

Straight TALK...

Bryn Jones

The knives are out again! No sooner does the Spirit of God move in refreshing across the Church than the enemy begins marshaling his forces, already well entrenched in Christian circles, to oppose what God is doing. The best weapon in the hands of the Devil is

the godly man deceived. The dilemma is, when faced with godly people on both sides, how to determine which is deceived.

Today one side rejoices in the 'breath of freshness', while the other cries out, 'hysteria'. Both sides are describing

the same events and both sides are led by born-again believers.

Meanwhile, of course, Hell has a party. Mischievous spirits are congratulated and special awards for service are handed out in the courts of darkness. Applauding demons scream out, "The Christians are fighting each other!" They know this will delay the day of Christ's return and their final end.

There is a better way for Christian leaders to resolve disagreement. Surely Jesus was wiser than us in commanding that disagreements be handled inside the framework of the Church rather than circulated as wild accusations in public magazines.

Certainly those at the forefront of the Spirit's move may well have aspects to reconsider and adjustments to make. However,

those who are in violent opposition to what is happening, show themselves to be grossly immature by making accusations and personal attacks. Their attitude grieves the Holy Spirit, mars the Christian testimony and perpetuates the division in Christ's Body.


Where Do We Stand?

We believe that what is being referred to as 'a time of refreshing', or, 'an outpouring of the Holy Spirit', is a genuine move of God.

We acknowledge that there have been manifestations that can only be described as 'demonic' or 'the flesh' and that at times leadership has not shown itself mature enough to handle the situation properly. However, any reading of the Gospels will reveal that Jesus faced similar dilemmas with His disciples. Jesus proved capable of handling every situation, but His disciples did not.

We believe that in such situations the Spirit will increase our faith and train us to rely more on Jesus. His strength is still perfected in our weaknesses and His grace is still sufficient in all things.

We do not want the regular, tidy and orderly manifestation of the flesh that sits every week in pews where no one is in danger of being disturbed because nothing outside the ordinary ever happens.

Our prayer is, "God rend the heavens, let the mountains bow down at Your presence." We won't be angry at the shifts in the landscape and the untidy scattering of rocks as You come. 

Bryn

The Holy Spirit is moving today in great power and demonstration... but not without considerable controversy.
