

MOSES IS DEAD

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**“Moses my servant is dead. Now
Therefore arise, go over this Jordan ...”**

Ω Joshua 1:2

For some time now and nearly all day today the Lord has been speaking this into my spirit. It's a truth the Church needs to understand if we are going to move with the Cloud and understand “what the Spirit is saying to the churches.”

It's particularly important today because of the wilderness wanderings of the church toward the Promised Land and our seeming inability to be led by the Spirit of God. I've shared the most shocking thing that the Lord's ever said to me and it was in October, 1991, when He said: “You say when ministering in churches that the number one problem in the Church is that ‘they don't believe the Bible’ and that's true. But another problem equally as bad is that the Church is not being led by the Holy Spirit—it's being led by religious spirits.” We've all seen this spirit in operation. On the surface it looks godly. It says the right things and looks good but when challenged by the Word of God its true nature surfaces.

As I've meditated on this word from the Lord I came to realize that it is the operation of religious spirits that causes our wilderness wanderings! The Holy Spirit is supposed to be leading us but, like in Moses' day and later Israel in the time of David, people don't want to follow God! They want to do their own thing and follow the gods of Babylon or Egypt as in the case of Moses' time. And the church is no different: "let's choose a new leader because we don't know what happened to Moses."

The Holy Spirit has the unenviable job of trying to lead a group of stubborn, rebellious people just like both God and Moses did. But today I've sensed the Lord saying: "Just as I kept saying to those called the religious leaders of my time: 'Go and learn what this means, I desire mercy and not sacrifice' today I want my people to 'Go and learn what this means: Moses my servant is dead.'" Why do you think the Lord said to the religious leaders of his day "I desire mercy and not sacrifice?" Think about it. The very essence of the nature of Christ is love and mercy. He desires so much to show us mercy and when we are being lead by His Spirit we will be vessels of mercy. But the religious spirit desires "Sacrifice" why? Because a major part of the motivation of a religious spirit is to get the praises of men (that belong to God) for the works they have done.

So what is the Lord saying when He said "Go and learn what this means: Moses My servant is dead?" Well, I already knew a few things because I first heard this phrase from the Lord back in the '80s when He had instructed me to study the prophet's office. But I know there is so much more. For one thing, Jesus could have said these very words to the Pharisees and Sadducees of his time because they were guilty of the same thing that we are today and I've written about it many times. They knew what God had done in the past; in fact they kept referring to Moses over and over while not even recognizing that "One greater than Moses is here" among you. They knew what God was going to do in the future. Do you see the parallel (the rapture of the Church, the tribulation period, the one-world government that so many in the church are speaking about today)?

But they completely ignored what God was doing right then! In fact, God their Messiah was standing there talking to them over

and over and they didn't even recognize it! Not only that, but they wanted to kill him and they did! Jesus told them the truth and they killed him for it. He even tried to show them that He was sinless—"Who among you convicts me of sin?" so that they might believe His words of life. But no, they only, wanted to hear what Moses had to say, or at least that is what they said.

Why? Because they were like most of the church today, they were being led by religious spirits. They wanted, like many churches, the Vatican, and denominations today, to appoint their own leader(s); one that will not tell them the truth but only what they want to hear. Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel likewise experienced this in their time of ministry:

"Who say to the seers, 'Do not see,' and to the prophets, 'Do not prophesy to us what is right; speak to us smooth things, prophesy illusions ..." Ω Isaiah 30:10

That is why when God is training people for real ministry He must get "fear of man" and desire of man's approval out of you because as Proverbs says: it "brings a snare" and you will not be able to prophesy "hard" words to people or the Mind of Christ if you fear man. It's not fun to do sometimes. Eve will tell you; I stood up in a church in South Africa to minister. They thought and hoped that I was going to move in the prophetic and speak "smooth" words to them because that is mostly what we hear in churches today if there is any prophetic going on.

But after worship, and it was a lovely service, I was introduced by the pastor and this was our first time at this church outside of Johannesburg, RSA, I stood up, went to the pulpit, prayed and then I simply said: "These are the sins of this church—bam, bam, bam and I read off about 10 things. When I finished the silence was deafening. Then I simply sat down. Now that wasn't something that I wanted to do. I mean I've never had an issue of doing what the Lord tells me to do and I don't argue with Him or anything but this type thing is not something that you want to do. On the other hand, I've seen this type "hard" word really change people and their lives which is what we would expect if it is a genuine Word from the Lord and they heed it. It changed this

church. The whole church began to repent and come back to their first love.

But most people don't really want to know the Mind of the Lord; like Israel they want to hear "smooth words" and we've heard so many over the years from false prophets who come into a church and begin to tell the pastor and parishioners: "God is so pleased with this church; He's going to cause people to come in here from the North, the South, the East and the West. This will be the largest church in 5 counties within 5 years, etc., etc." And then in two years the church closes down or the pastors get divorced. Even in the denominational churches, including the large Baptist churches, if you listen to a message you shake your head and come away thinking: "I believe he attended one too many deacons' meetings." Jesus had to try and set their thinking right because He is Truth and the Truth must confront error and He still wants to confront error in the churches today because of the many who are not following Him but rather the religious spirit. So Jesus simply told them, "God is not the God of the dead but of the living" (Mark 12:27). In other words, Moses is dead. God is doing something else today and it's not with or by Moses but among the living. You've got to develop the Eye of the Eagle and "see" and "hear" what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

But even today we have many millions of people in America who are still trying to follow Moses under the guise of Christianity—they are generally known as "Sabbath Keepers" and whenever I meet a person who tells me, "I'm a Sabbath keeper," I usually respond by saying, "Oh really? I don't think so. No man's ever been able to keep the Sabbath." Of course what they really mean is that they are "trying" to keep part of the Law by worshiping on Saturday instead of Sunday, not eating bacon or pork, and perhaps other portions of the Law as revealed to Moses in the Pentateuch. This is a very dangerous road to travel! We've seen it wreck many people and send some to hell.

Now there's nothing wrong with worshiping on Saturday or Jewish dancing, perhaps having special services to commemorate the Jewish holy days such as Passover but be careful. We see the Apostle Paul who himself had been a Pharisee warn against many of the false teachers that had arisen

in his day—referred to as the “circumcision” because they were actively teaching that a person must first be circumcised and become Jewish before they could receive the Holy Spirit and become a Christian. Paul warned them that to go back to the Law would be tantamount to “falling from grace” and losing their salvation. And if you have any questions about this then it’s really simple to resolve—just read the Book of Galatians through and meditate on it about 5-10 times and the Spirit of God will make you understand that there is “nothing” you can do to earn salvation—it is “by grace you have been saved through faith” and so it is freely given.

Yes, you want to live for Jesus by the Spirit unto good works and yes you want to live a life of holiness but salvation is a free gift and you don’t earn it by going to church on Saturday and telling everybody, “We are Sabbath Keepers (Seventh Day Adventist, etc.). We have more truth than you do. We don’t speak in tongues or move in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit but we’re better than you because we go to church on Saturday.” Is that not pride? And it also demonstrates ignorance to those who have studied Church history and see that the early Church met on Sunday. Paul on his missionary journeys would go into the synagogue on the Sabbath and preach to the Jews to get them saved but the Church met on what is called “The Lord’s Day” which is Sunday.

So we see the operation of religious spirits throughout the history of both Judaism and Christianity and we still see it today throughout the world. The religious spirits are one of the main ways that Satan controls churches today. It does not matter how many good works you are involved in if it is not lead by the Holy Spirit and anointed it’s just works. So you had better learn how they operate so that you can guard against them in your own church, especially if you are a Five-fold minister.

But the real Church, the *true* Church is following the Holy Spirit—the Cloud and Fire—as He guides them across Jordan to the Promised Land. Remember, Moses was no different than you or I—he was created by God for a purpose—to be a deliverer of the people out of Israel. But he was not a warrior; God chose Joshua and the Joshua Generation—a generation of war. Moses is dead. The day of wandering in the wilderness needs to be gone. The

Holy Spirit wants to raise the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ to be a church of warriors just like Joshua - a church who will take the war to the enemy to set the captives free. What did God create you to do?

Maranatha