

# THE TRUE APOSTLE

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**“If the foundations are destroyed,**

**What can the righteous do?”**

**† Psalm 11:3**

**So this scripture means that *IF* the foundations have been destroyed the righteous will do something about it. Now if you're not doing anything about it, that means either: 1) You don't believe that the foundations have been destroyed, or 2) You aren't righteous which means you're not really a born-again genuine believer in Jesus Christ and I pray that's not true of anyone reading this. But as you know if you've read any of my writings or sat under teaching at CCI you know that Satan himself knows those who are genuine believers and those who attend church but have never really been born again. He refers to these people as “church goers.”**

**But if you don't think that the foundations of the Church have been destroyed then I would submit that you don't understand the history of the Church that Jesus died for and His *restorational* moves to restore the Church to the glory we observe in our model of the true church found in the Book of Acts. Ever since what we refer to as “The Dark**

**Ages” Jesus has been involved in restoring the Church to the one that is prophesied in Isaiah would arise in the last days.**

**But as almost all of you know, whenever God begins a restorational move the devil always counterfeits it and, normally, his counterfeit move must play out before the genuine move of God can have its desired effect.**

**One of those restorational moves is that of restoring the Five-fold office of the Apostle to the level we see in the New Testament after the resurrection of Jesus. You’ve no doubt heard the saying, especially at sporting events such as a football or baseball game, ‘You can’t tell the players without a program.’ Well, this has also become a great need in the true Church since almost everybody today is calling themselves an “apostle.” Unless you have a *program*(or spiritual discernment; The Eye of the Eagle), you cannot differentiate the genuine from the false as Paul so aptly wrote in Corinthians.**

**But most Christians are “top feeders” as a pastor friend in Alabama once told me years ago and he’s correct. Most Christians never develop their spirits—I’ve written about this for years. So unless they possess the spiritual gift known as *Discerning of Spirits*, they cannot discern the true from the false and are open to becoming deceived by the great deceiver—Satan himself—who also has his own false five-fold offices of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher and evangelist who preach “another gospel” today just like they did when Paul wrote about it in the Book of Galatians.**

**In fact, this is precisely *why* the Church is in the shape that it’s in today with the foundations being destroyed and “burned with fire.” In October, 1996, Evie and I were on a ministry assignment in Montana from Texas. During the night the Lord woke me up in my hotel room and said, “The apostolic banner is beginning to wave and from this apostolic move I will bring order out of chaos.” Wow! Did you get that? The Lord was saying that the Church was “in chaos.” And if you truly**

**understand the two foundational offices (Eph. 2:20) of the Five-fold—apostle and prophet—you will understand exactly *why* and *how* the Church is in chaos.**

**Now I've never written a teaching article on the apostle although a few years ago I wrote an article (see teaching article archives on our website) about "Steering the Winds" which was about the apostolic. But as often happens, while I was reading my morning Bible chapters the Spirit of the Lord came over me as I was reading Nehemiah who is a type of the apostle. Coincidentally, though obviously it was no coincidence, my New Testament reading was from 1 Cor. 8-16 where Paul discusses the office of apostle and qualifications.**

**One of the *signs* of a true apostle he argues in chapter 15 with examples of all the apostles is that all of them had the Lord appear to them—they have all "seen the Lord." So if you've never seen the Lord and you're calling yourself an apostle maybe you should stop. The other sign he mentions of a true apostle which he specifically refers to as "the signs of an apostle" (cf. Ro. 15:19; 2 Cor. 12:12) is one who works "mighty signs, wonders and deeds." That means if a genuine apostle is ministering there will be signs, wonders and mighty deeds. Now this can also occur through the Gifts of the Holy Spirit or through other ministries so "signs, wonders and mighty deeds" on their own are not necessarily indicative that the person is an apostle; however, it is one of the signs of a true apostle.**

**Now I don't know about you because I don't go to all these church "conferences" since the Holy Spirit spoke to me about it way back in 1988; however, from what I've heard they are mostly devoid of signs and wonders. The "wonder" is that so many Christians are dumb enough to continue going to these or supporting those who claim to be, just like in Paul's time, "super apostles."**

**I've shared in many of my writings how the Lord asked me back in 1980 to begin to study the prophet's office. That was before everybody**

**(later) became a prophet. I didn't know much about the office but the Lord wanted to teach me so I spent 8 years learning about the prophet's office and thought that is what the Lord was wanting me to be. During that time, in 1981, at my home church (Lakewood) in Houston, the Lord gave me a teacher's anointing during one of the services at church.**

**And it was quite a change and taught me the importance of one fact that I've written and preached about much—it's the anointing that makes you what you are! I'm sure in Samson's day there were many who claimed they had his strength but it wasn't his own strength but rather the anointing by the Spirit of God that allowed him to have not only extraordinary strength but also stamina. After all, I can guarantee you that there is nobody in the world today who could kill 1,000 men by swinging the jawbone of a donkey—not even a marathoner or Iron Man participant has that kind of cardio stamina!**

**Each of the Five offices has a different anointing but you cannot make yourself a pastor, teacher or apostle—you can call yourself one and put the title on your business card but you do so at your own peril because the Book of Jude refers to such as “clouds without rain” because without the anointing by the Spirit you cannot produce the “rain” of signs, wonders and miracles. We all know this; without the Holy Spirit none of us can produce anything—so it's only as He anoints us to stand in that office and produce the fruit of that particular office. So why do people do this? Yes, some are servants of Satan for money and glory but those who do so innocently normally do so to be recognized not realizing how dangerous this is spiritually.**

**But after I'd studied the prophet's office for 8 years throughout both the old and new testaments, the Lord did an unusual thing as I was on my way to Nigeria for a 3 month mission's trip. He prophesied over me and confirmed it through 5 prophets (I still have the recordings; it was very anointed): “Yes, there will be prophetic insight and prophetic**

**revelation but I've put an apostolic anointing within you." What did that mean? Nobody was teaching or talking much about this office back in the '80s. Well, I had to learn from the Holy Spirit and then I began to see it in my own spiritual giftings as I've shared in other articles on here.**

**And after the Lord moved us from Texas to Montana in the '90s then I began to see why the offices of prophet and apostle are called *foundational* offices. The Lord began to tell Evie and I that He was "building His Church by revelation." Now as I've said many times, whenever the Lord speaks things like this to you it is always both very profound but also very simple. This is quite easy to understand—it requires true revelation to know if God wants you to go to Holland or West Africa; whether He wants you to be a housewife or an evangelist. So it requires revelation to correctly build each and every single church if it's to be done the way the Lord desires which is seldom the case. And the reason apostles and prophets are foundational offices is because they receive the most revelation from the Lord.**

**So if you believe this is true then one of the things you can do to obey Psalm 11:3 is for God to restore and send *true* apostles and prophets to the Church. The Lord must use the apostles and prophets to restore the foundations because they are the foundational ministries anointed to both destroy (tear down) all that is not of God in a church and rebuild the foundation according to the design just as surely as God told Moses (His prophet) to be careful to build the tabernacle according to the pattern that the Lord had shown him. God designs these things—the Holy Spirit makes a plan in a community for a church but then He communicates it to a man or woman to build it for Him and we are supposed to do it according to the pattern He shows us.**

**The Lord uses the prophets and apostles (in the NT) to speak judgment because before He can "restore the foundations" there must first be a tearing down of all that is not of God and His Spirit. This is easy to**

**understand from an engineering perspective—anything that is not genuine and doesn't belong in the foundation will only “weaken” and undermine the true foundation. That is why it must be “torn down” and removed in order to “restore” the genuine foundation which is referred to in the Old Testament as “the ancient path” and in the New Testament it's often referred to as “the Way.”The true apostles and prophets, by revelation, build the Church upon the true foundation of the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ—a “sure foundation.”**

**DOES YOUR CHURCH MATTER? A prophetess friend of mine wrote over 20 years ago that most churches don't matter; in fact she wrote that “99% of churches in the world don't matter!” That's a pretty strong statement. Her reasoning is that most churches invalidate the Word of God by their traditions just like Jesus said to the Pharisees, e.g., placing pastors first in order when the Scriptures clearly show that apostles are first. And she is absolutely right. If you don't believe this is true—if you think that man's model of a pastor being in charge of the church or a church board along with the pastor then please provide me with chapter and verse from the Book of Acts and elsewhere in the New Testament where a pastor is in charge.**

**I always caution Christians—if they want to know and understand the true Church—to spend much time reading and meditating in the Book of Acts. The model we have in Acts of the birth and operation of the Church—ruled and directed by the Apostles under the leading of the Holy Spirit—was quickly attacked and perverted by Satan. As I've pointed out in my writings as well as some sermons, Acts 2:42 is a pivotal verse about the Church and what's called Apostolic Authority. The Apostles knew that they spoke for the Lord but guess what? The Church knew it as well! Now if you look at Acts 2:42 you will notice four key things that the Bible says early Christians in the first Church “devoted themselves to.”**

- the apostles' teaching**

- the fellowship
- the breaking of bread
- the prayers

**Now my area of expertise in the Body of Christ is not prayer or church growth or other things; it's spiritual warfare and the Dark Kingdom. I am called in the area of teaching and training the Army of Christ for war! Now I can tell you that every single false religion in the world, including the false church Satan has erected, practices 3 out of 4 of these "devotionals." And all false religions omit the same one of the four--the doctrine (teaching) of the apostles. Don't forget this part though; notice what happened when they devoted themselves to these four things: "And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles." But if you study and meditate in Acts you will also see something very interesting that I learned from my study of the prophet's office back in the '80s: apostles and prophets worked together in teams of two. Why did they do that and why aren't we doing it today?**

**Now don't get me wrong, all five offices are found in the New Testament and all must work together to mature the Body in the image of Jesus—the five offices of apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher and evangelist represent Jesus' full ministry and anointing to His Body, the Church. Please don't think that I'm minimizing the Office of Pastor; I'm not. This anointing, if genuine and not just a secular career but truly anointed is very much needed today to love and grow the Church but without the apostolic and prophetic these churches cannot **"birth or build."** Both birthing and building are important but if they focus on anything most churches focus on building but they are unsure today how to do that unless the pastor attends a "church growth seminar." Unfortunately, many of these focus on popular things in culture such as rock music, video games, etc. in order to appeal to the masses. In the past days of the Church, including the initial birthing in Acts,**

**churches grew via evangelism and the evangelist's anointing. People were excited and they were actively telling others about Jesus on the streets of Jerusalem and later in Antioch and other cities.**

## **Birthing and Building**

**As I've written and preached for over 35 years because it's certainly biblical—"when God wants to change history, He births a baby." And remember, it is the Holy Spirit who orchestrates (at least that is the way it was designed) who the "lively stones" are and where they are placed in the Church. And this is particularly true for Five-fold, ascension gift ministries—the Scriptures says, "God has set some in the church, first apostles, secondly prophets, thirdly teachers ..."**

**But if most pastors could understand and practice God's government and especially apostolic and prophetic "birthing" through impartation their churches would necessarily grow because their members would be released into their gifts and callings and this always has a profound impact—just like in Acts with the early Church—on church growth. Unfortunately, as my dear sister wrote years ago: "tradition" and the ministry model of men, i.e., local church run by a pastor and/or board of deacons/elders with no connection to apostolic or prophetic and thus no birthing of young Five-fold ministers leaves any room for church growth.**

## **The Third Day Church**

**Now that we are entering the time of the Third Day Church many things will begin to change on directions from Heaven via the Spirit of God and the holy angels. The Lord Jesus and the Angel of the Lord**

**have been visiting churches for decades in preparation and many churches have disappeared because they are not able to “move with the Cloud.”**

**In the Old Testament, Nehemiah is a type of the apostle. Both Ezra and Nehemiah (Ezra 13 years before Nehemiah) were “birthed” for their time in order to restore the Temple and the Jewish community to the Lord through worship and the Word. They worked with the two prophets—Zechariah and Haggai—to “rebuild” both the Temple and the walls/gates of Jerusalem.**

**If you want the Lord to speak to you or the Spirit of the Lord to come upon you then I’d suggest you spend some time reading and meditating in Ezra and Nehemiah. There are a number of key texts in both books but Nehemiah 1:3 always strikes my spirit forcibly each month when I read it; this morning the Spirit of the Lord came upon me and like Nehemiah I began to weep.**

**He wept when he was told: “The remnant there in the province (Judah) who had survived the exile is in great trouble (chaos) and shame. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down and its gates are destroyed by fire.” In the cities of Judah and Israel, the city “gates” is where the seat of authority was located—it’s where the elders and rulers of the city conducted business for the king on behalf of the people. So we learn that there was no longer “gates”—no longer any true spiritual authority if we see this correctly as a metaphor for the Church today.**

**Today, the Spirit showed me, many if not most churches in our land and throughout the world have had their “gates torn down” and “been burned with fire—strange fire”; they’ve been rebuilt into the image of Baal with an emphasis not on the Lord Jesus and His commandments but rather materialism, idolatry and business relationships. There is no genuine “birthing and building” going on in most and many have already “departed from the faith” no longer teaching and preaching the Word but their own version of the gospel built of the traditions of men,**

**political correctness, or other false doctrines such as black liberation theology here in America.**

**But like Isaiah 400 years before him, Nehemiah in 445 B.C. “sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of Heaven.” Nehemiah did something about it! He began to pray and you should study his prayer beginning in 1:5. Remember, God often gets our attention about something and then asks us: “What are you going to do about it?”**

**The Lord told me in the Summer of 1997 that He was sending me to the Church and that it would not be a pleasant assignment and that I would be persecuted. It was at that time for years that He poured out scores of visions and revelations each week about the Church and that there was a false church masquerading as the true. Almost all Christians can tell the difference between a genuine church and a cult but they are not as discerning when it comes to attending a local assembly that purports to be a church but is not because it's departed from the Word preaching a false gospel.**

**Now I want you to notice something else about Nehemiah. Once he was apprised of the situation he took spiritual action—he mourned over the situation, fasted and prayed. He was genuinely concerned about “the remnant” that was left behind in the false church—he wanted to do something about it. But he had duties as an official to the Persian king that he must attend to. If God wanted him to go and do something about it then God would have to open the door—the King would have to send him!**

**But now listen closely! He took spiritual action by mourning, fasting and praying for “many days.” He was demonstrating to the Lord Jesus that he was concerned for his fellow covenant members—his “family” and was open to doing something about it. When God saw this He moved on the heart of the king to release him to go and rebuild the city of Jerusalem.**

**“IF the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” What is God saying to you? What are you going to do about it?**

**MARANATHA**