

RESTORATION MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Prophetic Insight

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“Therefore we must pay much more careful heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away”

Being Our Father’s Transitional Generation! (Part 1)

Leaving Hellenism, Romanism and Nicolaitanism And Learning How To Live Kingdom-focused for the King

Introduction

Our heavenly Father has given us scriptural role models for how He purposes His children to live in times such as these when He and His Word have been abandoned by a nation. For example, Daniel, Shedrach, Meshach and Abednego were held captive in idol-worshipping Babylon. Among the lessons we can learn from these four men whom our God esteemed so highly are these: They stayed true to God because • their hearts were *personally impassioned* in their devotion to God, and • they *agonized over* the sinful darkness they saw around them.

Paul accurately describes in 2Timothy 3:1-5 the moral condition of the United States today: *“People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God – having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with such people.”*

The spiritual and moral darkness is in evidence all around us. Yet surrounded by such decay around them in Babylon, the four men stayed true to our Lord, holding on to their trust in their covenant-keeping God. And in His timing God returned the Israelites to Jerusalem as He had promised. The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah recount their collective return and renewed commitment to Him. You might say that during those 70 years of Babylonian captivity the four men represented a **“transitional generation,”** keeping the faith burning true until God allowed them back into His land.

As His Word makes clear, our God doesn’t change. It’s also important to understand that our heavenly Father has His own timing of when specific events will happen. For example, the birth of Jesus came in accordance with Divine timing. We also know that Jesus has gone into heaven *“until the time comes for restoring everything, as God said long ago, when He spoke through the holy prophets”* (Acts 3:21; see also Acts 1:11; Galatians 3:8; Ephesians 2:10).

After Jesus ascended, practices and traditions within Judaism went on much as they had been. But at the same time followers of Jesus began to increase in number. There was a period of time until the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70AD that those who followed Jesus didn’t have clear understanding of how they fit into the Jewish religious system. You might say they were a **“transitional generation,”** remaining true to their Lord Jesus and yet not exactly fitting into the Jewish religious system that denied Him.

How do these accounts in the Bible affect us today?

Our heavenly Father is in the midst of executing a Divine timing even now. It isn’t occurring in just one day but rather over a period of time of which only He knows its extent. In accordance with the promises He made to the Patriarchs and certain prophecies spoken about the Jewish people, He is restoring them back to the land of Israel. (Over 80% of the prophecies about their return have already been fulfilled!) Many of the Jewish people who have returned to

Israel currently have no religious convictions. But that status will change dramatically after the full number Father is calling have returned and as prophesied are then attacked by the rest of the world.

For we who are Gentiles, centuries of Hellenist, Romanist, and Nicolaitan domination are systematically failing around the world, both from attacks outside and corruption and unbiblical teachings within. The US is seeing the death throes of both the false, self-serving *Health and Wealth Gospel* and the corporation replica of the *Church Growth Movement* in which leaders are ripping off millions of dollars from constituents. The heresies they perpetuate are **man-pleasing** but so **blatantly unbiblical** that our God has been compelled to turn multitudes who believe these false teachers over to a powerful delusion so they will believe the lie (see 2Thessalonians 2:11).



A personal insight: When we returned to the US with our notes on the Hebraic foundations we met with several “Christian” publishers. Each was willing to market our books IF we would tone down the truth and add more “fluff” especially for women who are their predominant audience. Also, they wanted to put us on the “Christian” talk circuit so we could make ourselves famous and thereby sell more. We told them this was not how Jesus would have us represent Him. Years earlier as we began a retreat ministry we made an agreement with our Father:

“We will never advertise or entice anyone to come. We will trust the Holy Spirit to bring people who are receptive to what You’ve given us to share. We will live with the goal of blessing as many people as possible for Your glory with as few people as possible having personally met us.” To this day we’ve followed this *halakhah*.

Much as with the earliest followers of Jesus, the **Hebraic Restoration** is going forth patiently like leaven with no popularly accepted figures leading the way. It’s much like the Kingdom our Lord Jesus described, *“like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour until it worked all through the dough”* (Luke 13:21). And like the earliest followers of our Lord Jesus before the destruction of the Temple, the Hebraic Restoration is resolutely going forth as our heavenly Father recruits a **transitional generation** into which His Spirit is putting a hunger for these truths to become their way of life.

Many who belong to this transitional generation are found among the millions who’ve fled the Hellenist, Romanist, Nicolaitan systems and are wholeheartedly seeking the righteous and loving way of life Jesus promises in the Gospels, which is also demonstrated in the Book of Acts. This is why it’s so essential that we heed Jesus’ warning if we’re to take our place in preparing for and extending His kingdom: *“No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God”* (Luke 9:62).

IF You Belong To Jesus As Your Lord, Then Your Life Bears Witness To His Spirit’s Power And To The Trouble Caused By Being Kingdom-focused

1. What You See His Spirit Doing In The Bible Must Be Evident In Your Life As Well.

Early in our walk with our Lord Jesus we read about John Wimber, who founded the Vineyard Movement. After years in Evangelicalism he became convicted of this: that the Bible showed that the Holy Spirit was supposed to still be doing what the Gospels revealed Jesus doing as well as His followers in the Book of Acts. Early in his faith pursuit Wimber visited a congregation and noticed he wasn’t seeing the Spirit’s power in their midst. So he went up to the pastor and asked, *“Where’s the stuff?”* The pastor responded, “What stuff”? Said Wimber, “You know, the stuff in the Bible!”

Wimber realized that the work of Jesus' Kingdom and His people's reliance on the Holy Spirit wasn't just for 2000 years ago but for as long as it takes until our Lord comes back for His own. To fulfill the Kingdom purposes our Father prepared in advance for us to accomplish by His grace (Ephesians 2:10) demands that we minister in the power He has given us—the **Holy Spirit**. What Jesus started, including destroying the devil's work, can only be accomplished by His own people through the power of the Holy Spirit. This power threads through Scripture, but it must also be the experience of our own faith walk. If that's not the case for your own life, stop all your other religious involvement and find out why.

The Holy Spirit's indwelling presence as He works His guidance and power through us who are Christ's is really the only evidence we have that Jesus knows us as one of His own. Wimber asked the right question, one we all need an answer to, **"Where's the stuff?"** (For a more comprehensive understanding of this issue, please read Lifebyte 43. *"Does Living Water Flow From You?"* <<http://www.restorationministries.org/download/43.livingwaters-1-.pdf>>)

"By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, and someone else is building [an infrastructure] on it. But each one should build with care. For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, their work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each person's work" (1Corinthians 3:10-13).

Paul is stressing an important truth that's been overlooked for centuries throughout Christendom: Everything in our faith walk must be centered on the supremacy of Jesus as Lord of our lives. The foundation for this intense commitment to the **personal Lordship of Jesus** — His Lordship over every aspect of our individual life — was obliterated when Hellenism, Romanism and Nicolaitanism discarded the Hebraic underpinning of the *personal* Lordship of Jesus. Since then thousands of different religious "infrastructures" have sprung up, each claiming to be the true one, but all are built on sand (see also Luke 6:47-49).

We can take a spiritual lesson from the physical world.



In construction, the *foundation* is the predominant part that enables the infrastructure to be strong and long-lasting. Every day we enter buildings and cross bridges without any thought about the foundations or the infrastructure. We take them for granted until something goes wrong. Within God's Word He has revealed the tenets upon which the foundation, the **Lordship of Jesus**, and the infrastructure, **doctrines we make our way of life**, must be established. These God-given guidelines are for each person and each generation to make a way of *life* so that authentic fellowship with our Father and Jesus, and with each other, can exist. And

just as the things we construct in the physical world need to be *maintained* and *repaired*, so too, does our faith walk and the heritage we leave behind for the generations to come:



“We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done. So the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget His deeds but would keep His commands” (Psalms 78:4,6,7).



- Has this declaration of our Lord’s power and might been an active part of your faith walk, especially with your offspring and their families?
- Does your life testify to the guidance and power of the indwelling Holy Spirit so you can bear witness to your children and descendants after them?

This Kingdom way of life is far different with its greater responsibility to the Lordship of Jesus than just taking your family to “church.”

Jesus emphasizes a vital point in Luke 6:47-49 about *how* we construct the foundations and infrastructure of our faith walk — whether we build on rock or on sand. You readily notice that Jesus is impressing on those who would belong to Him that there is a way of building a foundation in Him that will withstand all testing and trials. Fully aware that the Holy Spirit was going to indwell His followers, Jesus was really contrasting those who understood *their need for His Spirit* in order to fulfill their part in the Kingdom, with those who would succumb to the powerless complacency of Hellenism, Romanism, and Nicolaitanism.

To those who were with Jesus and who grasped the emphasis He placed on the Kingdom in His teachings He declared, *“Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth”* (Acts 1:4,8).

Peter understood the foundation Jesus was laying and could proclaim to those who repented upon hearing his Pentecost message, *“You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off —for all whom the Lord our God will call”* (Acts 2:38,39). As much as a woman in her ninth month of pregnancy knows she has a living person in her womb, so too does everyone born of the Spirit experience His presence.

- Ask yourself and those you fellowship with, **“Where’s the stuff?”**
- Could you stand before Jesus right now and point out specific events and situations in which His Spirit guided and empowered you to fulfill something in His Kingdom out of love for Him?

Being the **transitional generation** until the Dark Days of Chastisement come requires total loving commitment to Jesus as your Lord. This means *your way of life* must become *His way of life through you*. Only with this depth of devotion does our Lord instill in you the love He had as He hung on the cross for the sins of mankind. With His love motivating you, He can entrust you with the Spirit’s power which you need in order to engage the demonic forces holding people captive in spiritual darkness. When His love and the Spirit’s power are part of your life and of the people you fellowship with, you are the **transitional generation**.