

Session 3: Developing and Sustaining a Revival Culture

I. THE EMERGING PRAYER AND MISSIONS MOVEMENT AT THE END OF THE AGE

- A. God is raising up a movement of prayer and worship that is sweeping the Body of Christ globally. God is joining this movement of night and day prayer with the global missions movement in order to bring about a crescendo of apostolic power being released unto the fulfillment of the Great Commission and the end of the age.
- B. We must have a proper paradigm in order to respond rightly to the Lord in the midst of the unique dynamics that will take place in our generation. *Gospel to All Nations*: Mission organizations project from statistical data that the gospel will be heard by every people group and language on the earth for the first time by 2025.

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.” (Matthew 24:14)

- C. Some in the Body of Christ only focus on the negative realities of the latter days. Focusing primarily on the “great falling away” and other negative issues many tend to devalue or overlook current revivals and awakenings that take place in the earth. The truth is that the Day of the Lord is both *great and terrible*. We must pay attention to **both realities**. We do a disservice to the Bride of Christ by not preparing her for *both dynamics*. We must preach both.
- D. *There will be two very opposite tracks: Ripening of Evil and Ripening of Righteousness*
 - 1. *God is not going to lie down as evil comes to its fullness (2 Thess. 2:7, 2 Timothy 3:1, Luke 17:26-29). God will allow the power of redemption and revival to show forth its fullness in pockets throughout the earth (Micah 7:15, Acts 2:28-31, Jeremiah 23:18-22, Daniel 11:32, Revelation 10:11, 11:6).*
- E. *Other dynamics to consider: 1) Rage of Satan, 2) Evil of Men, 3) Judgments of God*
- F. We are still some years out from these great events, but we have definitely entered into a time of great shaking and with it will come great revival.

II. MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER OR IT’S NOT MY HOUSE

“...these (foreigners, gentile nations) I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations.”(Isa. 56:7)

- A. In the hour that we live in, we don’t have time to “play church”. Those days ended long ago. The Lord is committed to “cleansing the temple” once again and calling forth His beautiful Bride into her destiny as a House of Prayer for All Nations (Isaiah 56:7)

- B. The days that we are entering (as a nation and as the global body) mandate that we become not only individuals who pray, but a culture of prayer, worship and intercession. Simply put, it's time to enter biblical Christianity.
- C. Judgment is coming. But it is coming first to the House of God (I Peter 4:17). The Lord is going to sift His church and draw a true line of demarcation; in that day we will see a difference between the righteous and the wicked. Who is in this for fire insurance and who is in this for the Glory of God and for His Beauty to be displayed in all the earth like the waters cover the sea (Hab. 2:14).
- D. In the days to come, every ministry that is does not have a culture of prayer, will go one of two ways: 1) Apostate in order to continue in the work of "ministry" with the approval of the world or, 2) Out of commission (bankrupt, burnt out, gone, done for, "_____ has left the building"). Jesus will take away its influence (lamp stand) without hesitation (Revelation 2-3).
- E. Culture of prayer: this does not mean that every ministry with the name "house of prayer" is safe. The Lord sees beyond the outward. A culture of prayer is defined by the eyes of Him who searches the mind and hearts of the churches (Revelation 2:23). If the local body or ministry does not have a spirit of prayer in the corporate sense then it will not stand in the days to come.
- F. Carrying the spirit of prayer is about the First Commandment. The Father is committed to putting the First Commandment in First Place. It is also a matter of the Fear of the Lord. There will be so much fear in the days to come. Those who will stand will be full of the fear of the Lord.

...men's hearts failing them from fear and the expectation of those things which are coming on the earth, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. (Luke 21:26)

Jesus said to him, " You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.'

...these I will bring to my holy mountain and give them joy in my house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; (Malachi 1:11)

III. THE SEEDBED OF REVIVAL AND TRUE JUSTICE

- A. The Lord is raising up a people all across the earth who will stand in intercession for justice to break in on the earth.

⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:7-8)

- B. There is a cry for justice among the young people of this generation. The enemy is taking advantage of the sincere desire for justice by raising up a *false justice movement* that is preparing the poor of the earth to receive antichrist ideologies (and ultimately the antichrist).

- C. This false movement is based upon human sentiment and not the beauty of Jesus. In God's economy we don't have to choose between *loving people and loving God*. But it is imperative that we do these in the correct order and begin on the right foundation. Humanism is the idea that man is God and that a man-centered utopia is our ultimate end. This is evil at its core and it is the essence of Babylon (Genesis 11, Revelation 17-18). It will ultimately be judged and we as believers must *come out her* lest we be judged with her.
- D. God is raising up a *true justice movement* that is based on the literal words of Jesus regarding night and day prayer for the release of justice (Luke 18:7-8). The context of this verse is actually eschatological (end-times) flowing directly from Luke 17 with no break in conversational flow. Jesus was ending His eschatological sermon with a sermon on prayer. This is how the end of the age will actually come about—through a praying church.

The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" (Revelation 22:17)

- E. God has always worked this way (Amos 3:7, Psalm 25:14, The Exodus). Why in the world would the Lord choose to work differently at the end of the age—the most important/intense hour in history—than He's worked all along? He has desired *partnership* and at the end of the age we will see this come to fruition through a praying/prophesying/humble Bride who declares His Kingdom in the midst of terrible persecution. Many will be martyred, but many will be preserved through divine protection (Revelation 9:4, Ezekiel 9:4, Revelation 11:5, Exodus 8:22).

IV. THE COMING TROUBLE AND THE REALITY OF THE GOSHEN PRINCIPLE

- A. It is important to note that what the Lord does in fullness at the end of the age, He will do in part in these days.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (Hebrews 13:8)

- B. He is always King, Bridegroom and Judge. He will perform the thoughts and intents of His heart from beginning (Genesis/Eternity Past) all the way to the beginning (Revelation 22 and Eternity Future) without suspending any part of His character and nature.
- C. At the end of the age, believers will be on earth as the greatest exchange in all of history between light and darkness takes place (this is obviously not an equal battle—i.e. God wins). Just as Moses partnered with God through intercession to bring deliverance to the people of God and judgment on the kingdom of darkness, so the end-time Bride will partner with Her soon-coming Husband in being "with Him where He is" (John 17) and doing what He does.
- D. The prayer movement that God is raising up will be in every city on the earth. He will raise up a people who will cry out together for the return of Jesus and He will respond (Revelation 22:17).

¹¹ My name will be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun. In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to my name, because my name will be great among the nations," says the LORD Almighty.

- E. In the Kingdom to come, we will experience fullness of justice (wrong things made right). There will be no sin, no sickness, no false motives, no pain, no injustice, no lack, etc. When this power breaks in during this age it is an expression of the “powers of the age to come.” (Hebrews 6:5).
- F. There is a principle that will take place at the end of the age called the “Goshen Principle”

“But on that day I will deal differently with the land of Goshen, where my people live; no swarms of flies will be there, so that you will know that I, the LORD, am in this land.”
(Exodus 8:22)
- G. Just as in the days of the Israelites there was a “pocket of mercy” so it will be in the coming days. God is preparing the nations of the earth by placing churches of prayer throughout the nations to declare His glory and prepare those cities for the coming judgments.
- H. During the temporal shakings that are soon to take place, the cities that have houses of prayer/people of prayer will become “pockets of mercy”. The church in these regions will carry the power of God to multiply food in famine, heal the sick, raise the dead, and preach the gospel to the poor (Matthew 10) (the majority of the earth will be in poverty). There will also be great finances released for the purpose of the kingdom, but all of this will be entrusted to a people who love not their lives and are a people who are given to prayer.

V. NO ORDINARY GENERATION. SOUND THE ALARM!

“When evening comes, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,’³ and in the morning, ‘Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times.” (Matt. 16:2-4)

- A. Jesus is giving an indictment to those in His generation regarding their ability to discern the urgent hour in which they were living. If we do not understand the hour in which we live then we could very well find ourselves out of sync with what God is doing and saying in our generation.

“men of Issachar, who understood the times and knew what Israel should do...” (1 Chr 12:32)

- B. Every generation has an opportunity to respond to God according to what He is speaking within that generation and the events taking place during that generation. The men of Issachar understood the times *therefore* they knew what the people should do. God is raising up a people of knowledge and understanding. The days of “Nobody understands the end times...” are at their last breath.

²⁰ The anger of the LORD will not turn back Until He has executed and performed the thoughts of His heart. In the latter days you will understand it perfectly (Jeremiah 23:20) He replied, “Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end. (Daniel 12:9)

- C. Soon we will realize that the study of the end-times is less about a sequence of events and more about the Revelation of Jesus Christ—the very thoughts and intense of His heart are encapsulated

in the battle plan to bring about justice and restoration to all of creation (Revelation 1, 6-22, Isaiah 63, 66, Zechariah 12, 14, Romans 8, 11:15)

- D. Not only are we in an eschatologically urgent hour of history, but we are in a national crisis as well—I have no need to expound upon this point.
- E. The Lord cries out through the Prophet Joel regarding the solution for a people who have entered such an urgent hour of crisis. Blow the trumpet, sound the alarm!
- F. **Trumpet #1**—Declare the Day of the Lord—this is a call to bring clarity to the people regarding the current crisis. This trumpet declares, “Yes, we are in a crisis. And yes, GOD is at the center of it. He is trying to get our attention.”

² Hear this, you elders; listen, all who live in the land. Has anything like this ever happened in your days or in the days of your forefathers? (Joel 1:2)

¹ Blow the trumpet in Zion; sound the alarm on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming. It is close at hand- (Joel 2:1)

- G. **Trumpet #2**—Declare the Solution—this is a call to the people of God within a land to “shut down business as usual” and gather together for fasting and prayer.

¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. (Joel 2:15)

VI. THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE PROPHETIC CALL TO BUILD THE HOUSE OF PRAYER

- A. God’s greatness is unsearchable so His praise should be unending.
- B. God is worth more than 24 hour a day prayer and praise in every city of the nations of the earth. We say, “Why does God need 24/7 prayer and worship?” God doesn’t need it, WE NEED IT! Not only that, but He is worth more than we can give Him.
- C. Do we really think that since now we are in the New Covenant, God is worthy of less praise? The cross didn’t lessen His worth and the indwelling Spirit constitute “less praise”. Praise, worship and prayer are all a product of revelation. Within the New Covenant we are given greater revelation therefore their should be more praise, worship and prayer.
- D. The corporate dimension of prayer is something that we as westerners are prone to reject. We are an individualistic people. God’s command is still, “GATHER TOGETHER!” Acts 2 and Acts 4 show us the power dimension of gathering for prayer. We are so ready to gather when it comes to potluck Sunday and the football game—all in the name of “fellowship”, but where is the fulfillment of the command to “devote yourselves to prayer”.
- E. God is raising up His people of prayer and literal 24/7 houses of prayer in all the nations. Musicians are being raised up who are ready to give their lives to the Davidic cry of Psalm 27:4.

- F. Naturally, 24/7 houses of prayer mandate a few things: 1) musicians 2) people to come their and pray. The Body of Christ worldwide is gaining this revelation and we will soon see these “intercessory missionaries” supported by the church in every region for the “work and labor of prayer and intercession” unto the release of revival, justice, and ultimately the glory of God.
- G. This is the trumpet call. And the Church of East Texas will answer. God is committed to it.