REVIVAL NEWS

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Declaring the whole counsel of God Bulletin – Article 15 – March 7, 2025

OUR GOSPEL

PART 2 – NOT IN WORD ONLY BUT ALSO IN POWER

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Not in word only

Our gospel is not good theories, good ideas, opinions or simply beliefs that we hold. Our gospel is not "with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power" 1 Corinthians 2:4. The purpose of this is so "your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God" 1 Corinthians 2:5. Our gospel does not come "in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit" 1 Thessalonians 1:5. The gospel needs to be preached with words, however, we are to speak the gospel like Jesus did, "as one having authority, and not as the scribes" Mark 1:22. For "the kingdom of God is not in word but in power" 1 Corinthians 4:20. It is not simply an intellectual exercise as we teach the people and "preach in Jesus the resurrection from the dead" Acts 4:2. This gospel which is to be our gospel, is a gospel of power, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes" Romans 1:16.

Power

The word power is the Greek word dunamis which means: miraculous power, power in action, higher forces working in this lower world. Our gospel has power. There is power to transform people's lives, producing in them a new creation (2 Cor.5:17). When Jesus commissioned the apostles "that repentance and remission of sins should preached in His name to all nations" He told them that first they must "tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endured with power from on high" Luke 24:47, 49. We need to be clothed with the power of God to effectively preach repentance and remission of sins to the nations! When the apostles were sent out to preach the gospel it is recorded that, "they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs" Mark 16:20. We need to preach the Word and expect powerful signs and wonders to confirm that word to the hearers so that their faith is in the power of God!

The Apostolic Restoration

God is restoring true apostles to the church today and He is restoring the apostolic nature and essence of His church today. The church that Jesus is building is a church that functions in the power of God. Many involved in the apostolic restoration have come out of denominations that emphasise power, signs and wonders and produce people who are fascinated with them and follow them. Jesus told us, "These signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will

speak with new tongues...they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." Mark 16:17-18. The signs are to follow us, not us follow them! Even recently on mission to Uganda and Kenya, we saw many signs and wonders follow us as we moved in the will of God from place to place. As the Word was taught, people were delivered from demons, testified of healing, we were able to go through checkpoints without paying any bribes, rain was delayed through prayer, people spoke with new tongues by the power of the Holy Spirit for the first time, victory over territorial powers was achieved and a brother who had been resisting the gospel for some time was born again. At the home base in SHILOH, Toowoomba, there are numerous daily answers to prayer, a stolen car was returned, lost things found, and people testify of how Jesus gives them victory in various difficult and trying situations. This is our gospel! It is a gospel with power.

In the Holy Spirit

Our gospel is not in word only, but also "in the Holy Spirit" 1Thessalonians 1:5. This gospel that we preach and live out together is in the Holy Spirit! We are living in a different realm now, the realm of the kingdom of God, "for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" Romans 14:17. The Holy Spirit is our Helper (Jn.14:26). Now we speak the word of God "not in word's which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches" 1Corinthians 2:13. We are to preach "the gospel by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven" 1Peter 1:12. He helps us to hit the mark, to speak the Word in season that speaks to the hearts of those we are sharing with. He also enables us with gifts to communicate the gospel effectively, with a "demonstration of the Spirit and power" (1Cor.2:4).

Equipped to witness the truth of the gospel

When Jesus sent out the twelve "He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease" Matthew 10:1. When Jesus sent the seventy, He told them, "heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The Kingdom of God has come near to you'...Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy and nothing shall by any means hurt you" Luke10:9, 19. Jesus gave those whom He sent power. Now we live in the time where Jesus said, "And you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me" Acts 1:8. Jesus has equipped us by the Holy Spirit to effectively bear witness to Jesus and His resurrection power. As we go out in the gospel let's make sure we are waiting on God, listening to the Holy Spirit and allowing Him to fill us with His power to reveal the authority of His kingdom over all other powers.

Stir up the gifts

The apostle Paul tells us in 1Corinthians 14:1 to "pursue love, and desire spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy". We are to desire eagerly, pursue ardently and even burn with desire for spiritual gifts to flow in our life. Our gospel is manifested with power through the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives. The gifts are mentioned in 1Corinthians 12:8-10 and they reveal awesome supernatural demonstrations of the God's Spirit and power. Words of wisdom, words of knowledge, the gift of faith, gifts of healings, working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, different kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues. We are to desire intensely these gifts. Anyone who is filled with the Holy Spirit can function in these gifts and they are "for the profit of all" (1Cor.12:7).

Our gospel is not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit!

CALENDAR

• Training Day at SHILOH: Saturday 8th March from 10:30am to 4pm

NOTE WELL: It is a **DIFFERENT STARTING TIME**. There will be an interactive **DISCIPLESHIP CLASS** from 10:30am till lunch time. After lunch will then be a time of teaching, training, equipping for the work of the harvest! Come ready to learn, grow, be trained and ready for the mission that Jesus has called us to – discipling nations!

Weekly Timetable at SHILOH:

Tuesday: 9am – 10am worship/prayer/Lord's Table at SHILOH

10.30am - 12pm discipleship class and Canada Zoom

Thursday: 9:30am to 12:30pm – ministry training school – which includes a time of waiting on God in corporate prayer, worship and the Lord's Table at the beginning.

Weekly Zoom meetings available:

- Thursday ministry school from 9.30am to 12.30pm, Eastern Australian time
- Sunday afternoon fellowship meeting from 4pm, QLD Eastern Australian time.

Missions to pray into:

- Apostle Rob and disciple Geoffrey are continuing in the north and going through a door that has
 opened to them in Mackay. After this they will continue to go further north, being led by the Holy
 Spirit and not rushing in any place. There is testimony of a strong anointing that is being released
 through them wherever they go. Keep them in prayer to have breakthrough in every place and that
 more and more will join in heart to be disciples of Jesus Christ in this great discipleship revival.
- **Apostle Nick** and **Jacob Armitage** are planning to visit Woorabinda and maybe some other places over the weekend of **March 28-30.** Keep this in prayer as we come closer to the date.