

May 2020

I suppose all this extra "time" to pray, fast and meditate and ponder has allowed me to arrive at a time where I see "truth" as truly stranger than "fiction." People have been living on fantasy Island having created their own utopia of the "church" and in doing so, have left God's presence in the dust. It is "time" for a harsh rebuke of the church. Us, we, are the church, yet no one knows. We've gone through the motions so long, some of us, that we've become used to <u>that</u> norm, offering up pitiful praise and sour sermons and thuggish order. It's "time" for change and I want to offer the fire of hope! I hope your personal God encounter will ignite so that you will be involved in this coming end-time revival! Read these words carefully and allow them to soak into your Spirit and transform your thinking.

I think of Samson, at the worst moment in life, blind, bound and going around and around, grinding at a millstone. He cried out for God to remember him "one more time". His prayer restored the anointing and brought the house down on his enemies. His last move of the Holy Spirit was his greatest. There is a people marked for one last outpouring – the greatest! Will you be one of those used of God and fulfill your assignment?

Wicked agendas will topple. False doctrines will die an early death due to the appetite of young converts. Church empires will be given the ultimatum to return to dependency on the Holy Spirit or suffer total loss. The "church" needs a jolt like never before. We need a John the Baptist moment! Matthew 5:6 was talking to those who "hunger and thirst for righteousness." This is never been a winning message in America. Yet this message is what has really gotten a hold of some of the world changers we know of today! This hard message may ignite a soul to fall before God. Think of the rise and fall of empires before an Almighty God. Nineveh had a sign that said "The city that will always be," yet nothing is left. What makes us think America is entitled for God to not judge us. Could this new "virus" be an eye-opener? America has been spared time and time again by divine intervention. Our cultures now shake their fists at God, crossing over into unchartered moral waters. We have an enemy we have never faced before – ourselves! We are more divided today than ever before. We are drowning in falsehoods. We can't trust anything we hear in the media. And no one knows how dangerous that is because we've never faced it like this before.

Few Americans make it through a day without alcohol, a hit, a pill, a powder, or a needle. Our kids are taking their lives over shoes, pictures, texts, bullying, messages on social media. Yet, few admit the direct correlation between our misery and rejection of God. There will be close to 800,000 abortions in America this year alone! Yet people are pulled into a fear of possibly 60-70,000 coronavirus deaths! WAKE UP!!

What can save us? Nothing less than a massive moral awakening

A masterstroke of Satan has been to weaken its spirit filled leaders – or have they been spirit filled at all? Satan has fooled its leaders into replacing gold with bronze. *He took away the treasures of the house of the LORD and the treasures of the king's house. He took away everything. He also took away all the shields of gold that Solomon had made*, v_{27} and King Rehoboam made in their place shields of bronze, and

committed them to the hands of the officers of the guard, who kept the door of the king's house. (1 Kings14:26-27 ESV).

The devil used craftiness to steal our gold. Soul-winning seems to be a thing of the past. It's now welloiled Big church machines offering businesslike entertainment with great marketing.

Grace is supposed to be a catalyst to holiness. A new version of grace grants a license to lead a doublelife, and I hate to say I live around so many double-minded leaders it's sickening, but it's true. Everyone wants a feel-good gospel where emotional experiences take supremacy over the Word of God. Has anyone in your local body seen a miracle? The body is full of people who don't know what they believe, why they believe it, let alone possess authority to share it. They embody Judges 2:10; *And all that generation also were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the LORD or the work that he had done for Israel (Judges 2:10 ESV).*

Prophets warned the church that marriage could be destroyed, that boys would be able to walk in on your little girl in the school bathroom. People scoffed and said it would never happen. They say, "we are blessed, nothing bad is going to happen". We must rediscover the power of the Holy Spirit to discern the times. In Matthew 24, Jesus is telling of the explosive events of the last days. He is teaching us how to live in those times. Our soul is saved from hell by grace and faith. Verse 13 says, "*But he that endures to the end shall be saved*," our lives are protected from last days disaster by enduring – by standing and pressing into the work of God in our time.

Those who go deeper and are active in the work of the Lord receive special favor and intimacy with Christ. That protection is tied to fulfilling the very next verse: "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all of the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14).

We are at war! If you say the name of Christ, you are in this war. That you can't see it or feel it doesn't make it any less real or any less dangerous. The question is, do you know how God is fighting and do you know your assignment in this act of God?

From above the valley, the voice of the Lord thunders a question: "Can these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37:3). Ezekiel doesn't answer right away, he humbly says, "Only You know." Then He tells Ezekiel to prophesy. So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. $_{v8}$ And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. $_{v9}$ Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." $_{v10}$ So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. (Ezekiel 37:7-10 ESV).

Israel has no hope. That's the first point. Verse 11; "Then He said to me, 'Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They indeed say, "Our bones are dry, <u>our hope is lost</u> and we ourselves are cut off!"

The second point is the major point. God will come out of nowhere. When everything is past hope, He will restore life. Why? So that we may know He is God and He alone has done it. Hold on to that truth!

The Spirit-filled church has rewarded men for getting good at things they're not supposed to be doing. The outward appearance may indeed be impressive, but their identity is what they can convince men to let them do rather than letting God raise them up. Then once they've acquired their "spot", don't you dare meddle! What these men don't realize is that they have pushed the Holy Spirit right out of what's happening. What we don't have is a towering move of God. Truth has flown out the window. Truth that convicts and transforms – truth spoken by a broken, loving vessel that is unconcerned about their "spot".

E.M. Bounds said, "What the church needs today is not more machinery or better, not new organizations or more classes or novel methods; but men whom the Holy Ghost can use – men of prayer, men mighty in prayer. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men – men of prayer."

We are very good at what we do. But what good is that if it's not what we're supposed to be doing?

There is a growing number among us who are grieved and yet full of expectancy. Nothing we are seeing in churches today approaches what we will see – It's coming and no one can stop it. The locomotive of destiny is barreling towards us and it's carrying a precious cargo: the mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit. A vast army of youth full of love, power, and the Holy Spirit will form virtually overnight. We need to admit our youth are in the worst moral condition in American history. Admit that church attendance among young people has never been so low. Admit that never have so many claimed to be atheists – never have they expressed such anger towards churches.

How can our youth be nearing a spiritual revolution? They are going to extremes with drugs, violence and perversion? They are wildly embracing socialism and protesting madly. Strangely enough, their bizarre behavior is itself the sign.

Acts 26:14 tells us that Jesus said to Saul of Tarsus: *"it is hard for you to kick against the goads."* Christ had been dealing with Saul for some time. The words and works of Jesus haunted Saul. Jesus and Saul were about the same age. Saul was often in places where Jesus taught. to "kick against the goads" was a common expression found in both Greek and Latin literature. Everyone in that day knew this referred to farmers using a sharp pointed stick to goad a stubborn ox into motion. He is fighting his destiny. Jesus' analogy is perfect. The ox wants to go one way, but the sharp stick is goading him another way.

Saul's destiny kept prodding him, and he reacted by becoming more violent, and zealous, kicking against the goads of his destiny. By destroying the church, he could kill the frightening work of God inside him.

I'm just praying for the Sauls to experience a Damascus Road experience. Saul was a leader, a Pharisee, a teacher, yet even though he could quote the Torah, he too was fooled into thinking he was doing the right thing by literally killing the church, blind as a bat until God had to literally blind him for him to see what he was supposed to be doing.

Repentance looks like this. We abandon methods that while good, would be a drag on revival. We examine the crimes we have committed against the Holy Spirit and we forsake them. We look each other in the eye and say, "I know you will hate me and say I am judgmental, but what I am about to tell you will bring life – life like you never imagined." And we prepare. I suggest you repent and get ready.

Written in love for His people and revival,

Chief

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