

There's a Coming Revival!

It's important to understand God's **promise** and **purpose** for the church so that we might become dissatisfied – so that we will become desperate.

- Insatiable hunger moves the heart of God – Those who hunger and thirst after righteousness – shall be filled.

Revival is meant to bring Godly fear to the complacent, the cold-hearted, and those drifting from serving the Lord with wholeheartedness.

Religion [which is a form without power] will be increasingly despised in the hearts of those who truly belong to the Lord.

- Revelation of the Lord creates an appetite for Him.
- When you have Him, you have His full power and glory, so the world sees Him through you – His church.

What the Lord has planned for His church in this hour is greater than our ability to imagine and pray for!

Because many fear being out of balance, they are concerned with believing the Lord for the more He offers in this current life.

- Mediocrity breeds compliancy among God's people.
- This was the problem with the 10 spies sent to spy out the land, they saw giants and believed the land was too hard to take, that they were too small to defeat the foe.

So, they settled to not move forward to receive the inheritance the Lord had for them.

Our addiction to perfection or fear of risk taking prohibits our obedience to Holy Spirit's promptings.

When you teach a kid to ride a bike, you need to find a place with plenty of grass because it's not a matter of **IF** they fall but **WHEN** they fall.

The Coming Glorious Church –

There are achievements mentioned in scripture the Church has yet to fulfill:

- The Lord is coming for a Bride that is mature and spotless –
Ephesians 5:27 And to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

These are prophetic glimpses into the heart of God for us.

1. **Wisdom of God:**

Ephesians 3:10-11 That now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to His eternal purpose.

- Solomon being the wisest man to ever have lived, apart from Jesus who is wisdom personified.

When the Queen of Sheba came to examine Solomon's wisdom in

2 Chronicles 9:4, she acknowledged his wisdom was far greater than she ever imagined.

- His wisdom was identified by three attributes:

Excellence – Creativity – Integrity.

The Lord's intention for you, His bride/church is to possess these qualities so the world will reverence and acknowledge the wonderful God we serve.

Excellence – the high standard for what we do because of who we are.

God is extravagant, but not wasteful!

- **Matthew 26:8-9** Mary's pouring of the expensive ointment upon Jesus the value of a years' wages.
- **2 Samuel 6:14-16** King David humbled himself before the Lord taking off his kingly garments and dancing before the Lord in worship.

In pursuing Excellence, we do all that we do to the glory of the Lord with all our might.

A heart of excellence has no place for the poverty spirit that affects too much of what we offer to the Lord.

Colossians 3:23-24 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

2 Samuel 24:24 Then the king [David] said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy *it* from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing." So, David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.

Creativity – It is not a glory to the Lord to fall into the rut of predictability and call it tradition. We must reveal who our Father [Creator] is through creative expression.

- Creativity will require change. Resistance to change is resistance to the nature of God who is bringing new things to His people.
- The anointing of Holy Spirit will bring about new inventions, breakthroughs in medicine, science, business ideas, education, music.

Integrity – The expression of God’s character seen in us.

- The character of holiness – the essence of His nature – it is who he is.
- We are holy because of His nature within us – our hearts separated to Him.

2. **A Glorious Church:**

Ephesians 5:27 That He might present her [church] to Himself a glorious church. God’s original intent for all of mankind is seen in this passage:

Romans 3:23 For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God - His target for mankind was to live in His glory.

- Sin is a missing of the target and falling short.

The glory of the Lord is the manifested presence of Jesus.

We are to be a people continually conscious of the presence of God, with God’s glory living through us.

Our destiny is to be a church/bride/body in which Jesus is seen in His glory by the presence of Holy Spirit.

Haggai 2:9 The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former.

3. **A bride without spot or wrinkle:**

Ephesians 5:27 That He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

I just performed a beautiful wedding ceremony yesterday at Kings Mill: 20 wedding attendants, grand entries and readings and celebration: intricate and elaborate!

- Typically, the bride prepares herself for this occasion by eating properly to fit into her gorgeous dress, even if it requires exercising to do it.

Her mind is sharp and her emotions are at a high end.

She understands and exudes grace and poise.

Revelation 19:7 She makes herself ready to meet her groom.

The church must make herself ready, the groom or no other can do it.

It’s her responsibility.

For the church of the Lord, the tools are given to us; it’s our responsibility to use them to prepare ourselves to meet the Lord.

The Lord is looking for His church to mature in obedience to Him & then He will come for His bride.

4. Unity of faith:

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come to the unity of the faith.

Galatians 5:6 tells us faith works through love.

- Love and faith are the two essentials of the Christian life.
- Faith is active trust in what pleases the Lord.
- Unity of faith means we will hear His voice together and be able to demonstrate great exploits.
- It doesn't mean we will be replicas of one another, but that our various gifts will work together in agreement with Holy Spirit to advance the Kingdom of God.

5. Revelation Knowledge of the Son:

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God.

The coming increase in revelation of Jesus will be measurable through new dimensions of worship – corporate throne room experiences.

We will see Him and become like Him.

6. A Mature Man:

Ephesians 4:13 Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man.

Just as an Olympic athlete will never get to the games by their gifting alone, but through the powerful combination of their gifts coming to full potential through discipline.

So, the church will become the mature bride as we function in coordination and unity complementing each other's function and giftings as we individually obey the directions of the head of the church – Jesus Christ.

- This is not human perfection, but maturity of the body without jealousy, pride, or competition, developing us into the image of His Son.

7. Gifts of the Spirit fully expressed:

Acts 2:17-18 It shall come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams. And on MY menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out MY Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy.

- This passage quoted from Joel has never been completely fulfilled.

- Acts 2 began the filling, but it hasn't reached its full impact yet.
- In the coming move of Holy Spirit, racial barriers, economic, sexual and age barriers will be broken.
- The releasing of Holy Spirit upon the earth will bring forth revival that reaches into the streets and communities and not just within the wall of the church building.

8. **Greater Works:**

John 14:12 He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Theologians consider the works of Jesus unattainable by the present church.

But the Lord Himself said whoever believes in Him, greater works will be done.

Jesus' life showed us what one person life lived in submission and obedience to Holy Spirit could accomplish.

The word for "works" is *mizon* = greater in quality not quantity.

So, we can expect Holy Spirit to use us in greater quality of works and quantity as we submit to Him.

9. **Your Kingdom Come:**

Matthew 6:10 Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

The Lord is not the kind of Father who gives us a command to ask for something without fully intending to answer our request.

He directs us to pray this prayer because it is in His heart to fulfill it!

The safest prayers to pray are the ones He tells us to pray.

When we pray His prayers, His answers will be "beyond all we could ask, or think, according to the power that works in us." **Ephesians 3:20**

It has never entered our minds what God has prepared for us while on this earth. His intent is grand, so instead of limiting ourselves by our imagination and experience, let's press on to a renewed hunger for things yet to be seen.

The Kingdom is in the now – so let's **PRAY** for it, **SEEK** for it, and **RECEIVE** it as a child.