

The Church, The Whole Church, and Nothing But The Church, So Help Us, God- Part 5

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“The Church, The Whole Church, and Nothing But The Church, So Help Us God”. I can’t talk about the Body of Christ too much without choking up and tearing up because I believe so much in the Body of Christ, as imperfect as the Church in the world is right now, it’s being brought into perfection.

There is an awakening taking place, and God is moving on and in the hearts of man, like I’ve never seen it before. I’ve never seen the magnitude of what’s happening in people’s hearts like I see it now.

I believe that we’re living in a time where you could very well see the greatest move of God there’s ever been.

“I will build My church, and the gates of hell won’t stand against it”. All the negative stuff that you see happening is to minimize, to distract, and to push the church into a place of ineffectiveness and nothingness.

God, by His own design, won’t reach over the church and do what He’s given you the authority and the power to do, If you take a little responsibility, you’re going to get a little anointing, and if you take a lot of responsibility, you are going to get a lot of anointing.

Speaking of what the Lord said to Nicodemus; *“you can’t enter the Kingdom of God unless you be born again”*. You can see the Kingdom, but you have to look for it. You have to look with Kingdom eyes. You have to look.

See, those people who are being born again need people like you, who have been trained up correctly, to help those new Christians get to the next step, and disciple them to get them into the next phase, the next level of their life. Do you realize that?

The ones who are going to do the heavy lifting and be so effective, are the mature sons and daughters who understand who they are, and are walking in it, and have found, and are finding, their place of gifting and anointing.

You know, there are no overnight successes. It’s walking this thing out with the Lord. And so, it’s a matter of us just being obedient where we’re at. If you don’t have a least a basic understanding of the Kingdom of God, it won’t make any sense to you at all.

What I’ve dreamed about all these years is now taking place, and it’s no mystery why you feel like God is dealing with your heart and you sense that something is different. It has to be 100% God and 0% us.

John the Baptist says of Jesus; *“as He increases we must decrease”*. Do you know what the means? The more you sense and feel the presence of Jesus in the body of Christ, the more we must get the mind of Christ.

The bride that Jesus is coming back for is a Church. A bride that is without spot or blemish. The challenging things that you are going through right now, that we’re going through individually, and the church is going through corporately, are because the judgment begins at the House of God.

God is getting His people into a place where they can be effective and help with the great revival, this great awakening, this great in coming of souls into the Kingdom of God.

The reality that there’s one Church is a revolutionary idea. It’s totally Biblical. If that competitive spirit is allowed to live between churches, God won’t be able to do what He wants to do here.

We have some really good churches in this area, and some good leaders. I do believe we’re about to see something we’ve never seen before in terms of the one Church in our area, and we, as one Church, have an opportunity to be used as an example by God to the whole world about what God can do and wants to do, with a Church, one Church, that’s in unity.

A lot of people come to a particular church because they’re in a relationship with someone who goes there. That’s been our song, that we have sung for 35 years. In the Kingdom of God, it’s relationship, relationship, relationship.

We have these mindsets of what we think is supposed to happen, but you don’t know, because what’s happening now has never been seen before. You don’t know what to look for, except following the lead of the Spirit. Walking, being led by and living in the Spirit is your guarantee that you’re going to be on the same page with God.

I’m not going to push. Jesus was not a pusher. It’s not our style around here, and I don’t think it works. But, I’m pulling, with everything I have, for you to come to a deeper place in your relationship with the Father.

The Kingdom is coming, with us or without us. The degree that it’s happening, and going to happen, depends on you, and your willingness to do what He wants you to do.

Are you noticing that you’re being really challenged? That’s good! If you’re not having challenges, I’m going to pray for you to have some. Challenges cause you to grow, and you know, the body of Christ needs to be shaken out of its sleep, and out of its slumber and out of its dullness of hearing.

God is bringing your faith up to snuff. He’s adjusting things and He’s getting you where you need to be, so you can be functional, and not someone, like a lot of the body of Christ right now, just sitting around waiting on Jesus to come back.

Are you taking up your cross? *“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.”. Matthew 16: 24-25.

Taking up your cross means you have all this stuff going on in your life. And it's secondary stuff, and if you make it about all those things, you'll be dealing with those things from now on. But if you make it about Him, if you make it about the Kingdom, those are just things.

If you put the things to use that we talk about here, you'll be different, changed and transformed. You're the only one who can keep yourself from your destiny, and you have to watch out, so you don't miss what God put you on the planet for.

I'm going all in on this. Is anybody going all in? Because, if you go part in, you get part back, but if you go all in, you get all back. The people in the Church that God's going to do the most with are the people who are giving all of that up, giving everything up.

If you still think that it's somebody else's responsibility to do ministry, you've been in the Bible Belt too long, and you need to get delivered from that.

To get where you need to be, tend to your relationships, because most ministry is done through relationships.

Anytime someone comes to you telling you their problems, that's an open door. That's an easy entry level into ministry, if what they're doing is asking you for help.

“He's given some as apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, for the building up and edifying of the body, and for the equipping of the saints for the work of the ministry”. Ephesians 4:11-12.

We understand that we are to be equipped for the work of the ministry. That is a thing that changes the personality of the landscape and the mindset, to take the good news into the world.

Concerning someone who comes to you asking questions, or is asking for help, you don't have to be a Bible scholar. You can say, *“well, here's what happened with me”*, and tell them your story. You need to have a story.

A good prayer to speak over someone with a need; *“All I know is, God help this person, help him”*. The prayers that have gotten the most done for me in my life are the ones, the shortest ones. *“Help”!*

Are you experiencing resistance? Anytime you start moving in the Lord, there's going to be resistance. You're just going against the elementary principles of the world, flesh, and the devil. The more you get in step with the Father, the more there's going to be demonic resistance.

The people who have been around here, even just a little bit, should be well schooled in spiritual warfare, knowing how you overcome those things. Rather than playing defense all the time, you take the battle back into the camp of the enemy. We think about playing defense too much when we're talking spiritual warfare.

The people of God were never meant to be in retreat mode. We're in attack mode. So start speaking the stuff the enemy's throwing at you. Doubt, fear, confusion, disarray. Start speaking those things back into the camp of the enemy. It's about time you start causing some trouble for him.

We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities. Against powers, demons, the spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places, in the spirit realm. Exercise that authority!

There are a good sized number of people who are doing all the right things, or being obedient. They're learning. They're growing. Congratulations. Keep doing that. They're noticing the presence and favor of God, but they're still needing an encounter, a fresh encounter with God.

"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. I will be found by you", says the Lord. "And I will bring you back from your captivity". Jeremiah, 29: 12-14. That's what He said to the Israelites generations ago. But it's His nature to do that for every generation.

God wants to reveal Himself to you. He's especially fond of those who just want Him, and not just His stuff. He's especially fond of those who just want Him. I'm encouraging you, in your times of quietness with the Lord, you have plenty of stuff to pray for. Don't go looking for answers for those things. Go looking for Him, and the answers will come.

Do you want to live up to the full value that God has placed on you, your full potential? If the answer is yes, then things have to change. You have to change, let the Lord show you, in your own life. Just do some serious business with the Lord. What needs to change next for you?

The Church that's going to be most effective in this move of God is going to be made up of people who are living in the presence of God, who are allowing the grace, the favor, and the love of God to transform their lives, to iron out those things that need to be fixed.

Keep an eye out for what God's doing in your life. It's not hard to see, but you do have to look with spiritual eyes.