

What the Spirit Is Saying To The Church

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. ***We stand at a critical juncture in our nation’s history.*** Many things are shifting and changing even as we speak. We are living in times where we are realizing that we cannot put our trust in man’s institutions or in people. ***No one person is going to save America from its problems—Only Jesus can!*** I noticed Senator Josh Hawley make this statement last night: The Republican Party is dead! Well, I want to add another point to that: ***The organized church in America is on life-support!*** The organized church in America needs to be resurrected! I’m talking about the organized institution vs. the Living Church of God.
- B. ***How can I make such a bold and direct statement?*** I’m not saying that the Church Jesus Christ Established on the Day of Pentecost is dead—***I’m saying the institution that man has made it in some spheres, is.*** So, what is the answer? Where do we go from here? What is the Lord doing today in this hour? ***I believe it’s up to us to discover what God is doing and saying.***

II. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS VISITING HIS PEOPLE IN THIS HOUR

- A. ***The Holy Spirit is visiting His people with power as darkness increases.*** The light is getting brighter as the darkness is becoming darker. And guess where that light is? Inside of you, and inside of me. ***You and I must let our light shine in the midst of the darkness.***
- “Behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; but the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. (Isa. 60:2)***
- B. ***The greatest revival and the greatest crisis in history is soon to come to the earth.*** As it does, we look with confidence to God’s promises to pour out His Spirit to empower His people to do mighty exploits for Christ. ***We have to have a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit.*** We must be reminded what it really means to walk in the power of the Holy Spirit! We can so easily get lazy in our walk with the Lord! We so easily become complaisant. ***We need a fresh encounter with Jesus. We need a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit!***

“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...¹⁸I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy...²⁰before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. (Acts 2:17-20)

III. WHAT IS THE SPIRIT SAYING TO THE CHURCH TODAY

- A. ***If you listen carefully to the Holy Spirit, He is saying something to the Church today.*** Wake up! It’s getting late on My Timetable! Seek Me! Get filled up with My Power, with My Spirit! It’s time to let My power be made known! ***It’s time for Me to fill your life with My Glory!*** Jesus is raising up a victorious Church that will walk in the values, teachings, power, purity, unity, and maturity as modeled by the book of Acts New Testament Church (Eph. 4:13; 5:27; Rev. 19:7).

“Till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ... 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”. (Eph. 5:13, 27)

- B. **Jesus is building HIS Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it:** The Lord is building His Church which functions locally as a spiritual family that loves and cares for one another, and that **upholds the foundation of the holy Word of God as it’s foundation.**

“On this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven (Mt. 16:18-19)

“These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth”. (1Tim. 3:14-15).

- C. **Jesus is building His Church made up of people who are followers of Christ in daily life :** As disciples, we work to fulfill the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19-20), to preach that Jesus Christ came to save us and to set us free from sin, Satan, and from living for self. **It demonstrates God’s love and power by winning the lost, healing the sick, doing works of justice** (for the poor, fatherless, and oppressed), **making disciples, building godly families, serving in the marketplace, and working to transform the seven spheres of society:** family, education, government (politics, law, and military), economy (business, science, and technology), arts (entertainment and sports), media, and religion.

“Go...and make disciples of all the nations...²⁰teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. (Mt. 28:19-20)

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse. (Mal. 4:5-6)

- D. **Jesus is building His Church that functions in God’s power:** Each believer is called to function in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. **The Church is to walk in supernatural ministry by functioning in the spiritual gifts and using our authority in Christ.** We will not regularly function in the gifts until we earnestly desire them by praying for them and using them in the day of small beginnings.

“Concerning spiritual gifts...I do not want you to be ignorant...⁷The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one...³¹Earnestly desire the best gifts. ^{14:1}Desire spiritual gifts...³¹You can all prophesy. ³⁹Desire earnestly to prophesy... (1 Cor. 12:1, 7, 31; 14:1, 32, 39)

- E. **Jesus is building HIS Church that proclaims the supremacy of Jesus:** It magnifies Jesus’ majesty, beauty, and worthiness. **The conflict of the age we live centers around defining who Jesus is and how we love Him.** We must love God on His terms. We have great allegiance to the Jesus of the Bible. **We magnify His deity, acknowledging His right to establish absolute standards** (which the nations are accountable for). Jesus is The Way, The Truth, The Life! He is the only way of salvation. **“For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12)**

- F. **I want to encourage us to listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Church today!**