

JUNE 2023

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2

OUR FINEST HOUR

A LIVING WORD ACADEMY OF LIGHT PUBLICATION



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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Preparing for the Harvest Part 3 is the last part of an article by my father, which comes from the book, 'Secrets of the Kingdom: Volume 4'.

It is very relevant for us today. Many of my father's visions, dreams and prophetic encounters were ahead of their time, pointing to the days in which we are living right now.

Secrets of the Kingdom Vol 4, is now back in stock.

Stay strong and trust in the Lord.

Mark Johnson

10th July 2023

A Living Word Academy of Light
Publication

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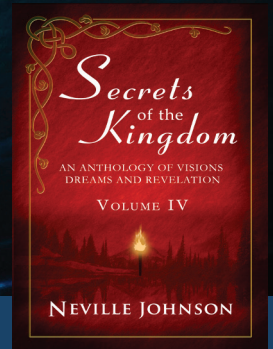
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PART 3

PREPARING FOR THE HARVEST

NEVILLE JOHNSON



Teaching them to observe all things
whatsoever I have commanded you

Making Disciples

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:19-20

The word teach is from the Greek word, *matheteuo* (G3100): to disciple, instruct and teach.

The commission was not just to get people saved; it also involved making disciples!

In the coming harvest, the easy part will be getting people saved. This will be almost effortless, as God pours out his Spirit and great signs and wonders are manifest. Making disciples and training an army is something else altogether. In the past, Bible colleges have offered two to four-year courses in theology and other Christian

disciplines, carefully dissecting various books of the Bible. As good as that may be, we need to take note of the words of Jesus in Matthew 28:20:

“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you”.
Matthew 28:20

I have never ever seen a course or heard any real teaching or training that followed this particular theme of teaching believers to observe everything that Jesus had commanded His disciples.

Many Bible schools have served the Christian church well. I myself have set up several Bible schools and training centers in the past 30 years. However, we are living in days in which much of what may have worked in times past will no longer work in this present age. The coming new wine of harvest souls must have new wineskins in order to facilitate what God has purposed for this last generation. The harvest will come in. It is the Lord's harvest,

and the coming great harvest is something that the Lord has control of — and nothing can stop it. But training or making disciples is another thing. Jesus clearly said that we have to teach them (disciples) to observe all things that He commanded. That's the hard part.

This generation will go to heights in God that no other generation has

Everything is maturing as we move down to the end of the age; both good and evil are maturing. The Scriptures clearly tell us that Jesus is coming for a church without spot or wrinkle. This phenomenon has never been seen in the church before. If we teach future Christians to observe everything that Jesus commanded, this will propel them into maturity at a rate unheard of. You may well say, "Foundations still have to be laid." This is true, but it should not take five years to do it.

We must move on and do it quickly

1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment And this will we do, if God permit.

Hebrews 6:1-3

The apostle Paul was exhorting the church to move beyond rudimentary doctrines. In saying this, we need to understand that the Lord reveals further truth in each successive generation. Ever since the reformation, God has been unveiling greater understanding and truth to each new generation. For example, He is shedding much greater light and understanding in regard to the foundational truths listed in Hebrews 6:1-2.

Truth is revealed progressively, line

upon line. Our grasp of these basic truths is about to be enlarged to such a degree that it will bring positive changes in our lives and accelerate the process, not just of understanding, but also life-changing reality.

Prepare to disciple the harvest

We must now start to prepare. In a time of great harvest, Joseph prepared in order that he would be able to feed the people. Leaders must seek the Lord in order to understand how they are to plan for what is coming. Business men prepare, ministers prepare, Christians prepare. The harvest is on its way!

A new feast is on the horizon

As I write this, reports are coming in of outpourings of the Holy Spirit in various parts of the world. That which we have been talking about over the last two years is beginning to unfold. It is still in its infancy, but the signs are there. The days ahead will be a great challenge as many of our preconceived ideas of what the next move of God may look like undergo revision. Remember, a receding wave will hold back a newly-formed incoming wave. Let us guard our hearts and seek to see all things from God's perspective.

In Leviticus 23 Israel were commanded to keep 3 major feasts.

1) All of Israel's worship and spiritual observance centred around these feasts.

2) These feasts were fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus and need to be experience by all believers.

3) These feasts are a profound prophetic statement to this generation, the end-time church. They contain prophetic insight into what God has reserved for this age.

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered



into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

1 Corinthians 2:9-10

So many things have been reserved for this generation

Three times in a year shall all thy males appear before the LORD thy God in the place which he shall choose; in the feast of unleavened bread, and in the feast of weeks, and in the feast of tabernacles: and they shall not appear before the LORD empty:

Deuteronomy 16:16

Israel was commanded to keep three major feasts each year: Passover, Pentecost and the Feast of Tabernacles. The significance of these feasts is important to our understanding of where we are in God's timing and purposes for the church. These feasts were literally kept by Israel. They were fulfilled in the life and ministry of Jesus, and they are meant to be experienced by the believer today.

Passover: speaks of the New Birth experience. Jesus was our Passover Lamb.

Pentecost: speaks of our experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Tabernacles: is yet to be experienced by the believer and has been reserved for this generation.

The Feast of Pentecost was also called the Feast of First Fruits. This signified that the early church would receive a Pentecost that was just the "first fruits" of what was to come.

Ye shall bring out of your habitations two wave loaves of two tenth deals: they shall be of fine flour; they shall be baked with leaven; they are the

firstfruits unto the Lord.

Leviticus 23:17

It was also called the Feast of Harvest (Exodus 23 :16), indicating that the early church would experience a great harvest. However, that harvest was only the first fruits; the main harvest has yet to be gathered in.

The feast of Pentecost was kept with leaven — this is ominous

Leaven represents a type of sin, as well as hypocrisy and false doctrine; we have seen much of this in the Pentecostal movements over the years.

The Feast of Tabernacles

The feast that followed Pentecost was the Feast of Tabernacles. However, the latter was preceded by the Day of Atonement. The Day of Atonement was designed to remove the leaven from Pentecost in preparation for the next great feast: that of Tabernacles. These feasts are to be experienced by believers today. Most Christians have kept or experienced at least one of these feasts. However, Israel was commanded to keep all of them.

Now, the spirit-filled church has generally felt that it has it all. It has felt that having experienced salvation and baptism in the Holy Spirit, there is nothing else to experience. Having kept Passover and Pentecost, what more is there? These were life-changing experiences, and so often the attitude that we have experienced all that God has for us prevails.

What about the Feast of Tabernacles?

The Feast of Tabernacles is reserved for this generation, and is to be experienced by all believers. The Feast of Tabernacles releases the fulness of Passover and Pentecost. The early church received only the first fruits of salvation and Pentecost. This generation will receive the fulness of these experiences, which will result



in the greatest harvest that has ever been seen.

The Feast of Tabernacles was kept in the seventh month (Tishri) of the year:

Also in the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when ye have gathered in the fruit of the land, ye shall keep a feast unto the LORD seven days: on the first day shall be a sabbath, and on the eighth day shall be a sabbath.

Leviticus 23:39

It was at this time that the fruit of the land (the harvest) was gathered in. It is Pentecost in its fulness. The harvest that the early church reaped was wonderful, but it was only a foretaste of what is to come. This generation will see the fulness in all its glory and power.

Thou shalt keep the feast of unleavened bread (Passover) (thou shalt eat unleavened bread seven days, as I commanded thee, in the time appointed of the month Abib; for in it thou camest out from Egypt: and none shall appear before me empty;) And the feast of harvest, the firstfruits [Pentecost] of thy labours, which thou hast sown in the field: and the feast of ingathering, which is in the end of the year, [Tabernacles] when thou hast gathered in thy labours out of the field.

Exodus 23:15-16

However, there is no Feast of Tabernacles without Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement:

Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: it shall be an holy convocation unto you; and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD.

Leviticus 23:27

The Day of Atonement was a day when Israel dealt with her sin. It was a

day of mourning, a day of affliction, a day of repentance, a day of cleansing by fire.

When the Lord shall have washed away the filth of the daughters of Zion, and shall have purged the blood of Jerusalem from the midst thereof by the spirit of judgment, and by the spirit of burning. And the LORD will create upon every dwelling place of mount Zion, and upon her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night: for upon all the glory shall be a defense.

Isaiah 4:4-5

Removing the leaven from Pentecost

The church has been in a Day of Atonement from the mid-eighties until now. When the charismatic move of God, which started in the late sixties, went into decline, a Day of Atonement began — a period of years when the Lord began to remove the leaven from the church. This has been a painful experience, as God used many ways to remove the leaven from our lives. However, THE SEASON IS CHANGING! The Feast of Tabernacles is upon us, along with all that is promised in this feast.

Holiness and purity of heart

For whatsoever soul it be that shall not be afflicted in that same day, he shall be cut off from among his people.

Leviticus 23:29

The implications of this verse are clear: if we don't go through the Day of Atonement, we cannot enter the new day and move on into the next wave of God's Spirit.

What does revival look like?

Recently, someone asked me this question. It is a hard question to answer, mainly because the expressions of revival, and the characters that God uses in revival vary greatly. As I have said before, I believe that many in these days will carry the mantle of



past revivalists, and some of these revivalists were, let's just say, very colorful. Quite often, God will offend our minds in order to reveal our hearts. In a recent dream, the Lord showed me various aspects of the move of God that is breaking out around the world. In the dream, various revivals were manifesting themselves, each with a different emphasis. After a while, it became clear that some of the revivals were at the level of Passover. In these revivals, thousands of people were being saved and swept into the Kingdom of God. In the days of King Josiah, a revival broke out while Israel was keeping the Feast of Passover. The story of this revival is recorded in 2 Kings, chapters 22 and 23 and 2 Chronicles, chapters 34 and 35. Josiah experienced the greatest revival in Israel's history:

And there was no passover like to that kept in Israel from the days of Samuel the prophet; neither did all the kings of Israel keep such a passover as Josiah kept, and the priests, and the Levites, and all Judah and Israel that were present, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem.

2 Chronicles 35:18

Some revivals reflect the Feast of Pentecost with great healings and supernatural manifestations, as evidenced in the book of Acts. Other revivals have a holiness emphasis. However, the church is now moving on from the Feast of Pentecost to the Feast of Tabernacles, and one of the emphases of the latter feast is the manifestation of the glory of God, as shown in 2 Chronicles 5:

It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying,

For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD. So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God.

2 Chronicles 5:13-14

This was not a Pentecost revival. It was a Tabernacles' revival, and it manifested the glory of God.

This great move of God broke out while Israel were keeping the Feast of Tabernacles in the seventh month. As the church begins to move on to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, we will see a manifestation of revival that we have never seen before. All we have seen in the past will eventually be incorporated into the present revivals, along with much more. As these revivals begin to merge with other revivals of different emphasis, we will begin to see something greater than any in the past. Pentecost revivals will merge with holiness revivals, along with Passover revivals and this will begin to manifest and usher in this last great feast—the Feast of Tabernacles. When this happens, the church will experience a harvest revival that will be beyond anything we could have imagined.



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Jose Roco

Life is full of choices

It seemed like an endless circle of earthly life struggle and strife until the Messiah comes back to rule and reign

You either live the life ordained for you from God or you end up living the life you don't want or not the life you prefer.

We who were born out of the 30's 40's 50's and 60's are the ones who have lived our lives full of hardship and in some lived turbulent times.

However It was the beginnings of preparation for the millennium life.

It seemed like an endless circle of earthly life struggle and strife until the Messiah comes back to rule and reign.

But we should have learned that we cannot live our lives without God's help. And aligned ourselves to live accordingly to God's word.

People form their beliefs on what they think sounds reasonable, based on their education on a given topic, whether they gain that information from a friend, reading it in a magazine or online or saw and heard it on the news.

We are to live a convicted life through the word of God and that requires discernment.

Conviction is of God and brings a right spirit in us

Condemnation is of the devil that works in our mind and brings a wrong spirit in us.

Condemnation causes us to hide from the problem.

Conviction causes us to face the problem.

When we are in a conflict situation with anyone or anything, the first and foremost thing to do is to resolve the issue between God and us concerning the matter.

We stand alone before God and alone we shall be in OUR salvation, healing, deliverance and judgment. All of us shall stand before God one day and we cannot blame others for not making it to heaven.

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind."

2 Timothy 1:7

"He who covers his sins will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy."

Proverbs 28:13

"Whoever rewards evil for good, evil will not depart from his house."

Proverbs 17:13

Jesus came into this world to bring salvation. He brought with Him God's Grace and Mercy. By accepting Him as our Lord and Savior and asking for forgiveness for our sins and repenting for them, we avail ourselves of His salvation offer. Otherwise that salvation is not granted to everyone out of pure mercy whatever a person's life may have been. Even if one accepts Jesus as their Savior, yet chooses to live an evil life, that person will be judged and rewarded according to their deeds and works.

"When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you,

inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me. Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Matthew 25:31-46

There are many scriptures that talk about man being judged and rewarded according to his deeds and works.

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. [26] For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works."

Matthew 16:24-27

"Then I heard a voice from heaven saying to me, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.' " "Yes," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, and their works follow them."

Revelation 14:13

"And behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to give to every one according to his work."

Revelation 22:12

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of



Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: [25] and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. [26] But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand:

Matthew 7:24-26

“(For many nations and great kings shall be served by them also; and I will repay them according to their deeds and according to the works of their own hands.)”

Jeremiah 25:14

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 29:11-13 (NKJV)

Deeds and works are not just external forms but the way they appear inside.

If the thought and will are good then the deeds and works are good.

If the thought and will are evil then the deeds and works are evil too.

10 men may do like deeds and from the outside, it is very hard to distinguish any difference. Yet if we look on the inside of these men, each one's deed is different.

1. One person may do it for the purpose of appearing to be honest and just out of regard for himself and his own honor.
2. One person may do it on account of the world and personal gain.
3. One person may do it with a view to get reward and benefit.
4. One person may do it out of regard for a friend.
5. Another may do it out of fear of the law, loss of reputation, loss of employment.
6. Another may do it to draw someone to

his own side even when they are in the wrong.

7. Another may do it to deceive others because of selfish motives.

Although the deeds are good in appearance they are nevertheless evil because they are done not out of regard for honesty and justice and for the love of others.

But out of regard for love of self and the world which man loves.

“And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men,

Colosions 3:23

Will and thought are very much linked with our love and faith.

That which a man loves he wills

That which a man believes he thinks

If a man loves what he believes he also wills it and most likely does it

“ keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.”

Jude 1:21

“that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 2:5

“Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due, when it is in the power of your hand to do so.”

Proverbs 3:27

Willing to do something and not doing it when there is an opportunity to do it is not willing.

Loving somebody and not doing good for that somebody when there the opportunity arises, it is not loving.

Mere thought of willing and loving and not put in action will eventually vanish.

Love and will is the very soul of a deed or work. All things of man and his soul are in his deeds or works.



Look at the Fruits

"You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorn bushes or figs from thistles?"

Matthew 7:16

"being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God."

Philip. 1:11

Consider this Expression "what kind of life awaits a man after death"

It is what he loves, it is his faith shown in actions. Man does not just vanish into non-existent after death. Once we die we take what we are to ETERNITY.

The road to hell is paved with good intentions

Man has many loves, but what is his ruling love. Is our ruling love for the Kingdom of God or our lives? The Kingdom of God can be found in our hearts and minds.

Are our loves, thoughts, affections extended towards the things above.

"If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. [2] Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth."

Col. 3:1-2

Our life journey ought to be hidden with Christ

1. The soul and spirit of a man / woman lives on after death.

2. After death a man / woman continues to eternity with his will & ruling love.

3. The man / woman who dies with Jesus Christ in turn comes into heaven. While the man / woman who dies without Jesus Christ in them is worldly and goes to hell.

4. Unless our Faith is in the Power of God, it will not endure as it is based on man's wisdom.

5. the Love action of a man in this life is what endures

Question

What is your ruling you? Is it love.

If we choose to love those things which are not in heaven, then we choose to love those things found in hell.

There is no living in between

"But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, [5] not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, [6] whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior,"

Titus 3:4-6

"Thus says the LORD of hosts: The fast of the fourth month, The fast of the fifth, The fast of the seventh, And the fast of the tenth, Shall be joy and gladness and cheerful feasts For the house of Judah. Therefore love truth and peace.'
Zechariah 8:19 (NKJV)

Change your fast now to:

Joy

Gladness

Cheerful feasts

Love truth and peace.

Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house. Test Me in this," says the LORD of Hosts. "See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out for you blessing without measure. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your land, and the vine in your field will not fail to produce fruit," says the LORD of Hosts. "Then all the nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight," says the LORD of Hosts.

Malachi 3:10-12 (BSB)



Conclusion:

What is our course of action?

Don't give up before your miracle comes.
Stay awake to God's plan for you.

Wake up from that slumber and make a
commitment to stay on track.

Fill in your empty box with God's word.
Have you ever noticed when we fill an

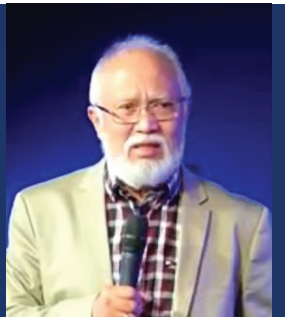
empty box with books to the top of the
box and close the box, how that box can
sustain a heavy weight on top. That box
is you.

Do it and you will be ready for the move
of God.

Remember if you do nothing, you get
nothing.

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All the fullness of God

Joe Sweet

These three feasts represent three stages of growth
in our relationship with the Lord

“Three times a year all your males shall appear before the Lord your God in the place which He chooses: at the Feast of Unleavened Bread, at the Feast of Weeks, and at the Feast of Tabernacles; and they shall not appear before the Lord empty-handed.”

Deuteronomy 16:16

These three feasts represent three stages of growth in our relationship with the Lord. Three stages of growth or three levels in our relationship with God are seen throughout the Bible.

The Lord Jesus told the parable of the “sower” who “sows the Word” (Matthew 13:3-9;18-23). There were three different classes of people who brought forth different levels of fruit. Some brought forth 100-fold, some 60-fold and some 30-fold. The degree of each person’s fruitfulness was dependent upon how much they listened to, understood and applied the Word to their life with patient perseverance (Luke 8:15).

“But he who received seed on the

good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.”

Matthew 13:23

Even the temple was constructed with the 1) outer court, 2) the holy place, and 3) the holy of holies. The three major feasts, the temple and the parable of the Sower sowing the Word all point to different levels that are available to us as believers.

Passover

Without a doubt, the Feast of Passover was fulfilled when the Lord Jesus Christ became the Passover Lamb, laying down His life for us on the cross.

“The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’”

John 1:29

“For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.”

1 Corinthians 5:7

The Feast of Passover is fulfilled in our lives when we receive Jesus Christ. Each person must come to the Lord Jesus Christ and enter into the Feast of Passover by repentance and faith in Him, applying His blood to wash away our sins.

"To Him (Jesus Christ) who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood"

Revelation 1:5b

Pentecost

The Feast of Pentecost was fulfilled fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus when the Holy Spirit and fire was poured out on the 120 disciples waiting in Jerusalem for "the Promise of the Father". The feast of Pentecost is fulfilled in our lives when we are baptized in the Holy Spirit and receive power to become His witnesses.

"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8

There is More

On the Feast of Pentecost, also called the Feast of Weeks, they were to wave two loaves of bread baked with fine flour before the Lord. Leviticus 23:17 says "they are the firstfruits". This means that the Feast of Pentecost was "the firstfruits" of our inheritance in Christ.

Being baptized with the Holy Spirit with fire and gifts is a tremendous and very necessary blessing. This experience is the "firstfruits" or "down payment", but it is not yet the fullness of what God has in store for us.

Feast of Tabernacles

The apostles were partakers of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. They had received the "firstfruits of the Spirit". They were eagerly anticipating more, knowing that what they had received was not yet the "fullness" that God had in store for them.

"Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body."

Romans 8:23

In the Western world when we hear the word "adoption" we might think of going to an attorney, signing legal paperwork and bringing home an infant to be part of our family. That infant was just adopted. However this is not at all what the Greek word means.

The Greek word for adoption is "Yhiotesia". *It means to be placed as a mature and trusted son or daughter over the Father's business with the keys, authority and power to do the job.*

"Yhiotesia" is what happened to the Lord Jesus Christ when He was baptized in the Jordan river and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in the form of a dove. He began His earthly ministry, entrusted by the Father with power and authority to represent Him and to do His will. Jesus walked in the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

The Feast of Tabernacles represents the fullness of the Holy Spirit. In the Feast of Tabernacles (also called the Feast of Harvest), they lived in booths (or tabernacles) and celebrated their deliverance from Egypt, God's blessings and provision. They remembered their time in the wilderness and were looking forward to the fullness of God's salvation in the Promised Land. The Promised Land is a type of Christ.

The Lord Jesus Himself is our Promised Land! God told Abram "I am ...your exceedingly great reward" (Genesis 15:1). The fullness of God's Spirit dwelling in us is our greatest reward. This is what the Feast of Tabernacles points to.

Solomon's Temple was dedicated during the feast of Tabernacles



(according to 1 Kings 8:2) and it was during the Feast of Tabernacles that the glory of God filled the temple.

“So that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord. ¹²Then Solomon spoke: ‘The Lord said He would dwell in the dark cloud. ¹³I have surely built You an exalted house, and a place for You to dwell in forever.’”

1 Kings 8:11-13

Going on to experience the Feast of Tabernacles correlates with us, individually and corporately, becoming His habitation where He dwells in fullness.

“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

Ephesians 2:19-22

The Lord Jesus Christ walked in the fullness of God’s Spirit

“For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell”

Colossians 1:19

“For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily”

Colossians 2:9

John 3:34 tells us that the Lord Jesus had received the Holy Spirit “without measure” or “unlimited” according to the NIV translation.

This is what the “feast of Tabernacles” points to. We can all go higher and farther in our walk with God until we enter the “fullness” of His Spirit resting in, upon and flowing through

us. In these last days, God will raise up a people who are walking in the “fullness” of His Spirit.

Is this possible, you may ask? Is this “fullness” of His Spirit, just like the Lord Jesus walked, available to us? The Bible clearly says that it is not only possible, but that we should earnestly press on unto fullness. It is God’s will for us.

Fullness Of God To Fill The Church

In Ephesians chapter one, the apostle, Paul prays that

“the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling

Ephesians 1:17-18

We really do need the Holy Spirit to illuminate us so that can “see” the awesome hope of His calling. Without revelation from His Spirit we just don’t have any idea what great things God has intended for us. Paul goes on, in his prayer of Ephesians chapter one, saying

“and He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

Did you see that?! Paul called the body of Christ “the fullness of Him who FILLS ALL in ALL”. We don’t yet see the body of Christ filled with the fullness of Christ, but God call us that. It is His will. If we believe and cooperate with Him that is exactly where we will end up. We will become *“the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”*

Paul tells us that we are in the process of being built into God’s dwelling place where He will fill us with His fullness. We are not there yet, but we



are “being built” into His habitation.

“In whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit”

Ephesians 2:21-22

As we cooperate with the Lord, allowing Him to build us together into a holy dwelling place, we will arrive at fullness. Paul prayed for the church to be filled with the fullness of God.

“I bow my knees to the Father...that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us”

Ephesians 3:16-20

All. The. Fullness. Of. God! We must go for this. The world is groaning; waiting for a company of people who walk in His fullness.

“For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.”

Romans 8:19

Notice in Paul prayer of Ephesians chapter 3 (above) that it is as the church becomes “rooted and grounded in love” and is able to “grasp” and “comprehend” the love of God, that we become “filled with all the fullness of God”. As we grow in Divine love, we grow in the fullness of His Spirit.

Again in Ephesians chapter 4, Paul references “fullness” for the body of Christ and it is related to love.

“And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 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 fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

Ephesians 4:11-16

By speaking the truth in love and building itself up in love, God’s will is that “we all” come “to the measure of the stature of the **fullness** of Christ”.

To walk in His fullness, we must learn to walk in love. We must love God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. We must love one another, as Christ has loved us. We must learn to walk like He walked.

“If anyone says he abides in Him he ought to walk even as He walked.”

1 John 2:6

How did He walk? He only did the Father’s will.

“I came down from heaven not to do My own will but the will of Him who sent Me.”

John 6:38

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Mark 10:45

“For the Son of Man has come



to seek and to save that which was lost.”

Luke 19:10

“I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.”

John 5:30

“Then Jesus answered and said to them, “Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.”

John 5:19

Jesus said to them, “My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

John 4:34

As followers of Christ, He is our example. He is our goal. He is our reward. If we are His disciples, we will not settle for a Passover experience, or even a Passover and a Pentecost experience, but we will go on to “Tabernacles” which is His fullness resting in us.

“A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.”

Luke 6:40

In Passover and Pentecost, Christ is in my life. In Tabernacles, Christ is is my life. Which is it for us? Is He in my life? Or is He my life?

“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21

Prayer: Lord, make me Your habitation. I surrender all. Have your way in me. Don't let me settle for Passover and Pentecost. Let me fulfill that for which I was created. Let me become one with you. In these last days, let Your kingdom, Your power and Your glory manifest through me.

Promises:

“Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴ He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.”

1 Thes. 5:23-24

“Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, ²¹ make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 13:20-21

“I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.”

Ezekiel 36:27

“One thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, ¹⁴ I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵ Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.

Philippians 3:13b-15



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THE BATTLE FOR TRUE PEACE

BOBBY CONNOR



it is the pure in heart that see God

The battle for true peace commences in the mind. The Bible counsels us to be very careful and guard our thoughts as well as what we ponder within our heart because that will set the cadence of our life. Keep and guard your heart with all vigilance and above all that you guard, for out of it flow the springs of life. - Proverbs 4:23

Christ Jesus, in His gracious message on the mountain, informs us that it is the pure in heart that see God.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Matthew 5:8

The writer of the book of Hebrews again admonishes us to actively seek, and powerfully pursue, purity and holiness, if we are going to see and behold the Lord.

Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:14

Not Double-Minded

It is a tragic mistake thinking we can live a double-minded lifestyle and still have the blessing and favor of God and the peace of God surrounding our life. Scripture warns us that to be double-minded is to forfeit contentment and peace in every arena of one's life; Scripture states a wicked person is like the troubled sea filled with shame and unrest (see Isaiah 57:20-21). Again in Psalm 66:18 we see that sin hidden within causes our fellowship and communication with the Lord to be broken.

If any of you is deficient in wisdom, let him ask of the giving God [Who gives] to everyone liberally and ungrudgingly, without reproaching or faultfinding, and it will be given him. Only it must be in faith that he asks with no wavering (no hesitating, no doubting). For the one who wavers (hesitates, doubts) is like the billowing surge out at sea that is blown hither and thither and tossed by the wind. For truly, let not such a person imagine that he will receive anything [he asks



for] from the Lord,
[For being as he is] a man of two minds (hesitating, dubious, irresolute), he is unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything [he thinks, feels, decides].

James 1:5-8 (AMP Bible)

Notice the sad list of actions and attitudes of a double-minded person: unstable and unreliable and uncertain about everything he feels, thinks and decides. These are lethal deadly actions that we must avoid. God wants us to walk in His light and love, guided and directed by His Holy Spirit.

What does it mean to be double-minded? Simply speaking: attempting to live in sin while seeking to portray yourself as a true upright Christian.

How to be single-minded:

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, does not faint or grow weary; there is no searching of His understanding. He gives power to the faint and weary, and to him who has no might He increases strength [causing it to multiply and making it to abound]. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and [selected] young men shall feebly stumble and fall exhausted; But those who wait for the Lord [who expect, look for, and hope in Him] shall change and renew their strength and power; they shall lift their wings and mount up close to God as eagles [mount up to the sun]; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint or become tired.

Isaiah 40:28-31 (AMP Bible)

These should be days of mounting up and soaring higher and higher in the ways of God. NOW is the time to renew your strength and be empowered by a fresh touch and anointing of God's

Spirit (see Micah 3:8).

The promise of God's protection and provisions are extremely clear in this passage and promise from Isaiah. Ponder these passages and take them to heart. You will discover abiding peace and tranquility, even in a hostile world:

You will guard him and keep him in perfect and constant peace whose mind [both its inclination and its character] is stayed on You, because he commits himself to You, leans on You, and hopes confidently in You. So trust in the Lord (commit yourself to Him, lean on Him, hope confidently in Him) forever; for the Lord God is an everlasting Rock [the Rock of Ages]

Isaiah 26:3-4 (AMP Bible)

Yes, we will see trouble and chaos upon the earth, yet amid all this, in Jesus and by Jesus, we have peace and confidence. Notice how the Message Bibles states this fact:

It will seem like all Hell has broken loose sun, moon, stars, earth, sea, in an uproar and everyone all over the world in a panic, the wind knocked out of them by the threat of doom, the powers-that-be quaking.

Luke 21:25-26 (Message Bible)

Focus on Good Godly Things

Again, we will greatly benefit by focusing on good Godly things, not on the dark deceptive works of the devil. Good advice is released in this passage from the Message Bible:

Don't fret or worry. Instead of worrying, pray. Let petitions and praises shape your worries into prayers, letting God know your concerns. Before you know it, a sense of God's wholeness, everything coming together for good, will come and settle you down. It's wonderful what happens when Christ



displaces worry at the center of your life. Summing it all up, friends, I'd say you'll do best by filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling, gracious the best, not the worst; the beautiful, not the ugly; things to praise, not things to curse.

Philippians 4:6-8 (Message Bible)

Keep your heart clean! Guard your thoughts keep your mind pure! Watch what you watch! It does matter what movies you watch. Keep your focus on Godly things!

May these days be filled with God's blessings and favor on you and your family! (see Psalm 84:11)

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