

DEFINERS OF THE TIMES

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May, 2002

"Now when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated." (II Chronicles 20:22)

LAST DAY OUTPOURING OF SPIRIT YET PROMISED

Regardless of how dark it may become and how much sin and lawlessness continue to increase in the world, God has still promised a last day outpouring of His Spirit upon all flesh. (Acts 2:17) God's promise remains that the knowledge of His Glory will cover the earth just as the waters cover the sea. (Hab. 2:14)

No place or people on earth will be omitted from having the opportunity to experience an outpouring of God's Spirit. This is God's word that is forever established in heaven. (Ps. 119:89)

God and God alone will have the final word as to what takes place on the earth. The Psalmist declared, "For the Kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations." (Ps. 22:28)

INCREASED DREAMS AND VISIONS COME WITH OUTPOURING

With an outpouring of His Spirit will come an increase of dreams and visions among God's people. God is committed to making His purposes and will known to His people. Job reminds us, "for God may speak in one way or another, yet man does not perceive it. In a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falls upon men, while slumbering on their beds, then He opens the ears of men, and seals their instruction." (Job 33:14-16)

Recently the Lord gave me a dream that speaks to some of what is on His heart for this time and season. This dream was probably more real to me than any dream I have ever had. After the dream ended, I continued to dream of how I must remember what I had just experienced.

THIS DREAM WAS MORE REAL TO ME THAN ANY DREAM I HAD EVER HAD EVER

In the dream I was with a group of Christians, when suddenly, I was taken from them and brought to what I would describe as a platform that was part of and near the top of a very high tower. I remember looking down from the platform noticing how high I was and realizing there was no ladder or elevator or stairs that led to where I was. I knew there was no way possible that I could ever get to where I was on my own. God had to have gotten me there. I also realized there was no way I would ever get back down without God. . .

. . . I remember thinking this was a place of, 'no return'.

I was reminded that God's intention is to bring the church to a place and a level many had thought was no longer possible. In spite of our obvious weaknesses and at times utter unfaithfulness, God would remain faithful to His promises. "If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself." (II Tim. 2:13)

NOT BECAUSE WE DESERVE IT, BUT BECAUSE HE IS FAITHFUL

I understood that in spite of who we were, God was taking the church to a place of, 'no return'. This will not occur because we are in any way deserving or worthy, this was not even the issue. All of our righteousness is

still as filthy rags. (Is. 64:6) "It is not because of your righteousness or the uprightness of your heart that you go in to possess their land, but because of the wickedness of these nations that the Lord your God drives them out from before you, and that He may fulfill the word..." (Deut. 9:1-6). We must never forget that God is our righteousness, and He is a covenant keeping God.

Through this experience I understood that the next wave of the Spirit, of which is soon to break, will not fade away into church history books, like previous visitations, but WILL REMAIN until history comes to an end.

'History', is really about 'His-story', and at the end of age, the Lord of Glory, not the Anti-Christ will have center stage. We are entering into a time that the prophets of old, and even the angels have longed to see.

MAN WAS NOT GOING TO CLAIM CREDIT FOR THIS

As I assessed the situation and how I was unable to do anything to get down from where I was and back to where I had been, I was filled with confidence, that what God was about to do, had to be, and would be, a work of His Spirit. Man was not going to claim any credit for what He will do.

God has allowed many to get to a place where it looks impossible for them to see the fulfillment of His promises in their lives. Some have come to a place where it seems God will never be able to use them in any significant manner again. Even in the world, situations will exist that will seem hopeless. Yet what we are no longer able to do, God can and will do. He will complete the work He has promised.

The message, 'We can't, but God can', will be a major emphasis in the days ahead.

ALTARS OF WORSHIP

All of a sudden in the dream, I was taken from the platform on the tower to where I was suddenly a part of a worship gathering.

During the worship, some of the people present, including myself, made our way to the front and to the area around the altar. I then heard the Lord speak about what He called, 'altars of worship'.

I am aware that God has already raised up altars of worship in many places. A number of cities have already heard the call to establish 24-hour worship centers. However many others are soon to appear, not only in this nation but also in many nations across the earth. The times we are now in will demand it. These altars of worship will release the Lord to be who He is and do what He wants to do.

Jehoshaphat, King of Judah was told that a "great multitude" was gathering against him. The enemies of God's people were advancing. Jehoshaphat did not have the answers to the problems He now faced. The situation looked hopeless for Judah. Judah was on the verge of destruction. Listen to the king's prayer that, according to some modern standards, may not have exhibited great faith, but nevertheless, moved the heart and hand of God. "For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You." (II Chron. 20:12)

Jehoshaphat led the people to call upon God. Then as directed, He raised up an army of worshippers who simply sung and praised the Lord. As a result of their worship, God Himself set ambushes and defeated their enemies. God arose and His enemies were scattered. We are entering a similar hour where God will arise!

REVIVAL AND SPIRITUAL AWAKENING

Some have given up, but God has not

Some, in looking at the church and how far we are from where the Lord wants us, have lowered their expectations of seeing a sweeping revival and spiritual awakening in many places. However God has not

given up. He is the God who can make a way where there seems to be no way. He has not forgotten prayers that have been prayed over generations.

After hearing the Lord speak about the altars of worship I then saw two different scenes. These events would occur, as the altars of worship were in place.

First, I saw a picture of a heavy rain that was occurring in a deep fog. I could hardly see the rain for the fog, but it was very obvious that it was raining very hard.

"ASK THE LORD FOR RAIN"

The prophet Zechariah encouraged God's people, "Ask the Lord for rain in the days of the latter rain." Then, as we do, the assurance is that, "The Lord will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone." (Zech. 10:1) These are the days that if we gather and ask, regardless of how dry it has been, its going to rain!

I've had the opportunity to travel to many different places both in the U.S. and in other countries. One thing I've noticed about every place, without exception, is that there are at least some, and sometimes many who live there, who have heard and believe that God has chosen their city or area for revival. I remember once questioning the Lord, about how it could be true that all these cities will be the next place where God is going to move. Yet, did not the Lord say He would pour out of His Spirit upon 'all' flesh? Did He not say that the knowledge of His glory would cover the earth as the water covers the sea?

It is not the time to faint or worse, give up, but rather it is the time to believe. Did not Jesus say,

"Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?" (John 11:40)

"I SAW WHAT APPEARED TO BE A SCENE FROM HELL"

Next, I saw what appeared to be a scene from Hell. I saw what seemed to be corridors or levels of Hell. At one of the lower levels, I noticed what I knew was a soul of someone who had lived at some period of time on the earth. This person was forever lost, in agony, and forever hopeless.

After seeing this poor lost man or woman, I then heard the words, 'It's all about souls', 'It's all about souls', 'It's all about souls'! It's not about our ministries, it's not about our visions and dreams, it's not about our security, it's not about our reputation, it's not about our accomplishments, it's all about souls. It is all about the harvest, and a harvest has been appointed for every city and nation on the earth. That's why you are where you are. You did not get there on your own. God brought you there!

In Matthew 24 Jesus reminds the church that yes, "lawlessness will abound" and, "the love of many will grow cold". He continues by warning us of the absolute necessity of endurance and perseverance regardless of the trials of the times. Yet He also assures us what will be on His heart as all these things unfold and that being, the lost. . .

". . . And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then (an only then) will then end come." (Matthew 24:14)

DEFINING THE TIMES

As the enemies of God's people approached, and as it seemed doom was sure, God raised up a voice to remind the people, "Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude for the battle is not yours but God's." (II Chronicles 20:15)

Through the prophet Jahaziel, whose name means, "God sees," God instructed the people to do three things. First, they were to position themselves.

- 1) To survive this battle, they had to get in their place.
- 2) Secondly, they had to stand still. They had to stay in their place and get still.
- 3) Third, they were to see the salvation of the Lord. In other words, they were to 'watch and see what God was about to do.'

At the end of the age, the church will not be defined by the times, but instead will be the definers of the times.

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