

Supernatural History of America

Session 5
The Coming (5th)
Great Awakening

God's Purpose for America

- Spread the Gospel
- Return the Jews to Israel
- Prove that man is not perfectible

Great Awakenings

- First: 1731–1755
- Second: 1790–1840
- Third: 1850–1900
- Fourth: 1960–1980

The Fifth Great Awakening

- May already be sweeping Africa, Asia and Latin America
- “Woodlawn” movie intended to spark revival
- “The War Room” is a call to prayer

From a Spark to a Flame

- June 26, 2015—US Supreme Court redefines marriage in Obergefell v Hodges
- July 1, 2015—ACLU sues Kim Davis

From the Scriptures

God's Spirit Poured Out

Joel 2:28 "And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh;

Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams,

Your young men shall see visions.

29 And also on *My* menservants and on *My* maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

30 "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: Blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.

32 And it shall come to pass *That* whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance,

As the Lord has said, Among the remnant whom the Lord calls.

My Great Awakening

- Encountered the Charismatic Renewal at Wheaton College in 1966 but did not join it
- 1977 Born again and baptized
- Hands laid on by Jim Bruner, Spirit filled Methodist
- Filled with the Holy Spirit and received gift of tongues in an upstairs bedroom as I listened to Jimmy Swaggart describe the resurrected Jesus in Revelation 1
- Continue to learn and operate in the gifts of the Spirit

What Can We Do?

Walk in Wisdom

Ephesians 5:15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, 16 redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord *is*. 18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, 21 submitting to one another in the fear of God.

Obstacles

- Cessationism—spiritual gifts ceased with the last apostle and completion of New Testament
- Supersessionism—Replacement Theology: the church has replaced the Jews as God's chosen people and the New Covenant has replaced the Mosaic Covenant
- Preterism—all or most of Bible prophecy was fulfilled by AD 70

Cessationism

- Spiritual gifts ceased with the last apostle and completion of New Testament
- Based on various Church Fathers and 1 Corinthians 8— Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. **9** For we know in part and we prophesy in part. **10** But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.

Supersessionism

- Replacement Theology: the church has replaced the Jews as God's chosen people and the New Covenant has replaced the Mosaic Covenant
- Based on both Catholic and Protestant views

Preterism

- All or most of Bible prophecy was fulfilled by AD 70
- Based on Catholic doctrine 1614

How can these views obstruct?

- Can tend to favor some scripture passages over others
- Can elevate Certain Christian writers/leaders to almost cult status thus dividing the church
- Can hint that covenants and promises may change
- Can encourage passive view of life in the Spirit
- Can lead to spiritual pride

Cessationism

- Spiritual gifts have ceased and those who claim to have them are deceived by the devil or dabbling in the occult
- Causes division among believers

Supersessionism

- Antisemitic
- Pride in the church

Preterism

- Disregard of current signs of the times
- Apathy toward the Lord's coming

Seek God the Giver

Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking

Luke 11:9 “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. **11** If a son asks for bread[d] from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if *he asks* for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? **12** Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? **13** If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will *your* heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

All Truth

John 16:13

New King James Version (NKJV)

¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own *authority*, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.