obey the Holy Spirit and *“Go Ye! Be led of the Spirit and be the sons of God!”* Romans 8:14. We read in Chapter 12:3 God has dealt to every man the measure of faith. We must quit using this to limit ourselves and embrace the second chapter of Philippians where we are encouraged to be as Christ: no longer knowing ourselves after the flesh but rather as the new creation now alive in the power and privilege of our Savior. The same as each of us has a unique fingerprint different than any other so it is for each of us to work out his own salvation with fear and trembling. Philippians 2:12

The reality of the Holy Spirits will be too often replaced with the continuing construction of Babel through the flesh of man’s effort and from the soul.

When we obey the Holy Spirit, we will release God’s supernatural power beyond our understanding through our spirit.

We need to distinguish the difference in the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the believer’s spirit from the fruits of the Holy Spirit grown in the realm of the soul, and the enabling gifts of the Holy Spirit upon the believer for body ministry found in Romans 12.

Let us look at the gifts in 1 Corinthians chapters 12&14. First, we understand gifts are given where the fruit must be grown. the gifts are manifested by someone having faith in the perfect work of Christ aside from works. The gifts are yielded to and released by faith from our spirit whereas the fruit is grown in the soul.

An example of this is in David and Goliath. Never was David more immature and yet never did David any greater. Never did he know less and yet never did he do more.

God help us to lay down Saul's armor of knowledge from our soul and take up our stones of spirit, and by faith begin releasing the power of God as David did.

The work of the Holy Spirit concerning the enabling of the believer to live a sanctified life is found in Galatians 5. By our decisions one at a time in response to events, we experience moment by moment; we produce (grow) the fruits of the Spirit. Through this process we are changed from glory to glory into his image. This vital work of the Holy Spirit matures us as we continue in the church under the anointing of pastor and/or teachers. That which can be described as God's enablement for the believer to do the will and purpose of God through the soul.

We also see the enabling of the believer with the gifts of grace found in Romans 12:6-8 which are given for the building up of the Body of Christ. True submission to the Church goes beyond obeying the leadership and is found in working out our own salvation, by finding our God given grace within the body. Here with the grace now given us we serve Christ by submitting to a life involvement within the body of Christ. It is here that we should function in our physical place within the body as we grow the fruits of the Holy Spirit found in Galatians 5 and release the gifts of the Spirit found in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14. We should never read Romans twelve and interpret it as being the totality of God's plan and purpose for us as we move in the realm of the spirit: releasing the power, purpose and presence of Christ as an individual.

It is important we rightly divide the sovereign work of the Holy Spirit concerning the human spirit (1 Corinthians), which we release by faith: the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5) we grow one right decision at a time in our soul, and the anointing work of the Holy Spirit concerning our place of service gifts within the local Church (Romans 12).

When we have one without the other two and think we are a mature believer we are walking in vanity.

Please consider the next time someone is mingling them. Especially if the person possesses educated knowledge and is not from a minister walking in power, deliverance, and healing.

CHAPTER 12

NOT BY MIGHT NOR BY POWER BUT BY MY SPIRIT SAITH THE LORD

The Church must not only understand the saving of their soul found in the Crucifixion but also apprehend the life found in the resurrection. We need to embrace the works of redemption so precious and true concerning our soul and then move forward by faith into our new place of Spirit and power.

In Ephesians 2:6 we read, *“and hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus”* In Revelation 1:6 we read, *“and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father,”* Here we read the word “hath.” I truly believed this was possibly a mistake and it really meant what my mind believed, which was “he will.” May God forgive my disbelief. The word “hath” found in these verses is in the past tense with this being our true position now. This is true! We are now seated with Christ in heavenly places in our spirit. Here! Today! Now being kings and priests, we must accept by faith we are to reign as kings in the now through Christ. (Romans 5:17) These things which the sin of our disbelief tells us are for a future day.

Dare we believe as a child, the truth of 1 John 4:17 where the Holy Bible tells us, *“Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgement: because as he is, so are we in this world?”*

Do we really believe this?

It is time to cast down disbelief and rejection of what the Scriptures proclaim Christ has already released to the believer by his perfect work on the cross.

May God give us eyes to see and ears to hear and faith to release the now reality of the Holy Spirit through our spirit man.

We read in 2 Corinthians 5:16, *“Wherefore, henceforth (after this moment) we will know no man after the flesh: yes, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now after this we will know him like this no more.”*

The church must no longer relate to Christ as he was on earth, but to Him who is now seated at the right hand of God as our High Priest. We must come to experience the Holy Spirit. He is now God’s presence among us who continues to reveal Christ in the miracles of Christ through us.

“Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things are become new.”

“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless, I live; yet not I but Christ lives in me.”

CHAPTER 13

SINS OF OMISSION

In my over 45 years of listening to preaching and teaching in the modern Church in all manner of persuasions and denominations I have never heard anyone confronting the sins of omission. At times the preacher will exhort the people to do better but lacks the boldness to confront this as sin.

When we study the four Gospels, we find the greater part of Jesus parables was concerning what the people were not doing rather than what they were. The parables of the sower, the ten virgins, the giving of talents, and the rich young ruler are all not about what they were doing or had done but rather about the responsibility of the believer to show initiative and do something.

Even when Jesus spoke of our standing before him on that day, we see this. *“I was hungry, and you gave me meat, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink: I was a stranger and you took me in, naked and you clothed me: I was sick, and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came to me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord when saw we you as hungry, and fed you, or thirsty, and gave you to drink? When saw we you a stranger, and took you in, or naked, and clothed you? Or when saw we you sick, or in prison, and came not unto you? And the King shall answer them verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me. Then he will say also unto those on the left hand, depart from me, you cursed into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no meat: I was thirsty and you gave me no drink: I was a stranger and you took me not in: naked, and you clothed me not: sick and in prison, and you visited me not. Then shall they answer him, saying Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto you? Then shall he answer them saying, verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.”*

Somehow, we fail to see those who Christ says depart from me, you cursed into everlasting fire are not those who are guilty of the sins of commission, but rather those guilty of the sins of omission.

We will be judged not for what we did but rather for what we didn't do.

Surely here we can see those who were hungry as including the billions of people still waiting for the gospel of Christ.

As long as the Church remains content with what they are doing and oblivious to the sins of omission they are committing, we will continue to ignore the reality of Christ being offered to us.

We hold Christ to an open shame in rejecting his proclamation of *“greater things will you do than I have done,”* while we dare not suggest the Church should be living in the reality and power of Christ while obeying his command to *“Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel with signs following.”*

When we read the account of Moses and the twelve spies, we need to see something. When they returned, they bore between them such a large cluster of grapes it took two to carry them. They then said in Numbers 13:27, *“We came unto the land, where you sent us; and surely it flows with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.”* We then read in 14:37, *“Even those men that did bring up the evil report upon the land, died by the plague before the Lord.”* We need to ask ourselves how can this be an evil report? They showed the grapes and said truly this is a land that flows with milk and honey? You see they believed in the land but did not believe in the God above the land.

Until we can recognize disbelief in the eyes of God as being evil, we will never inherit Pentecost.

If I was attending your church and everyone knew I was a thief I would be shunned, despised, openly rebuked and most likely asked to not come back again. Oh, how we hate those sins of commission! How could someone be so evil? And yet we will rest content believing our group is very mature and pleasing to God while the Scripture commands us to covet to prophecy. You see this is also sin when we reject it.

We continue to live in our sins of omission quite sure we are mature because of our beliefs, while denying the Scriptures.

What about where the Bible tells us to neglect not the gift that is in us, which was given by prophecy, with the laying on of hands of the presbytery. (do you know the presbytery that prophecies?)

What do we do with 1 Timothy 1:18, *“this charge I commit unto you son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on you, that you by them might war a good warfare?”*

Before you question me in this, I will question you, do you obey Christ in healing the sick and the casting out of demons? Do those you look to as leaders walk in that which the Scriptures so plainly tell us we are to do and be? Or have we left the resurrection power of Christ only to embrace his memory and future return.

The majority of churches rest content being neither cold nor hot without the Holy Spirit’s manifesting the rhema of God. Ignorant and uncaring as to the sins of omission they are practicing.

It’s not that we don’t tithe our mint and rue and all manner of herbs, it is just that we have passed over the weightier matter of our responsibility to take the initiative in stirring up the gifts of the Holy Spirit now in us.

We live in our deception that only the few are called among us when the truth is the anointing that was in Christ is now in us when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

In understanding this, I spent the first part of the week in fasting and prayer. During this time, I repented of my sins of omission and asked God to renew my mind and deliver me from any influence of false teachings within my soul that was hindering his power. On Thursday night I ministered at Pastor Rudyard Mijares’ home in their weekly equipping meeting. After the teaching a man who the people said hadn’t been able to eat for several days asked for prayer. After we ministered “sozo” to the man he immediately went over to where the food was. The people watching him were amazed at how hungry he was and how much he ate. When he finished, he bid everyone goodnight and left the meeting totally healed. A young woman in attendance began to convulse and scream. When we took authority over the demons and cast them out, she

was completely “sozo” and set free. Her life changed that night and she became a regular member of the group.

You see it isn't a that Christ hasn't given it, but rather a faulty belief system plagued with our sins of omission and disbelief that are causing us to continue in words without power.

Let us no longer continue in our incorrect teachings and belief systems. Let us repent and ask God that we will no longer be neither hot nor cold living beneath our God ordained place within the fires and winds of Pentecost.

Did Jesus deceive us when he said these signs would follow us as we believe?

Is the poor having the gospel preached to them?

Do we live the true gospel of Scripture that instructs us to take up the Cross, to obey his command, to forsake all that we have, to *“go ye into all the world and preach the gospel with signs following?”* Or is the Gospel we preach simply modern humanism, *“find God and prosper?”*

Are we preaching Christ through the intellectual lordship of ourselves? Have we prostituted Christ as a servant to our own desires and fulfillment as we pursue our own prosperity? Have we disregarded the command of God to be filled with the Spirit and go preach unto the ends of the earth? Have we grieved and quenched the Holy Spirit until we no longer heal the sick and cast out demons?

How long will we remain without sorrow to our sins of omission and not even care.

Oh God brings us to repentance and return us to our upper rooms to wait for your wind and fire again.

Dare we be brave enough, that if these things are not happening in our ministry to surrender again everything to Christ and ask for his Lordship over all we have, or desire, or ever hope to be?

CHAPTER 14

DISTORTED VISION

Maybe 85 years ago the American church could afford to maintain a local vision, but today this is a sad and tragic thing. Today the whole world has become our neighborhood.

When you google the world population on your computer it tells us in 2021 there were 7.888 billion people on the face of the earth. Google also tells us the average life span in 2021 was 76 years. When we take 76 years and multiply it by 365 days we have a total of 27,740 days. When we divide the 27,740 into 7,888,000,000, we have 284,355 people dying every day. When we go again to google, we find 31% of the world population is considered Christian in 2023. Now if we subtract 31% from 284,355, We have the number 196,205. This is the number of souls dying without Christ every day, day after day, week after week, year after year.

The church must awaken again to the place of every believer crying out to God, *“here am I send me.”*

The American church is so deceived in believing it takes some special calling to *“go ye into all the world and preach the gospel;”* that they have become the greatest hindrance to the reaching of the lost. Many will be quick to say, *“Oh, but it must be Jerusalem first, then Samaria, then Judea and so let’s all stay home and first reach those around us.”*

This is not the way God did it in the book of Acts.

Jesus said a prophet is without honor, but in his own country, and among his own kin and in his own house. *“And he could do there no mighty work.”*

“Therefore, they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word. Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.”

—Acts 8:4-5

No body “sent them forth:” we read in verse 11 it was later the apostles heard about Phillip.

In Acts 13 When we read as the Holy Spirit separated Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto, he was calling them to; there was no apostles nor pastors mentioned as being there.

Nobody really knows who took the gospel to Rome. No one was sent to establish the church in Antioch. The uncalled, non-ordained, and unknow by name or organization were used by God. These are still the ones he desires to get out of their chairs, forsake what they have, and take this gospel to all nations.

Oh God I pray; may every born-again Christian come to realize and accept that “Go ye means go me.

The vision and purpose of the local church was set in stone by the apostle Paul when he wrote, *“For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and him crucified.”* 1 Corinthians 2:2

There is a simplicity in God’s vision for every believer, show up, grow up and go forth.

When the church is turned inward and seeks to mature the believers apart from missions the members will never become the disciples God has called them to be. They become supporters instead of soldiers. Until the members begin to live with their focus on the great commission (where God’s focus and vision is) the church will remain without power, and we will see America continue to surrender to its present destruction.

When the church separates the missionary from the members; the true heart of God is also separated from them.

The missionary can no longer be separated from the congregation but instead reintroduced as the center and purpose of the congregation.

This pattern of delegating this calling to only the finest trained and with finances in place worked well 50 years ago but needs to be replaced. The church needs to take the

chains off the people. The Bible shows us the qualifications that are needed to bring a city to Christ.

In John chapter 4; a woman who had been married 5 times and was now living with someone else encountered Jesus at the well. Before the day ended, she had brought the city to Christ. How has religion so complicated this to the point the thousands still die each day without hearing the gospel? While the millions still set in the American church believing themselves not called nor qualified?

The first apostles did not release anyone to ministry, why has tradition and the devil used this to hinder and rob evangelism from the American Church?

When I was a boy it took my father and I two days to go to a city 200 miles away to do some business and return home. Today you can eat breakfast in any medium sized city across America and eat supper in Panama City or in any nation across Central America. Within 24 hours you can be in any of the nations in South America or SE Asia. There you will find many groups of believers with no teaching, and when you preach in the streets the people rush to receive Jesus. If the woman at the well was qualified, why aren't you? Why isn't the local church raising up ministry teams that can go and in two weeks bring many to Christ. Why are they not training the people how to preach, teach, cast out demons, and heal?

The church must quit training people to be counselors at the crusades and start disciplining them as soldiers to go to the nations.

The American church over the last 75 years has done a great work across the world. Now it is time to recognize we don't need missionaries to go and try to reinvent the wheel that is already there. The believers already there need help from the sleeping local churches across America.

Let me give you an example. I was invited to go to Yogyakarta, Indonesia and preach at a conference there. (Christianity is not one of the 5 religions allowed there.) We ministered to 175 native ministers. We also visited a Bible school in the jungle that was only partly built after 20 years. They had 20 people desiring to teach. God was very good, and we were not only able to teach and encourage them but for less than \$5,000

we were able to furnish the funds to complete the Bible school. We did this in one week. We also furnished books.

Upon my return to America, I met a missionary who was spending two years in raising the monthly budget for him and his family to go to the mission field. This was after 4 years of college and 2 more years of being under another Pastor. He said he was going to the mission field and would there attend language school for 2 years. He would then start his ministry. I Pray God will bless him in every way and give him a great fruit that remains. I asked him where he was going and he said Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

This is such a contrast to The Asian Center for Missions we visited in Manila, Philippines. We have found their missionaries across SE Asia in all the nations we have been to. They have gone through a 4-month course. You can see their impact everywhere.

Is it easy, is it neat? and tidy? No! In fact, I have heard them refer to themselves as the suicide missionaries.

Oh, for the fire and wind to return to the churches across American.

At a pastor's conference I was conducting in Bong County, Liberia (the location of Charles Taylor's cannibal soldiers during the last civil war) I asked the 100 pastors if they had ever had any training or equipping. There were 3 out of the 100 that raised their hands. When I asked them if they had a Bible less than half of them did, and less than a quarter of them had a complete Bible.

The American church needs to quit preparing missionaries to go establish their own ministries and start sending the teams to serve and equip the native ministries already there. I have been to numerous countries across SE Asia, and Africa and have always found English speaking national pastors there who are ready and willing to translate. They are begging for assistance and further equipping.

The American church must awaken from their slumber and realize the hour is late and there is still much to be done.

The time of leading is over. We must now serve and equip the nationals.

OH! AMERICAN CHURCH HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD!

I set before you an open door no man can close. Revelations 3:8

CHAPTER 15

OUR ENEMY WITHIN

The believer battles three enemies, the world: the flesh, and the Devil. The stronger of the three being the logic of man or we can say the flesh. “Hath God said?” The flesh is not only our carnal desires but also our fallen mind of logic and reason. This fights against the life of the Spirit we live by our faith.

The battle for our personal life and the administration and programs of the Church rages between the soulish realm/intellect of the man, and the government of the Holy Spirit.

It will be either the interpreting of what God has said by the logic of man and the administration of man, or it will be man discerning and obeying the Holy Spirit’s will through faith.

From the logic we will produce the fig leaf religion partaking of the knowledge of good and evil which has great knowledge and little power. Or we will from the Spirit release the presence and power of the Holy Spirit and realize God’s grace beyond the natural circumstance of life.

We need to understand that the Holy Spirit is the Lord over the Church; and every believer is a minister serving as a underling and servant rather than the leader. We simply receive our instruction and bring forth the fruits by our faith.

The same as we are not the authority over ourselves the same is true of the Church. The Church ministries must return to their place as the stewards of the mysteries. (1 Corinthians 4:1) They must be educated and trained to submit, obey, and release rather than to rule and govern. Without this we lack Christ’s power over all manner of sickness, disease and evil. This is so important for us to understand. When we the individual or the church continues following Jesus apart from the Holy Spirit, we divorce ourselves from the exceeding greatness of power towards us as we believe.

Too many times, education results in increasing the power of the soul, through enlightenment of the mind while quenching the development of the Spirit man. When the education of the Church is true education, it releases the power of the Cross. From this we see the power of the Holy Spirit in deliverance and healing. When the intellect and soulish realm reigns, we see greater knowledge and programs without Christ's presence and power.

The Church too often recognizes position through education while rejecting the true position of every believer through their Christ gifted anointing.

Many groups have gone for years without laying their hands on the sick and healing them and casting out demons. They remain ever learning and never finding the reality of Christ's power.

The Church today is moving in two directions. The larger group is moving in the soulish realm and through the mind of man serving the Jesus of their own understanding. This is the Ishmael Church. Born in the Spirit while being controlled by their logic. They have the right father with the right promise, but they now continue in the flesh without the reality of Christ. The true Isaac church is walking in the Spirit and through faith experiencing the reality of God.

From the Spirit comes the promise of God's covering of blood and the covenant seed (Isaac) from the mind/logic comes the fig leaf of flesh (Ishmael).

We must understand, to yield to the logic of man is the same as yielding to any other sin. The modern Church must resist the temptation of trying to carry the Church forward with human effort. Prayer must come and prevail until the reality of Christ is again released in the fire and winds of Pentecost.

THE RELEASE OF THE ANOINTING

In the New Testament Church, the true apostles and prophets of God are hidden from the social media and without money or fame quietly obeying the Holy Spirit. They are not amassing wealth nor squandering their money on themselves, but rather living the crucified life in service to their Lord and his Church. They have repented of their love of preeminence and found the true heart of God which loves the world so much he gave his best, and they also live their lives to give their best. They die to live and live to die.

God's best is a local church where the apostles, prophets, pastors, teachers, and evangelist are moving the church forward under divine order. They shepherd and guide as the Spirit rules among the people and Jesus builds his church. Here the same signs and wonders we read about in the book of acts are still happening today.

When I was 23 years old, I had heard so many bad sermons I decided I would read my Bible until I would know if what was being said by the preacher was true, or just another man. As I did this, every time I read my New Testament, I would read in 11 Timothy 4:14 *“Neglect not the gift that is in you, which was given you by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.”*

I was so unlearned I actually thought the church was following everything in the Bible. I went to the Christians I knew and ask them, “where do I find the presbytery?”

I was so unchurched at that time I kept asking where is the presbytery that can give me a gift from God like the Bible says church leaders can do?”

I realize now they thought I was deceived to believe the Bible over Church tradition.

I went around asking, where can I find this, which is so plainly written. I was even so bold I dared to ask about miracles and healings.

Was I misinterpreting the Scripture?

I have since spent over 40 years studying the Bible (including Greek) and have received my diploma in Ministerial Studies from the Berean School of the Bible as well as a B.A. in Bible and Theology. I am now more convinced than ever before this is correct.

These things are for today.

As I continued to pray and seek, it was some seven years later I attended my first presbytery. I can honestly say the gifts and prophecy of those three presbyters are still the anointing I have functioned in for over forty years in traveling the world; healing the sick and casting out demons, as I have seen many receive Christ and be set free.

Somehow the Church must no longer reject, *“Worship God: for the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy,”* Revelation 19:10.

Many believers do not understand the difference between preaching and prophecy. Preaching is from anointing upon the soul where prophecy comes from our spirit the same as tongues do. When we read of the Spirit being poured out upon all flesh in Acts 2:17 & 18 it is repeated twice. *“Your sons and daughters shall prophecy.” “And on my servants and on my handmaidens, I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophecy.”* In 1 Corinthians 14:31 we read, *“you can all prophesy one by one.”*

Some where I heard the story of the frog. They say you can put a frog in a pan of water on the stove (I have never tried this). If the water is hot, he will immediately jump out. If the water is warmed slowly, he will remain until he is cooked. What has happened to us is we have slowly replaced the Scripture with the intellectual pursuit of God brought forth through logic and reason.

I heard Leonard Ravenhill once say, *“any time the Church returns to complete obedience to the Scripture we will have revival.”*

The Bible is to be believed, obeyed, experienced today by people on fire living in Pentecost.

MANS POSITION

We need to change our self-identity to who we are in our place and purpose today as a new creation in Christ. We now are of those born of the Spirit and living in Spirit relationship with God. Until we renew our minds and transfer our identity from natural man to the new spirit man, we will not walk in Christ correctly; nor will we understand the sacred position of union we now dwell in today.

The belief and teaching that God after creating the heavens and the earth in six days and then leaving the earth for man to live life divorced from his love and presence isn't the reality of Scripture.

As Adam and Eve surrendered to Satan in eating of the tree forbidden by God, we know their dominion was surrendered to Satan. We verify this in 2 Corinthians 4:4 where the Scriptures themselves refer to Satan as the "God of this world." The Greek word here is Theos the same word used in John 1:1 & 2 in speaking of the God over all the heavens and the earth. You see God passed dominion within the affairs of this earth to man; man (Adam) passed it off to Satan in his disobedience.

With the gifts and callings of God being without repentance God must use man to reclaim this dominion.

As we continue to read the Scripture, we find God dealt with man after the fall of Adam in the coming years as one corporate group. God remains eternal God over all the heavens and earth with a rebellious angel now holding the rights of dominion here on earth that were originally intended for man.

In Genesis Chapter 12 God came to one man, Abraham and called him to be separate. At this time God divided the human race into two groups and limited himself by declaring that the world would be blessed through the continuing generations of this one man. As we read the rest of the Scriptures, we will find from the time of Abraham's calling forward everything God has done has been through the prayers and actions of Abraham's seed.

This is how and where the Church was born.

From this one-man, God and man began the long journey back to where they would regain man's lost dominion.

In the process of God's perfect time, place, and plan, through the lineage of this one man our Savior was born. The dominion of man walked upon the earth again.

This one sinless man Jesus of Nazareth reclaimed this dominion by his blood. He died helpless and arose as ruler of all things. Upon completing this perfect work of triumph, he then gave his victory to the church.

I think it is important for me to remind us again of Romans 5:15-17, *“But not as the offence, so also is the free gift. For if through the offence of one many be dead, much more the grace of God, and the gift by grace, which is by one man, Jesus Christ, has abounded unto many. And not as it was by one that sinned, so is the gift: for the judgement was by one unto condemnation, but the free gift is of many offences unto justification. For if by one man’s offense death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness shall reign in life by one, Jesus Christ.”*

Christ proclaims to the Apostle John in Revelations 1:18, *“I am he that liveth, and was dead; and behold I am alive forevermore. Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death.”*

The majority of preaching and teaching we hear is concerning the sacrifice of Christ on the Cross, which is so important as to our salvation. We must move on from this event and realize the position of trust and authority we as believers now possess within ourselves, found in the resurrection.

When we do hear of the resurrection, too often we hear of it in regards, to Christ’s power and soon return without understanding, what is living in us today.

When Jesus arose from the grave, he then appeared to his disciples and proclaimed, *“all power has been given me, go ye therefore.”* The dominion of the resurrection was at this time transferred to his body. That’s you and me!

The Church now possessing this authority remains in a state of war against the rulers of this world taking back our dominion until the trumpet sounds, the heavens pass away, and Christ returns.

“If that same Spirit that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that now lives in you.”

—Romans 8:11

This is what Jesus was talking about in Mark 16:17-18. And these signs shall follow those who believe; in my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

We the Church (Abraham's seed) for too long have prayed to the far away God for our rescue instead of walking in the dominion we now possess in Christ. This grace that is now freely ours simply by speaking the name of Jesus and then releasing of our faith.

Romans 5:1 tells us that our faith is the door, or the way we gain access to our place of dominion in Christ. Thus, Peter could say, *"silver and gold have I none but that which I have, give I thee."* The power and reality of Christ himself is completely ours by simple faith in his name. As we read on in Acts chapter 3 Peter protested to the people who saw him heal the lame man. *"Why are you marveling at this, and why are you looking at us as though through our own power or holiness we have made this man to walk."* *"And his name through faith in his name has made this man strong, who you see and know, yes, the faith which is by him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all."*

Today we, like the people of that day, see certain people as being special instead of walking in the authority every believer now possesses; to name that name higher than any other name.

The Church has lost this so important truth through neglect and disbelief.

We must repent of our belief in personality-based anointing and return to the Biblical truth of the body of Christ's position in the healing of the sick and casting out demons. We need to repent of our sins of being a respecter of people as it forbids us to be in James 2:1 and walk in our authority now ours, in Jesus' name.

The anointing and rhema of God are no respecter of persons. If you are born again this has been freely given to you.

The Church must begin as the body of Christ to raise up and begin living in the dominion we now possess here on earth as we release the rhema authority. We are to now walk being led of the Holy Spirit while possessing the same dominion power of Christ himself through faith in his name.

When Jesus appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus. Upon understanding that Jesus was truly Lord he said, *"what will you have me to do."* Jesus having left his place of man and having returned to his rightful place as God, instructed Paul to go to the Church and find the seed of Abraham and be filled with the Holy Spirit. The same as Christ instructed the 120 to go to the upper room, we now see Christ instructing Paul to go to

the Church and receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. In doing this he would be equipped to do the miracles as Christ did.

In Acts 19 we read upon coming to Ephesus the first thing Paul asked the believers was *“Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?”*

Yes, Christ and Paul both taught of a second experience after salvation of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Once we receive this power, we are his voice, his hands, his feet, his vessel now releasing his love, mercy, deliverance and healing across the world today!

Anytime the Church is in submission to the government of the Holy Spirit and not to the flesh of man’s logic and reason it will manifest Christ reality and power the same as Jesus did and prove he is the same today as yesterday and forever.

Let me continue to clarify. The kingdom of our Christ and his authority for today is entrusted to the Church. It is manifested through the faith of the saints. Jesus then asks, *“nevertheless when the son of man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”* Luke 18:8.

When we pray the Lord’s prayer as Jesus instructed us to, *“thy kingdom come thy will be done”* we are the agent releasing the authority of God that he has given to man concerning the dominion over the affairs of this world. We must see ourselves in this most honored place now in-trusted with God’s kingdom authority. Now being bond servants of Christ, we live in submission and obedience to the Holy Spirit. We are the entrance God has chosen concerning the affairs of his kingdom here. We must understand this and be spiritually minded enough to wrestle against the evil principalities and powers now resisting God’s will. We use the mighty spiritual weapon of Jesus name as we release our faith and pull-down Satan’s strongholds. We live by faith not by sight as we overcome, by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony.

CHAPTER 16

THE CHURCH

The Church, or Ekklesia, in the original Greek is best described as meaning a group called out from the rest of the people by the governing authority and delegated with a specific purpose as expressed and committed to that group by the higher power. They are charged/commissioned to fulfill the assignment of the expressed desire of the Ruler and are to be held accountable in the fulfilling of the commission.

Wow! That is a lot of big words.

In simple English it means the owner picks out some workers and tells them to stop everything else and go do what he is telling them to do and not to quit until they have finished the job.

Ekklesia, was used in the Roman society to describe a jury during a trial. They were set apart to prioritize their relationships with the other jurors over the relationships of their family and friends. All business interests and personal pursuits were to be sacrificed until the purpose of the court was completed.

We know the Scripture identifies Moses and the people of Israel in the wilderness in Acts 7:38 as the Church (Ekklesia) and tells us these things were given for our learning.

Let's take time to make some observations before we move into the New Testament.

In the wilderness they were directed by a cloud during the day and the fiery pillar by night the same as the believer is led by the Holy Spirit today.

God instructed Moses how to place every single person in their exact place within the camp. First the tribe, then the oldest, then their children, then the next generation on down until everyone was in their specific place. They were then free to live and move forward at God's command. Everything Moses did or directed the people to do, he first received instructions from the Lord and then instructed the people as to God's will.

Jesus used the word “Church” in Matthew 16:18 and again in 18:17 to define his disciples.

We find the Church being described as the Body of Christ in Ephesians 5:23 with Jesus telling us in Matthew 16:18, *“I will build my Church and the gates of Hell will not prevail against it.”*

The church in the wilderness was under the constant presence of God’s cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. It never made a move without the direction of the sovereign presence of the Lord. Today we also must live and be directed in every move we make by the Holy Spirit. It tells us in Romans 8:14, *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.”*

Do you know the voice of the Holy Spirit, and does he lead you or do you lead yourself from logic and reason from your own self will?

The same as God had a specific place for every person in the Camp of Israel and was instructed by Moses as to where it was; today we also have an exact place in the body of Christ, (the Church) as given to us by the Spirit. No one had any doubt as to where they belonged in the camp of Israel, and neither should any of us as to our place in the Church today. (Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. Phil. 2:12) We have been called to not only live our lives in Christ, but we have also been called to live our lives unto Christ within the body.

For too many believers there is too little understanding of the obligation they are bound to in living within their place in the Church. Too many of us embrace this in the abstract while never submitting to it in actual time and place. It is in placing this relationship as dominate over all other relationships that we become correct in obeying the Scriptures. Luke 14:33, *“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be my disciple.”*

Unfortunately, there is little or no teaching concerning the command of Scripture that to be rightly related to Christ we must also be rightly related to the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit as we live in our exact place within the body of Christ. We quench and frustrate our relationship to the Holy Spirit and Christ’s reality by not being chaste and pure concerning our marriage not only to Christ but also to his body (the Church).

We want to be married to Christ while never moving in with him and assuming our role as his helpmeet.

The reality is being a Christian goes beyond saying the sinner's prayer and continuing as an individual. Conversion brings us all the way to completed death of self, taking our Cross, and walking in the Spirit within the Body of Christ.

Our life priority as a believer beyond all other things is to be a part of this "Ekklesia;" those who have been set apart for the specific purpose of revealing the kingdom of God in the world today.

We find the seriousness of this in 1 Corinthians 11 where we read in regard to taking communion, we are instructed to judge ourselves and in verse twenty-nine it states, "For he that eats or drinks unworthily, eats and drinks damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

"For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body."

—1 Corinthians 12:13

Everybody that has been baptized believes they are now baptized into Christ, but many have no comprehension that they have also been baptized into the body of Christ. That they are to surrender their individual identity and take on the identity of being a member of the church. In not understanding this they then live asking and expecting Jesus to bypass the church and the avenue he has established to bless them and make them his instrument of love. This has been distorted by man making this a mental aspiration rather than a physical reality.

We as believers must embrace, *"he died for all, that they which live should not hence-forth live unto themselves, but unto him who died for them, and rose again."* We are to live unto Christ within the body of Christ and grow there in the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. When all 5 of the ministry anointings are realized and functioning the Holy Spirit can be released totally and the true reality of Christ will be realized. That which is now being sought by the "special" few through education and robbed from the congregation through tradition.

We read in Colossians 3:1-3 *“If you have been risen with Christ seek those things above, where Christ sits on the right hand of God.”* I am afraid too many of us embrace this first verse without ever making the transition of our affections from our families, possessions, and personal pursuits to what is commanded in verse 2, *“set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.”* Our natural man resists this, but this is the totality of the ownership God demands every believer to surrender to. We must transfer our life and total being into this absolute extreme of verse 3, *“For you are dead, and your life is hidden with Christ in God?”* Our life is now hidden with Christ in God in his body the church.

Here we experience the release of Christ’s power and reality. We must understand the church is not a local organization but rather a living organism made up of living stones. The believer is to be born there, grow up there, and go forth from there fully furnished in everything it takes to reproduce the next church.

A church group believing themselves some called and some not, some clergy, and some laity is a tragic thing. When we separate the equipping of the saints from the center of the church and lift some as being called, we kill the true reality of the New Testament.

It is when the body of Christ is walking in divine order with the revelation, we are members of Christ’s body with his power and presence among us as the person of the Holy Spirit. The same exact power as when he was here with all of us having the same equal access to it through faith; we will see the reality of the church Christ died for.

Let’s look at the New Testament Church. We start with the understanding that Jesus Christ is the Corner stone. We find in Ephesians 2:19-21, *“Now therefore you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God. And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the Chief Corner Stone, in whom all the building (body of believers) fitly framed together grows unto a Holy temple in the Lord.”*

The denominations agree with Jesus being the corner stone, but from there they build a foundation of rubble instead of following the Biblical pattern of the New Testament Church. They do not recognize the ministries of the apostle and prophet that God has ordained and necessary for the Church to grow.

The foundation of the apostles and prophets needs to be understood from both the historical and the now/present day perspective. The Church is built on the revelations and teaching of the apostles and prophets of the previous centuries. These are contained in the Scriptures with Christ as the cornerstone. When it speaks of the apostles and prophets in Ephesians 4:11-13 it tells us the apostles and prophets will remain in the church the same as the pastor, teacher, and evangelist until we all come to the stature of a perfect (mature) man. Until all believers in the Church have come to be like Jesus there will remain the five-given ministry anointing among the Churches. They are to serve and give an account for the growth and correctness of the Church.

It has been my experience that the Church of today has returned to a pattern of the Old Testament priesthood. Today many churches dedicate the month of October as pastor's month while they remain ignorant to the relationship of the five-fold ministry within the Church.

Honestly it is wrong to exalt the one man while denying the Scripture's revealed truth concerning the body of Christ.

“And he gave some, apostles, and some prophets; and some, evangelists, and some, pastors and teachers; (for what purpose?) For the maturing of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Until we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a mature man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ:”

The church has twisted the truth in believing there is no more anointed apostles and prophets in the church today, The Scripture clearly states they will be in the church until everyone has come to the fullness of Christ. By not understanding and allowing these anointings to flow in the congregation we establish an incapable church that is then in turn led by pastor leaders' who have never been anointed and released through the anointing of the apostle and prophet.

This is the divine pattern established by the Holy Spirit in building the church.

Across America we find many successful congregations that have never been released through the God ordained foundational anointings. When you go back and look at the ministries that have come out of them you will find no one who has carried the

anointing necessary to produce miracle working church establishing fruit that remains. The result is pure hearted educated and zealous ministries unable to release the anointing they themselves have never received. These groups never produce Holy Spirit ordained and empowered men and women with the grace and anointing necessary to reveal the power and miracle presence of Christ: because they were never established and released through the anointed God ordained ministries of the apostle and prophet.

This in turn brings the church to soulish and social pursuits of the things only the anointing of God can produce. Pastors without the anointing and grace of the other five-fold ministries brings a distorted increase without eternal significance. This in turn produces a church that has no impact on the society around them.

If you are in a church where the same people are setting and listening to the same pastor month after month with no one maturing and becoming the next generation apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher there is something wrong. The Bible without apology proclaims every single believer is to come to the fullness of the stature of Christ.

This so completely destroys the belief “some are called.” There are different anointings, but no one is limited concerning the power of Jesus name.

We need to understand the difference between the Old Testament Temple and the New Testament Church. We see in the Old Testament God was among his people and his temple was the tabernacle. In the New Testament we are told the temple God now dwells in is the temple of our corporate bodies. His presence now lives inside of us and not on the outside of us in any certain building or altar. The priest of the old tabernacle such as Aaron and his sons could only be priest through their lineage of birth into the tribe of Levi. It is the same in the New Testament a priest can only be one if he has been born into Christ; (Christ in us the hope of our glory) thus we are all born into the priesthood and at the same time we are also the tabernacle God dwells in today. 1 Corinthians 3:16 *“Know you not that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”* Revelations 1:6 *“and has made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.”*

The thought that there is a Tabernacle with only certain ones being priest or having a greater place before the throne of God than everyone else is simply not found in the New Testament Scripture.

Everyone is called with the same calling to the stature and fullness of Christ! From there the Holy Spirit selects and delegates.

Oh God now delivers us from our limited self-life and grant us your grace to grow into this fullness so freely ours through his blood.

I was in a large church where they were having classes on how to find your place in the body of Christ. The Psychologist teaching the class had no concept of the spirit of man nor of the Spirit within the body of Christ.

Until the church can return to walking in the anointing of the Holy Spirit and begin functioning under the divine order of the five-fold ministry we will be without true Pentecost.

Let me say it again.

Until we recognize and operate with the ministry anointings of the New Testament functioning free from the Old Testament pattern of the Levitical priest being the leader as pastor in front of the people we will not produce disciples with the anointing and power of the early believers. The believers in Pentecost, who the people described as “those who turn the world upside down.”

When we read of our physical lives and daily pursuits, we find in Romans 12:1 that even by being a living sacrifice we only then are doing reasonable service. We must not go abstract on this in our reading but be honest with ourselves; there is a physical position within the body of Christ. It is only when we have the New Testament pattern of ministry within the body are we truly being obedient in what God expects of us. God wants us to know the life of the body and not just the teaching and concept. This life of the body is to be experienced and we are to live in the reality of it. We must not only be in the church service, but we are also to love one another fervently. We must go beyond attending Sunday service to personally having relationships with one another.

This includes the “leaders” seeing themselves as the servants among the beloved and not as some different special group. Pastor’s appreciation month needs to be replaced with the Scriptural reality we are everyone of us equal as high priests with Christ alone the only righteousness any of us will ever have. This includes the exalted pastors who serve ignorantly and in contradiction to the New Testament order of five-fold ministry. Everyone is a member of the body with the five-fold ministry being servants within the church and the Church has never been given to the five-fold ministry.

Too many times, today’s church becomes a yoke of bondage due to the traditions and programs of man. We must remember *“he that’s free in Christ is free indeed.”* We must hold ourselves accountable while at the same time being wary of the traditions and programs of man that quench the spirit and deny the divine order of the Holy Spirit. That which is in the Bible and so different than what we find in the organization of the churches today.

We also must consider the realm of the Spirit and the truth that our place is not so much in the programs of the church but rather in the Spirit body of Christ.

The purpose and programs of the church is to maintain the arena or place for the anointing and power and purpose of the Holy Spirit to be served by everyone. Where the Scripture is obeyed and released. Where when the people come together each person has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation, let all thing be done to the building up of the body. 1 Corinthians 14:26 For you can all prophecy one by one, that all may learn and all may be encouraged: Verse 31. When we return to practicing the Scripture, we will the see the members raised up and sent out the door as matured believers in Christ’s fullness, going forth to the ends of the earth.

After telling us we are to present our physical bodies as a living sacrifice in time and place to the Holy Spirits ministry within the Body of Christ we are then told in Romans 12:5-9 that God gives each member of the body certain gifts or enablement of the Holy Spirit with which he serves the body of Christ. Peter speaks of this in his first epistle in 2:5, *“you also as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”* Our right relationship to the body requires our self-denial and sacrifice.

We cannot take these graces given to us to serve the local body and believe this is God's calling upon our life. We serve in these physical graces as we mature into the fullness of Christ and understand beyond these there is the anointing and calling upon each member to be filled with the Holy Spirit and function in the realm of the Spirit.

To serve the church involves our body, soul, and spirit as we fulfill the calling upon each of us as individuals to come to the stature and fullness of Christ.

God had a specific/divine order of the people for his sanctuary, the service and the order of worship. We read in Exodus 40:34-35 when the temple was completed according to all God had shown Moses on the mount, the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle and Moses was not able to enter because the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. We find this again happening in 1 Kings 8:10-11 when the temple of Solomon was completed. Apostle Creed taught us this shows if we follow God's divine order in our New Testament Church, we will also find the full glory and presence of God among us.

The first time I experienced this was in August of 1980. I was attending a meeting in Helena Montana USA. Before Apostle Creed Davis ministered, I asked for prayer. I was so in need of finances and direction from God. The body of Christ then gathered around me, laid their hands on me and prayed for me. As everyone set down a man named Les Velasquez started to laugh and then to cry. Apostle Creed asked him what was going on. He held up his hand. I could see the smallest finger and the ring finger next to it was rough and calloused while the other two fingers and thumb were smooth. There was a scar down the middle of his hand extending up the wrist and into the shirt sleeve. He told us that fourteen years prior he had had an accident and since that time part of his hand had been paralyzed with him not having the use of the thumb and first two fingers. He said while everyone was laying their hands on me and praying, he felt something in his hand. He then began to flex and move it realizing it had been completely healed. Oh, how real and mighty is our Christ among us in the Body, the Church!

It is from the Church the Holy Spirit calls the Para Church, that which we sometimes call the missionary organization. Today from the humanist concept we find many para church ministries in people's names. This is so different from the apostle Paul, the bondservant who considered himself a lowly steward having been in-trusted with the

manifold mysteries of God. *“For I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ and him, crucified.”* We find this same selfless pattern in 2 Samuel 26-30 where Joab sent a message to David requesting him to come so the battle won would not be in his name but only in the name of his king. Would Paul or Peter ever so much as have considered for a moment a ministry in their own names or taking the money for their own promotion?

It is beyond me how the church of today can be so clueless concerning the Word of God and what the Bible says concerning the Holy Spirit being the administrator of the Body of Christ and not man! Jesus Christ is the head and all believers, yes, all believers are now high priest within the body. The will of the head (Jesus Christ) is revealed and under the administration of the Holy Spirit. Within this God anoints certain men with the anointing of apostle prophet, pastor teacher and evangelist. They are the obedient junior administrators beneath the Holy Spirit and there they are to serve in bringing every believer to the stature and fullness of Christ.

Let me summarize all of this.

The church is established on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. The apostle establishes the vision, with the prophet having an anointing of correction and direction to the group. They remain in relationship as they continue to ensure the church does not leave its true foundation with Christ remaining as the Chief Corner Stone. The apostolic and prophet ministries are prominent during the beginning of the group and their anointing continues to ensure the group remains on the right foundation. If this isn't so, then the group will never come to their total calling and the anointing for the members themselves to come into their calling.

The anointing of the apostles and prophets lay the foundation of the local church. The apostle operates in all the other 4 anointings especially in the beginning of the group. The prophet instructs, corrects, and releases the graces and anointing to the believers and serves as a rod of discernment not only to the body but also to the apostle.

The anointing of the evangelist (not only to save but also to bring the people to a holy fear and obedience to the Scripture) converts the believers and brings them to accept the ownership of God upon their lives and soul.

The anointing of pastor and teacher shepherd and love the body as they bring them to grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ unto the level of elder.

It is from this elder group the Holy Spirit will commission those who will go out to duplicate the church again and again.

Another page of the Bible the modern church has taken and thrown away is the truth concerning personal prophecy. We clearly see in 1 Corinthians 14:25 that the secrets of men's hearts are revealed through prophecy. And beyond this we cannot deny that Paul tells Timothy in 1 Timothy 1:18 to war a good warfare according to the prophecies that had been given concerning him. In other word they had given him a battle plan for his ministry. In 4:14 Paul goes further in identifying the gift that he possessed was given or imparted to him by the laying on of the hands of the elders. He then confirms and repeats this method of impartation in 1 Timothy 1:6 where he exhorts him to stir up the gift that is in him through the laying on of his hands.

Once again, we can only wonder at the modern churches disdain and rejection of the Scripture. We must turn back to obedience and God's divine order in transferring and continuing his anointing. Is it any wonder the modern purpose driven church has nothing more in the reality of Christ's power of healing and deliverance than the local service club.

The church must return to this pattern of divine order.

I have heard preachers say, personal prophecy is dangerous. Of course, it is. All power tools are. That doesn't mean we need to unplug the power saw and go back to cutting the boards by hand.

Many churches today do not understand the fivefold ministry and function with a pastor and a fairly uniform order of morning service. They begin with opening prayer, have the singing and worship, give the announcements take the offering, then preach.

Let us look at this, when and where is the fivefold ministry and the Holy Spirit supposed to fit? Why doesn't everyone participate like the Bible says they are supposed to?

May I suggest to you changing the service. We need to recognize the Holy Spirit as being present in voice and manifested power within his desired program.

The tradition in most churches comes with the bride worshiping Jesus their soon to be husband. Instead of allowing this intimacy to be completed with the voice of Christ being released back to the bride through tongues and interpretation and prophecy we kill it. Tradition has perverted this so after getting the people emotional through worship they then take the collection hoping the people will give more. This quenches the Spirit and stops the release of the spiritual. We take the service out of the flow of the Spirit and release the spirit of man. By the time the offering has been taken and the announcements given the Holy Spirit has been quenched and the voice of the groom has been silenced.

In the Churches I have pastored instead of interrupting the service by taking an offering we have placed a box near the back with two openings in the top. One opening is marked tithes the other offering. I have only allowed an offering plate to be passed for special speakers or for someone with special needs. This way we replace money gathering with the higher priority of honoring and releasing the Spirit. I have then instructed the people to give as they have purposed in their hearts and not from emotion nor compulsion. In trusting the Holy Spirit to take care of this I have always been amazed at the amount given.

During the worship service is the time when we the bride of Christ give our love and voice in praise and worship to our soon to become husband, Jesus. After this we give our first love time to express his love to us. Here we give the Holy Spirit opportunity to be released. In the Spirit filled church we not only have the bride coming into the presence of Christ, but we also have the voice of Christ coming to his bride through the gifts of prophecy, tongues and interpretation. When both happen, we have the fullness of worship and the reality of Christ as the Holy Spirit desires.

It is the responsibility of the New Testament fivefold ministry to mature the saints in yielding to the presence and manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit through themselves. I personally have never dared to quench nor interrupt this Spirit union with announcements or the taking of the offering and have always been careful to give the Holy Spirit ample time for completion. The church service cannot be complete through

the teaching of the logos but also requires releasing the Holy Spirit's reality and the power of Christ.

It is during this time we should experience 1 Corinthians 14:24-25, "But if all prophesy, and there come in one that is unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: and thus, the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so, falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth."

At the end of every service, I have instructed the people to quietly move away from the front of the room and invited anyone having a need to feel free to come forward for the elders and faith filled believers to lay hands on them (as the Bible tells us in Hebrews 6:2) This is one of the first principles of the doctrines of Christ. Here again is the time we allow the Holy Spirit to be released through the gifts of the Spirit. If the elders are New Testament elders they will move freely in the discerning of spirits, words of knowledge, prophecy and the gifts of healings and miracles.

Sunday morning is the evangelistic time. Sunday night the body time.

Fasting and prayer for the release of the reality and power of the Holy Spirit in the service is our evangelism program, because when the reality and gifts of the Spirit are being released, we know people will go out across the area and testify that "God is in you of a truth."

Let me give you a testimony of this to the Glory of God.

I was invited to minister to a group of government employees in the new government center in Bacolod, Negros Island, Philippines. As I was preparing the message the Holy Spirit spoke to me, "speak only Jesus." When I went there, I spoke the simplest of things about only Jesus. When I finished, I asked the people who wanted prayer to come for prayer. As I laid my hands on them one woman immediately began to weep and testify. I asked my wife to translate, and she told me the woman was saying he doesn't know me, but he told me all about my life. As others came to be prayed for, they went out to the street and got the woman selling food and brought her to be ministered to also. You see the Church must repent of the efforts born from their purpose driven logic and reason. We must return to the reality of Spirit and Truth! It is not by the intellect of

mind, nor by the effort of soul but by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and the power of Pentecost we will take Christ unto the nations.

CLOSING

Christ loves you and so do I.

I am afraid some of you might resent me in writing this or mistake my motives in doing so.

I have written these things from my agape love for the perfecting of Christ's Church and hope the church will return to the living presence of God now among us as the Holy Spirit.

Let me remind you in closing, "Faithful are the wounds of a friend, but the kisses of the enemy are deceitful." Proverbs 27:6

I now pray you will meditate on these things I have shared and give yourself wholly to them.

Even so, **Come Lord Jesus**

Pastor Jim

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