

Blow the Trumpet in ZION

*"And the LORD shall utter His voice before His army,
for His camp is very great..." Joel 2:11.*



Teaching Notes from SHILOH International Apostolic
Training School July 2014

REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

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- Making disciples, Matt. 28:18-20,
- Training & equipping workers for the harvest, Matt.9:37–10:40, Lu.10:1-20
- Bringing the church to maturity by fathering sons, Gal.4:10 & 1Cor.4:14-17

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An Apostolic People

1 Peter 2:9

- we are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His special people
- **v.10** – once not a people but now the people of God
- this is a people in whom God can manifest in them, God can show Himself through a people

“chosen” – Gk. “eklektos” = to gather out of, to pick out

- ❖ God has picked us out

Ephesians 1:4 – chosen **in Christ** before the foundation of world, we were chosen to be holy and blameless

- He chose us in love to become sons by Jesus Christ to Himself – to manifest God, to show how awesome God is

Romans 8:29-30 – we were predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, because God foreknew us, He knew us beforehand, before the world was created

How does a generation come to pass?

- ❖ in natural, it is through a seed nurtured in a woman to become a child
- ❖ **1 Peter 1:23** – it is through the seed of the Word of God, the imperishable seed, it brings forth fruit after its kind
- ❖ this generation is the fruit of the Word that is preached
- ❖ regenerated by the Word (Titus 3:5)
- ❖ we must be preachers of the Word, to bring forth a generation of the Word!!!
- ❖ There is a famine for the Word of God, The Word will bring forth fruit (**1Samuel 3:1-19**)

Psalm 24:6

- ❖ this generation is the generation of Jacob
- ❖ a generation of hopeless human beings being born again to glorify God
- ❖ Jacob was twisted in his flesh
- ❖ But Jacob wanted to change, he would not let the Man from heaven go until he changed
- ❖ It is time to be like Jacob and seriously seek God, seek His face

Acts 13:48b

- ❖ Gentiles heard, were glad, glorified the Lord
- ❖ As many as those were appointed to eternal life
- ❖ The chosen generation is the generation which is appointed
- ❖ We need to be serious about this appointment
- ❖ There are more to find to fill up this generation – they will only hear if someone preaches and is sent (**Romans 10:14-17**)

A royal priesthood

- a kingly priesthood
- **Revelation 5:9-10** – we are to reign on the earth as kings and priests
- **Revelation 11:15** – kingdom of our Lord (Jesus) and His Christ (His Body, the people)

What do kings do?

- ❖ they administer governmentally the word of God
- ❖ they decree and declare the word of God
- ❖ they make sure the Word is known and decreed
- ❖ kings speak and they must be heard, they have kingly authority

What is the result of our being kings?

- ❖ every house is a house of discipleship
- ❖ children will be brought up as disciples
- ❖ no misuse of internet, no silly worldly games
- ❖ let us live as Christians!

What is the priestly ministry?

- ❖ worship, prayer, altar of incense
- ❖ is there an altar in your home (a place to meet the Lord, around His Table)

A holy nation

1 Peter 1:13-17

- gird up loins of our mind – put on belt of truth, our minds girded with truth of Word
- rest our hope fully on grace brought to us at the **revelation of Jesus the Messiah**
- this is not just a future thing – we can get revelation of Jesus Christ today (ask Him for spirit of revelation **Ephesians 1:17**)
- **v.14** – as obedient children, not **conforming** to former lusts
- do not **conform** – it is peer pressure, just going along with what seems okay in the world
- we are to rightly divide (cut the sacrifice properly) the Word of truth
- **v.15** – be holy in all our conduct/behaviour

v.16-17 – conduct/behave ourselves throughout our time here in fear

Jacob had a nation come forth out of his 12 sons

Jesus raised 12 apostles/sons to be the foundation of this holy nation

(**Revelation 21:14** – the apostles are the foundation)

Ephesians 2:12

- ❖ Gentiles were without Christ, aliens from the **commonwealth of Israel**
- ❖ this holy nation is a **commonwealth**
- ❖ we all share in all the promises, glory and adoption that was promised to Israel
- ❖ there is no hierarchy in a commonwealth, everybody is to be involved

❖ **v.13** – we have been brought near by the blood of Messiah!

His own special/peculiar people

Titus 2:14 – redeemed by Jesus, our great God and Saviour

- ❖ to be His own special people, **zealous for good works**
- ❖ **peculiar/special = distinct, we belong to God** – this is the New Covenant, God (the God and Father of the Lord Jesus Christ) is my God, we must confess and agree with it, accept the terms of the covenant
- ❖ we have been acquired by God
- ❖ we are His purchased possession

He purchased us that we might proclaim the praises of Him – **1 Peter 2:9**

What will this people look like?

Ephesians 5:18-21

- ❖ they will not be drunk with wine
- ❖ they will be filled with the Holy Spirit!
- ❖ They speak to one another in Psalms, hymns and spiritual songs
- ❖ They are thankful, giving thanks for all things to God the Father in the name of Yeshua Ha Mashiach

God's people should not be grumblers but grateful, not selfish but rejoicing, singing the songs of the Lord

Colossians 1:13

- ❖ this is a people delivered from power of darkness
- ❖ a people who have been conveyed into the kingdom of the Son of His love

We have obtained mercy (1 Pet.2:10)

- ❖ **Romans 12:1** – I beseech you by mercies of God
- ❖ We only stand by the mercy of God
- ❖ **Exodus 34:7** – God is merciful – that is who He is
- ❖ **1 Timothy 1:13** – Paul obtained **mercy** because of his ignorance and unbelief

2 Peter 3:11

What manner of persons ought you to be?

- ❖ in holy conduct and godliness
- ❖ **"Godliness" – 2 Peter 1:6** (godliness comes as number 5 in the list of **"these things"** we are to add to our faith)
- ❖ godliness is quite high in coming to maturity as a believer
- ❖ **1 Timothy 3:16 – Godliness = "God manifest in flesh"**, God walked in flesh, He came in the likeness of men (**Philippians 2:5-8**), godliness is about humility, serving your generation well
- ❖ A people who make known that God was manifested in the flesh
- ❖ When we attain to godliness we will tell everybody who Jesus is, that He is God manifest in flesh

2 Peter 3:12

- this generation is “looking for” and “hastening” the **coming of the Day of God**
- if you are part of this godly generation you will be focused, you are in the position of revelation, submitted obedience
- you are looking for the coming, come and see
- not only looking for but also “hastening” – they are causing the coming of the Day of God to come more quickly
- pray to restore the spirit of martyrdom to the church, **the seed of the church is the blood of the martyrs**
- the “elements” will melt with fervent heat

“Elements” = principles of living, “elementary spirits”, the world system

The elements will be exposed for what they are and burned up

Matthew 13:41-43

- ❖ messengers will take out of the kingdom those who offend and all who practice lawlessness
- ❖ this is at “the end of the age”
- ❖ then the sons of the kingdom will shine like the Sun in the kingdom of their Father

2 Peter 3:13

- we according to His promise look for new heavens and new earth where righteousness dwells
- are you looking for the new heavens and new earth to be established

2 Peter 3:14-15

- Paul and Peter in their latter days were in full agreement
- we are to be diligent to be found in peace

Who are these apostolic people?

1. It is the “Ekklesia” – the called out, picked out ones

2. It is the church = house of God – 1 Timothy 3:15, the pillar and ground of the truth

3. They are the Body of Messiah – many people, people will see the Messiah, the people who represent and manifest Christ – it looks like a mature perfect man

How do we become this people?

- 1.** Respond to the call of God – it is costly
- 2.** We need to be disciplined/taught in the Word, the Truth, by revelation and deep understanding
- 3.** We need to be trained and equipped to be sent out
- 4.** We become a functioning member of that Body (**Ephesians 4:11-16**)

The Apostolic Pattern

This requires that there be **apostles**

There is a trumpet call concerning the restoration of apostles today

1. We need apostles to reveal Christ – Matthew 10

v.40 – He who receives you (the apostles), they receive Me (Jesus the Messiah), and if they receive Me, they receive the One (the Father) who sent Me

- if we receive apostles sent by Jesus we actually receive Jesus
- if we receive Jesus in this way we actually receive the Father

God is Father to a Son and Son to a Father – this is the mystery of God
The Father is revealed in the Son
The Father brings us to the Son

There is no apostolic pattern – the New Testament – if there are no apostles today

2. We need apostles to lay foundation

Ephesians 2:20

- ❖ this is a picture of the building pattern of the church
- ❖ household of God is built upon the foundation of apostles and prophets
- ❖ building God's house is only possible if apostles and prophets are in place as foundations

The purpose is for God to be seen in the earth
He needs a people fashioned according to the pattern

Apostles are necessary with prophets to lay the foundation knowledge of Jesus Christ in the church

1 Timothy 3:15-16

- we must know how to conduct ourselves in house of God, which is church of living God
- this church is pillar and ground of truth
- this church declares the mystery of godliness that God was manifested in the flesh – God seen in flesh!
- God reveals Himself through His Word

Acts 5:42

- ❖ The early apostles after being released and beaten with stripes
- ❖ They were rejoicing to be beaten for Jesus
- ❖ And they continued without ceasing and in every house, teaching and preaching Jesus the Christ
- ❖ This is the fundamental knowledge of God, knowing Jesus the Messiah
- ❖ He is the revelation of God

3. Apostles are needed as wise master builder

1 Corinthians 3:10-11

- apostle Paul had grace from God as a "wise master builder"
- they know the plan, so that we can all build according to the pattern
- there is a master plan that apostles are responsible to make known
- the building must have a sure foundation
- the only foundation that can be laid is **Jesus the Messiah**
- this is Jesus who is Jehovah in the flesh bringing salvation
- He is the promised Messiah, the King of Kings and He has a plan
- the foundation is the knowledge of who Jesus
- God is not a concept, He is a person whose name is Jesus

Ephesians 4:13 – apostles needed to bring church to a perfect man!

4. We need apostles to make known the revelation of the mystery

- apostles function in the realm of revelation

Ephesians 3:2-5

- ❖ Paul made known the mystery through his writing
- ❖ This knowledge is given by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets
- ❖ We will only see the mystery when we receive the apostles and prophets that the Spirit has revealed it to

Ephesians 3:6-7

- ❖ one of first understandings of the mystery is there is One Body, made up of Jew and Gentile
- ❖ the Body that Jesus was building had to be made up of Jew and Gentile

Ephesians 3:8

- ❖ grace was given to Paul
- ❖ to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of the Messiah

Ephesians 3:9

- ❖ so that we can all **see the fellowship of the mystery**
- ❖ this is the mystery of Messiah, the Anointed One

Ephesians 3:10

- ❖ the result of the church walking in the fellowship of the mystery is that the principalities and powers will bow the knee to Jesus

The early church was undisputedly led by apostles

When Paul was converted he was taken to meet the apostles

Who led the church? The apostles

The first church was apostolic

What did they teach?

Matthew 28:20 – everything Jesus commanded them to teach

Through book of Acts you can see how the five ministries emerged

References to apostolic company and teams

Acts 10:45

- ❖ those of circumcision...as many as came with Peter
- ❖ Peter had a team with him

Acts 12:12

- ❖ Peter knew the brethren would be at this house
- ❖ He knew the company of brethren met there

Acts 16:40

- ❖ Paul and Silas went to find the company who would be meeting
- ❖ They went to where the brethren were

Acts 21:8

- ❖ We who were "Paul's companions"
- ❖ There is definitely a company of brethren with Paul
- ❖ They all went to stay in house of Philip the Evangelist

When there are apostles there will be apostolic companies

Apostolic Companies are the Pattern People

Where apostles are set then the Lord begins to add

An apostolic company is formed by relationship, not something to sign up to, but is formed by people who want to join in heart by properly relating

Stop going to church – start being the church

What is the pattern?

"Follow me as I follow Christ" – this is leadership

This is the apostolic pattern

- ❖ apostles lay down their lives for the brethren
- ❖ heart of apostles is to raise up brethren into the callings that the brethren have
- ❖ That is all apostles have to offer, a lifestyle of following Jesus

Philippians 3:7-17

If you do what Paul did, you will become an apostolic person

v.7 – whatever was gain Paul counted loss for Christ

v.8 – count all things loss for excellence of knowledge of Jesus the Messiah
- not mourning what you lost, but purposely deciding to count them as loss

- the reward is gaining Christ!
- many get caught up in lands and buildings, tithes and offerings then get caught up in those instead of mission

v.9 – all you need is to be found in Him with His righteousness which comes by faith

- v.10** – desire is to “know Him”
- to know power of resurrection
 - to know fellowship of sufferings
 - being conformed to His death

- v.11** – if by any means I may attain/arrive at resurrection from the dead
- this is speaking of a lifestyle experience of the resurrection
 - walking in the power of the resurrection here and now
 - our goal is to walk in Jesus, for Jesus and through Jesus
 - **2 Corinthians 4:10-12** – carrying the dying of the Lord Jesus so His life can manifest in you in resurrection power

- v.12** – Here is the decision
- do not get stuck at where you are at and what you feel right now, make the decision to **press on to lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus laid hold of me**
 - Why did God call you? Do you know?

- v.13** – this is the attitude
- forget the past
 - press on into the future
 - it does not matter if you have been successful or a failure, walk into the new man
 - do not let people hold you in the past

v.14 – press toward goal of upward call of God in Christ Jesus

- v.15** – Therefore “Let us” – now plural
- as many as are mature = those who have made the decisions that Paul has just been talking about, that “no matter what it costs I am going on for Jesus” – this is the qualification to be a member of the apostolic company
 - when mature, we are in a place as sons who are disciplined and chastened by the Lord
 - **Let us have this mind** – we think differently
 - **If in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you**
 - if you have made the mature decision to follow Jesus, God will reveal any differences in thinking
 - this makes us easily discerning to know when we are out of the perfect will of God, it becomes easy to repent

v.16 – to the degree that we have already attained this level of maturity, walking as a Body in Christ, submitting to the Word of God, submitting to one another

- **Let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind**

- so let's stop arguing and making divisions according to our own opinions

- let's build up the Body and look to contribute to the upbuilding of the whole

- **we are to walk by the same rule** – we are to live by the rule (it is all voluntary), being generous, committed

- **let us be of same mind**

v.17 – brethren, **join in following my example**

- let us walk with the apostle

- one can only be an apostle to those who receive them as an apostle

- **note those who so walk as you have us for a pattern**

- are you willing to be a pattern?

What sort of pattern should we be setting?

1 Thessalonians 1:6-7

- became followers of us (apostles) and of the Lord

- received the Word in much affliction

- with joy of Holy Spirit

- you became **examples**

- God wants examples for others to follow

1 Timothy 1:16

- Jesus shows to the apostle all longsuffering as a pattern for all those who believe

Titus 2:7

❖ we should be a pattern of good works

❖ so people can see what we do in **doctrine, showing integrity, incorruptibility, reverence (fear), sound speech**

2 Thessalonians 3:9

- to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us

- Paul knew as an apostle he could speak with authority, could wield the rod, but he chose not to and would rather encourage brethren to change

- apostles need to set an example others can follow

1 Peter 5:3

- elders not to be lords, but examples to the flock

Apostolic pattern is father/son relationships

Philippians 2:19-23

❖ what an amazing commendation of Timothy

❖ Timothy had proven character that as a son with his father he served with Paul in the gospel

- ❖ The weaving together of the apostolic pattern is building a relationship as father/son
- ❖ These relationships are given by God, not forced, be led by Him
- ❖ God forms relationships

Acts 2:42-47 – how apostolic people/company lives = apostolic pattern in summary

Revelation 2:1-9 – returning to first works is the apostolic pattern

John 7:37-39 – coming into fulfilment of Feast of Tabernacles
- Jesus will give drink through those who are believers to all who are thirsty!

The Apostolic Purpose

What is the purpose of God?

1. To have a mature church in the earth, which fulfils God's purpose in the earth

- ❖ church is not an embassy of heaven offering visas

How does the church fulfil God's purpose?

Romans 1:5 – Through Messiah Jesus we have **received grace and apostleship for obedience** to the faith among all nations for His name

- ❖ there will be a church on the earth that is properly and adequately preaching Jesus the Messiah to all nations
- ❖ the church functioning in grace and apostleship so that nations become obedient to the Word of God, nations opening up in the timing and will of God (the window of opportunity) to receive the Word from this mature church!

Through Grace

- ❖ grace has been so underrated in the contemporary Pentecostal Church, which focused on power, anointing, gifts
- ❖ Grace is to be accessed
- ❖ Power is for witness
- ❖ It is through grace that we reach nations
- ❖ Grace is the nature of the personhood of God
- ❖ **Exodus 34:6-7** – God is gracious, it is who He is
- ❖ It is through **grace** that this apostleship is activated to reach nations

Ephesians 4:4-6

- ❖ amazing declaration
- ❖ One Body, One Spirit, One Hope, One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism, One God and Father
- ❖ 7 ones! When did you last preach on these?
- ❖ This is the kernel of the revelation of God

To understand these "Ones" Jesus gave us the five-fold ministry

We need to preach the One Body, it is the very Body of Christ, of which we have been made members by the very will of God, being placed in it through Baptism

Ephesians 4:7

- ❖ to each one of us grace has been given according to the measure of Christ's gift

v.8 – When Jesus ascended He led captivity captive and gave gifts (plural) to men

- the Gift has become “gifts”

v.11 – He gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors and teachers

v.12 – He gave these gifts to equip (set in order the Body) the saints

- He gave them to “do the work of the ministry”

- He gave them to build up the Body of Christ

v.13 – until we all come to

i) unity of faith ii) knowledge of Son of God iii) to a perfect man iv) to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

v.14 – no longer children tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine

v.15 – speaking the truth in love that we may grow up in all things into Him who is the Head – Christ

- going beyond superficial platitudes and getting into reality

v.16 – so that Body fully functions in love

Ephesians 5:22-33 – The Church, The Bride, the Wife

❖ This mature church is submitted to the Lord

❖ Christ is our Head and our Saviour

❖ We are to be subject to Christ in everything, our whole lives

❖ Christ loves us and gave Himself for us

❖ **He is sanctifying and cleansing us by the washing of the water of the Word (“Rhema” – the quickened word, the word proceeding from the mouth of God)**

❖ Do you learn the Word and find out what God wants to say to you every day from the Word

❖ If we keep immersing ourselves in the Word we will find it easier to receive the “Rhema” word, hearing God speak to us

❖ **Jesus is doing this so He might present Her to Himself a glorious church, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, to be holy and without blame!**

Where is Jesus doing this? In heaven or on earth?

❖ Jesus is doing this in the church in the earth through the ministry of the Word

❖ This is the Word that brings faith (**Romans 10:17**)

7 Letters of Revelation

- reward given to **overcomers**

Jesus is looking for a church of Overcomers – not a church of Sunday worshipers and Wednesday prayers

- ❖ He is looking for overcomers

What about the rest?

- ❖ they do not get the rewards
- ❖ even if you get knocked down 10 times you need to get up for the 11th round
- ❖ forget the past, reach toward what is ahead, pressing for the goal

What is the goal?

Habakkuk 2:14 – the knowledge of the glory of the Eternal One will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea

How do we get knowledge of glory?

- ❖ through discipleship

Acts 2:24

- ❖ Peter is giving summary of who Jesus is
- ❖ God raised up Jesus
- ❖ “having loosed the pangs of death...”
- ❖ “pangs of death” = birth pangs
- ❖ Jesus was not suffering pain in hell, when Jesus said “It was finished”, the suffering was done
- ❖ Jesus died in the flesh but was made alive in the Spirit (**1 Peter 3:18-19**)
- ❖ Jesus was birthing something, He was bringing forth the gifts necessary to build the church
- ❖ Jesus was in birth pangs, bringing forth the new creation, when He rose from the dead everything is changing

Matthew 27:51-52

- After Jesus died, veil torn
- ❖ graves were opened
- ❖ many bodies of dead saints and came out of graves after Jesus’ resurrection and appeared to many
- ❖ this was all part of process of Jesus completing His work down below

Jesus went through birth pangs after He died in the flesh to bring forth the new creation in the Spirit

Jesus had to come and die and go below in the Spirit and bring forth the new creation

Where is the new creation?

- ❖ it is in the earth
- ❖ the earth was cursed because of sin
- ❖ Jesus came to take away the curse of sin from the earth

Death, Burial and Resurrection

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Jesus had to Die

Jesus had to be Buried (to bring forth a new creation)

Jesus had to be Raised from the Dead

The knowledge of the Glory of the Eternal One is to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea

God has a plan for the earth

God's plan is not to take you away to heaven

That is why we are to **Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them into the name...teaching them to observe all I commanded** (giving the knowledge of the glory of God)

God's original mandate given to Adam will be fulfilled

Be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth, subdue it and have dominion (Genesis 1:28)

Noah was kept safe in the earth in the day of judgement

God preserves a people, the righteous, in the earth who will fulfil His purpose

The Coming of the Son of Man will be as the Days of Noah (**Matthew 24:36-41**)

The Parable of wheat and Tares shares how the wicked will be taken out and burned in fire of judgement at the end of age (**Matthew 13:41-43**)

How do we get into this fulfilment of God's purpose?

Hebrews 6:1 – Let us go on to perfection

Hebrews 6:3 – If God permits

God will permit us to go on if foundations are right

What are the foundations?

- i) **repentance from dead works**
- ii) **put our faith toward God** through Jesus Christ, personally (**John 14:1**)
- iii) **doctrine of baptisms** – for repentance and remission of sins, to receive the Spirit, to be placed in His Body, to be immersed in His name
- iv) **receive laying on of hands** to receive Holy Spirit, to be blessed, commissioned, ordained (all of us are priests needing ordination)

- v) **resurrection of the dead** – walking in the resurrection – **John 5:24-25** – born again, raised by hearing the voice of Son of God
- vi) **Eternal Judgement** – we are to walk in this every day, choosing to believe in Him every day – people only go to hell because they refuse to believe in Jesus, Jesus has dealt with sin

What sort of people should we be once foundations are laid?

Hebrews 5:12

- ❖ by this time you ought to be teachers
- ❖ teaching others about the glory of God
- ❖ teaching these foundations which enable them to go on to perfection
- ❖ we grow up from being disciples to be teachers
- ❖ we need to grow up to eat the solid food
- ❖ we cannot stay on milk all our life

v.13 – if only partake of milk then you are unskilled in the word of righteousness

Word of righteousness = the faith, preaching the Word that brings faith

- ❖ **Jude 3** – must contend earnestly for the faith that once for all delivered to the saints
- ❖ this is the faith we are to die for with a smile on our face so that people can see the glory of God

What is God's purpose?

It is the establishment of God's kingdom/government on the earth

Isaiah 9:6 – government is on shoulders of Son of God

9:7 – it will increase

His kingdom is to be seen, functioning in the earth

All those who offend and are lawless will be taken out of His kingdom

How do we get into the purpose of God?

Repent (change your mind)

Believe in the Word of God, the gospel, the Lord Jesus Christ

Be baptised into Messiah Jesus, into His name (of Father, Son and Holy Spirit = **Jesus**) – the **name** means the Person, all that the Person is – there are many fathers in the world but what is His name? Many sons but what is His name?

(Acts 2:38, Acts 19:5, Acts 8:16-17)

Receive the gift of Holy Spirit – we have to go through every feast, we must receive the Holy Spirit at "Pentecost"

Walk in resurrection life – laying down our lives for gospel, martyrdom is the proof of resurrection life in us

Preaching eternal judgement/condemnation – that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish, be destroyed or die (**John 3:16**), warning and encouraging people about this reality

Go on to maturity/perfection – **Isaiah 6:1-3** – "Whole earth is full of Your glory"

The knowledge of the glory of Eternal God covering the earth as the waters cover the sea

Apostles the wise master builders

Hebrews 3:1

- ❖ Consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession
- ❖ Are you ready to consider Jesus as the Apostle

Mostly Jesus has been preached as the High Priest
He is the Redeemer, The One who was sacrificed for our sins so that we could be saved

Not many have considered or preached Jesus as the Apostle

It is time for us to consider Jesus the Apostle
If we do not receive Jesus as the Apostle we will not receive the One who sent Him, we miss out on a revelation of the Father
We will remain servants without a Father if we do not understand Jesus as the Apostle

If we accept and believe Jesus we are saved = receiving Jesus as Saviour
After this we grow up a little and we become servants
This is where the church has remained, many servants

Receiving Jesus the Apostle is receiving God in Jesus, receiving a revelation of the Father by receiving Jesus the Apostle

We must have a confession of what it means to call Jesus the Apostle

What is an apostle?

Gk "apostolos" – a sent one, a delegate (delegated authority), an ambassador

e.g. ambassadors/governors of nations have all the authority of that nation invested in them

Jesus sends apostles to represent the government, the kingdom of God, all the authority of God

Apostolic revelation is all about being **sent** by the King of kings to manifest His kingdom authority in the earth

Every apostle must be sent by someone

12 were sent by Jesus

Jesus was sent by the Father

John 20:21 – As Father **sent** (apostello) Me (Jesus), so now I send you (apostles)

Apostello – to send, set free

Jesus as High Priest

1. Offered perfect sacrifice

Hebrews 9:12 – Jesus offered perfect sacrifice

Hebrews 9:25-26 – Jesus as High Priest offered Himself as sacrifice

2. Makes intercession for the people

Hebrews 7:25 – always lives to intercede for His people

Hebrews 6:19-20 – Jesus the forerunner has entered behind the veil for us, as our High Priest forever

Romans 8:34 – at right hand of God making intercession for us

Hebrews 4:15-16 – the reward of the intercession, we can come boldly to the Throne of Grace

3. High Priest is in heaven

Hebrews 4:14 – Jesus the High Priest is in heaven

Hebrews 9:24 – Christ entered heaven itself to appear in Presence of God for us

High Priest represents the people to God

As Apostle He represents God to the people

Hebrews 12:2 – sat down at right hand of Throne of God

❖ through death on cross, resurrection, he took His blood into heaven, mercy seat

Confession of Jesus the Apostle

1. Sent with a purpose to build the House of God in the earth

All things in heaven and on earth come together in Christ, High Priest takes us into heavenly realm, Apostle builds on the earth

Matthew 16:18 – On this Rock I will build My Church – this was Jesus main work as an apostle, to build the church

Hebrews 3:3,6 – What is the house of God? We are the house of God, Christ is a Son over this house

1 Timothy 3:15 – House of God is the church of the Living God

This is Jesus' work as an apostle, to build the house of God, the church

How did Jesus do this building work?

❖ He trained some apostles

❖ **John 17:4** – Jesus finished the apostolic work on the earth of raising the apostles

❖ **Jesus was ready to die because He had finished the apostolic work by training the 12**

❖ Jesus was the Master Builder and could say to the Father the night before He died that He could send the apostles into the world just like Jesus was sent by the Father

- ❖ When Jesus ascended He gave the five ministries to build the House

Ephesians 4:11-12

- ❖ He gave them to equip the saints, to do the work of ministry

Ephesians 2:20

- ❖ apostles are in there as part of the foundation

Revelation 21:14

- ❖ apostles are foundation for the holy city

1 Corinthians 3:11

- Jesus is the foundation of the church, this foundation is laid by apostles

Ephesians 2:21-22

- ❖ In Christ we are being fitted together, growing into a Holy Temple, to be a dwelling place for God in the Spirit

The ministry of Jesus the Apostle continues in the earth as he raises up apostles to be doing the work

A look at apostles in the New Testament

- who decided there were no apostles today and that there were lots of pastors?
What authority decided these things?

26 people in New T are called apostles Jesus appointed 12 – 1 was a failure

Acts 1:20-25

- ❖ Matthias was 12th apostle

Acts 13:1-2

- ❖ Paul and Barnabas separated for apostolic work
- ❖ **V.3-4** – Holy Spirit sent Paul and Barnabas
- ❖ They were prophets (Barnabas) and teachers (Saul) before this

Acts 14:4, 14

- ❖ Paul and Barnabas are called apostles

Romans 16:7

- ❖ Andronicus and Junia are of note among the apostles – seems like a large group of apostles around
- ❖ Junia is a feminine name, probably a lady apostle in the early church

1 Corinthians 4:6

- Apollos is included in Paul's writing on equal footing with Paul and Peter
- can assume he was an apostle

2 Corinthians 8:23

- messenger = "Gk. Apostolos" = apostles
- Titus was an apostle

Letters to Timothy and Titus were apostolic letters not pastoral, written to apostles

Galatians 1:19, 1 Corinthians 9:5

- ❖ James and all brothers of Lord were apostles (**Mark 6:3** shows 4 brothers of the Lord)

Philippians 2:25

- ❖ Epaphroditus was an apostle (messenger = apostolos)
- ❖ We must dig into the word and not be misled, but learn to find out what the Greek words mean

1 Thessalonians 1:1, 2:6

- Paul, Silvanus and Timothy are all apostles

= 26 apostles named in New T and others referred to

Pastors = no named in New T

Evangelists = 1, Philip Acts 21:8

Prophets = Agabus, Silas, Judas (Acts 15:32)

Teachers = Acts 13:1 – 5 men mentioned, certain prophets and teachers

1. What is the task of Apostle?

To build the house of God, the church

1 Corinthians 3:10-11 – apostle has master plan and lays foundation for it to be built upon

- the foundation is only ever Jesus the Christ

2. What is the role of the Apostle?

- **To represent and make known the Sender**

- if you are an apostle of Jesus Christ you will talk about Jesus all the time

- apostles of Jesus Christ represent Jesus

- all things must be judged by the Word, no horizontal, vertical, market place apostles because they are not in the Word

Who sent Jesus? Father (only about 10x God mentioned Father in Old T, in gospels alone over 100x God called Father)

- ❖ **Jesus made known the Father!**

- ❖ **John 14:9** – If you have seen Jesus you have seen the Father

- ❖ **If you do not accept Jesus, you reject Father**

Who sends apostles today? Jesus

- ❖ so apostles preach Jesus and make Jesus known

- ❖ **Acts 5:42** – this is what the early apostles did on a daily basis

- ❖ We are to teach and preach Jesus the Christ

What is the grace of an apostle?

1. To be a father

- ❖ the grace of an apostle is to be a father
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 4:14** – Corinthians called Paul's "beloved children"
- ❖ **V.15** – sons are begotten through the gospel
- ❖ **The relationship with an apostle is a relationship by revelation**
- ❖ destiny of sons is to grow them up to be co-workers with you in the family business
- ❖ **Galatians 4:19** – Paul called believers his "little children" but he is praying for them to grow up

2. To bring forth revelation

Colossians 1:26-27 – the revelation of the mystery is the inheritance of the saints

- ❖ apostles have grace to release the revelation of the mystery to the saints as their inheritance
- ❖ we are to fulfil the Word, making known the mystery of Christ to the saints

Ephesians 3:2-8

- ❖ by grace he received revelation
- ❖ knowledge of the mystery given to holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit to give to the saints

3. Grace as a wise master builder

1 Corinthians 3:10 – apostles are also never sectarian, they carry the burden to see the church be built properly

- there is no denominational apostles
- brethren God joins to apostles become a pattern people

4. Grace to recognize the calling of others to ministry

- ❖ true apostles make way for their sons
- ❖ role of ministry is to bring up ministers, to bring up the saints

5. True apostles love the whole church

- ❖ there are no favourites
- ❖ apostles are to have a special relationship with each person individually

Apostleship – GK 'apostole'

= commission, apostolate (what you are commissioned to do)

- ❖ we call **Matthew 28:18-20** – "The Great Commission"
- ❖ we should call it **"The Great Apostleship"**
- ❖ our apostleship is to reach the nations

a) Acts 1:25 – apostleship

Acts 1:20 – Judas had to be replaced, his office/bishopric (Gk. Episcopen) another needed to fill

Acts 1:21-24 – qualifications for the 12th apostle, it cannot be Paul, had to be with Jesus during earthly ministry from John's baptism to ascension of Jesus

This apostleship was the specific calling of the apostle

- ❖ Matthias became the 12th apostle of the Lamb by God's appointment and choice
- ❖ Paul and other apostles were given in Christ's ascension (**Eph.4:7-11**)

Acts 1:25 – to take part in this ministry and **apostleship**

- ❖ this is talking of the calling to be an apostle
- ❖ apostles need to know the appointment by God

b) Romans 1:5

- ❖ grace and **apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations**
- ❖ this is referring to the commission to reach all nations with the gospel
- ❖ **this is to do with reaching nations!**
- ❖ Generally an apostle has a heart for nations

c) 1 Corinthians 9:2

- ❖ Corinthians are the seal/proof/fruit of Paul's **apostleship in the Lord**
- ❖ **Paul knew he was doubtless an apostle to the Corinthians, they received him as an apostle**
- ❖ Paul had sons – **1 Corinthians 4:17** – Timothy was a son who could do work of ministry, sons carry the signature of the father, they are the seal of his apostleship
- ❖ **Philemon 12** – receive a son, receive the father

d) Galatians 2:8

- ❖ Peter's **apostleship** was to the circumcision
- ❖ Paul's **apostleship** was to the Gentiles
- ❖ This is talking of **the sphere of ministry as an apostle**
- ❖ **We need to know where the calling takes you, the sphere of your ministry**
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 10:12-18** – to understand spheres – do not compare yourself with anybody

Building According to the Pattern

1 Corinthians 3:10-11 – Paul (as an apostle) was given grace as a wise master builder

Exodus 25 - Moses received the pattern from God (the pattern for the house of God)

v.8-9 – Let them make Me a Sanctuary that I may dwell among them
- Just so you shall make it (according to the pattern)

God is particular about the way He wants His house built. We are to build according to the pattern.

God has always desired a dwelling place with mankind in the earth. God wants to dwell with us!

1 Chronicles 28:10-12 – David is charging Solomon to build the house of God. Be strong and do it

This is the apostolic task – to build the house of God.

v.11 – David gave his son the plans.

- These plans were from the Spirit of God (by revelation)

v.19 – David (as an apostolic father) had the master plan

God is restoring true apostles to His church today. The gates of hell will not prevail against the church that Jesus is building.

1 Timothy 3:15 – the house of God is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth

John 2:16-21

v.16 - Do not make my Father's house a house of merchandise

v.17 – We need to have zeal for the house of God

v.18-19 – Jesus is speaking of something new – the temple of His body (the house of God)

Hebrews 3:6 – We are the house of God
Jesus links the body with the Father's house.

How is this house to be built?

Luke 6:46-49

- ❖ the foundation is laid on the rock
- ❖ it could not be shaken, because it was founded upon the rock
- ❖ the wise man built his house on the rock
- ❖ apostles are given as wise master builders

- ❖ testing will come to both houses
- ❖ one house will stand

Building on the rock means hearing what Jesus says and doing it.

What is the rock?

Matthew 16:16-18

- ❖ Peter got the revelation that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God
- ❖ Jesus will build His church on the rock (the revelation that Peter received of who Jesus was)
- ❖ The rock is the revelation of who Jesus is

1 Corinthians 10:4

- the spiritual rock that followed them was Christ
- He (Christ the rock) releases spiritual drink

Ephesians 2:19-20 – There are foundations that must be laid

- ❖ the household of God is built on the foundation of apostles and prophets
- ❖ apostles and prophets are foundation ministries that connect us to the rock (Christ) (**1 Cor 3:10-11**)
- ❖ **Acts 5:42** – apostles preach and teach that Jesus is the Christ
- ❖ **Acts 2:42** – the church is built on the foundation of the apostles doctrine
- ❖ The apostles doctrine provides the rock foundation
- ❖ **Hebrews 6:1-2** – apostles and prophets share the elementary principles of Christ, they lay a foundation

The church is not properly founded without apostles.

Ephesians 2:20 – Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone
Christ is all and in all. He is in every part of this building.

Isaiah 28

v.14 – they haven't been building according to the pattern, the gates of hell are prevailing

v.16 – a foundation stone is laid in Zion, a tried (tested) stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation

Ephesians 4:11-13 – 5-fold ministry gifts given

v.13 – 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
- Christ is the only measure we need to measure up to.

The true apostolic ministry comes to lay a foundation. They hold up, build up the body of Christ. A servant leadership

1 Peter 2:4 – coming to Him (Christ) as to a living stone

- we as living stones are being built in

- The evangelist is built on the apostolic foundation. They preach Jesus the Christ. (**Acts 2:38**) They bring in the living stones to be part of the house of God.

John 10:9 – There is only one door in this house

1 Peter 2:5 – you as living stones are being built up a spiritual house

We need pastors (a shepherding ministry)

1 Peter 2:2 – Pastors give the milk of the word to the new believers, bringing healing, restoration (**Ps 23**)

We need teachers to work alongside pastors. They bring the word to establish the new believers.

Isaiah 28:9-10 – precept upon precept, line upon line

Pastors and teachers do the work of discipleship

The house of God is a house for discipleship. There is a growth to happen. We are coming to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Acts 16 – a certain disciple (Timothy)

❖ Timothy was well disciplined by the church. He had a good reputation

Isaiah 2:2-4 – Mount Zion is speaking of the place of God's government

❖ God's house is established on the top of the mountains

❖ Being taught His ways, walking in His paths

❖ He will judge between the nations by His word going forth

1 Corinthians 12:28 – there is an order in the church

- first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles...

Once the foundations are laid and the church is functioning in discipleship, the church can go on to perfection

❖ growing up into the head (Christ) **Ephesians 1:21-23**

❖ **Ephesians 2:6** – we have been raised up with Christ, in heavenly places

❖ there is no ceiling on this house

❖ the house of God is under an open heaven

❖ in Christ, heaven and earth come together **Colossians 1:19-20**

❖ the life of the head (Christ) fills the house when we are built according to the pattern

❖ **Isaiah 66:1** – God will find a resting place with those who are humble and build according to the pattern

Zechariah 4:9 – Zerubbabel is a type of the apostolic ministry

❖ we need the deeper mystery of Christ (**Eph 3:4-5**)

As the house grows up into the head (Christ), understanding the mystery, the unsearchable riches of Messiah, the manifold wisdom of God will be made known by the church to principalities and powers, pushing them back and displacing them with the knowledge of the glory – **Ephesians 3:8-11**

The house will manifest the **fullness of Christ (Eph 1:23)** – having come to the "**measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**" (**Eph.4:13**)

Jacob saw the house of God set up on the earth and its top reaching to heaven.
(**Gen.28:12,17**)

The glory will come when the house has been built (**Hab.2:14, Col.1:27**)

The Church has foundations

The work of the apostle is to check foundations

Have churches been founded properly on foundation of apostles and prophets
(**Eph.2:20**)

Foundations for individual lives and foundations for church
If weak believers the Body will not come to maturity

We must build according to the pattern

It is not according to man's tradition or denominational practice

Apostles and prophets link the church to the Rock, the revelation of who Jesus is

It is only when the foundations are fully laid that the church can come to perfection/maturity

God's purpose is to have a mature church in the earth

Hebrews 6:1-2

❖ Let us go on to perfection/maturity, not laying again the foundations – (once they are laid, they are to be outworked in our lives every day)

- i) Repentance from dead works
- ii) Faith toward God
- iii) Doctrine of Baptisms
- iv) Laying on of hands
- v) Resurrection of the dead
- vi) Eternal Judgement

We will go on to perfection if God permits – once these foundations are properly laid

i) Repentance from dead works

- ❖ repentance from sin to come to Jesus
- ❖ but in context on book of Hebrews, it is repentance from dead religious works, practices that we have accepted and embraced as truth, but they are not according to the Word

Revelation 2:4-5 – left first love

- ❖ **repent** and do the first works
- ❖ **if do not repent will remove the lampstand** = Jesus' Presence will be removed from the church
- ❖ What are the first works? They were told to **repent and do the first works**
- ❖ **Acts 2:42** – first works = continued steadfastly in:

- a) apostles' doctrine
- b) fellowship
- c) breaking bread
- d) prayers

These are the vital components of fellowship

We are to repent from anything that is dead religious works

ii) Faith toward God

- ❖ is coming into a deeper and fuller revelation of who Jesus is
- ❖ our faith is in God through Jesus Christ
- ❖ our faith is in God manifested in the flesh (**1 Timothy 3:16**)
- ❖ **Acts 5:42** – faith toward God is in Jesus the Messiah
- ❖ **Acts 9:20-22** – immediately after putting faith in Jesus, Paul preached the Christ, the Son of God
- ❖ Paul then opened the Scriptures proving this Jesus is the Messiah
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 13:5** – examine yourself if you are in the faith
- ❖ **The test = do you know Jesus Christ in you?**

iii) Doctrine of baptisms

- ❖ "baptisms" is plural, some would say this includes the baptism in the Holy Spirit
- ❖ However, baptism in Holy Spirit comes in the 4th foundation of laying on of hands
- ❖ This is talking of baptisms in water
- ❖ There are 3 baptisms mentioned in the New Testament
 - a) John's baptism
 - b) Jesus' baptism
 - c) Believer's baptism

a) John's Baptism

- ❖ baptism in water
- ❖ for repentance of sins (**Acts 19:4**)
- ❖ a sign baptism pointing to the One coming after him (**Luke 3:16, Mark 1:7-8**)
- ❖ was the will of God for the people (**Luke 7:30**)

b) Jesus' baptism

- ❖ baptism in water
- ❖ was the baptism of Messiah Himself
- ❖ Jesus was the fulfilment of the sign John was pointing to
- ❖ NOT for repentance from sin
- ❖ **"to fulfil all righteousness" Matthew 3:15**
- ❖ Heavens opened
- ❖ Spirit of God descended and came upon/rested on a man in the earth
- ❖ This was completely new, a Man in the earth now is filled with Holy Spirit
- ❖ Voice heard conferring Sonship on Jesus (**Matthew 3:16-17**)
- ❖ Now Jesus manifested in the earth as the Son of God

- ❖ This was the will of God for Jesus

c) **Believer's baptism**

- ❖ the fulfilment of John's and Jesus' baptism
- ❖ immersion in water
- ❖ for repentance and remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**) – Holy Spirit also released
- ❖ Baptism is into Messiah – the sign outworked – **Romans 6:4-5, buried** with Him in baptism into **death, raised** with Him to walk in newness of life
- ❖ Israelites went through the Red Sea, this was their baptism (**1 Cor. 10:1-2**), freed them from their oppressors
- ❖ Baptism cuts us off from all the things that held us captive – this is the reality we need to teach the believers to have victory over the devil

iv) **Laying on of hands**

- ❖ In Scripture, mostly Holy Spirit imparted through laying on of hands (**Acts 8:16-17, Acts 19:6**)
- ❖ Exceptions **Acts 2:1-4, Acts 10:44-48**, which were sovereign outpourings of Holy Spirit
- ❖ **Acts 4:31** – apostles who had received Holy Spirit on Day of Pentecost, were being filled again – it is an ongoing experience not just a one time experience
- ❖ **Acts 1:8** – Holy Spirit enables us to be witnesses, we witness Jesus boldly by the Spirit
- ❖ **Laying on of hands** used also to impart healing, blessing, commission, ordain, impart gifts and ministries

v) **Resurrection of the dead**

- ❖ this is a foundation we are meant to be walking in every day
 - a) **1 Corinthians 15:16-17** – Christ is risen! **Jesus literally rose from the dead in His body**
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 15:20** – because Jesus rose from the dead we can also have hope
 - b) **Ephesians 2:1** – we have a **spiritual resurrection** through faith
- ❖ **Romans 6:4-5** – we experience this also through baptism, we are baptised into His resurrection life
 - c) **John 5:28-29** – **literal resurrection of the righteous and the wicked**

Also, walking in resurrection life is to be experienced on a daily basis

When the troubles come, do you stay in resurrection life

Walking in resurrection life is in walking in a place of victory

Baptism is a key part of walking in the victory of the resurrection as you have come through the death, burial of your old man and been raised anew into His resurrection

All these foundations are an ongoing experience, they are a reality to walk in today

vi) Eternal Judgement

- ❖ the reality of eternal states
- ❖ people want to deny the reality of eternal judgement
- ❖ there is a judgement, what we choose in this life determines how we will spend eternity
- John 3:18** – we live under condemnation by not believing in the Son of God
- Mark 16:16** – believe and be baptised – saved, not believe = condemned
- John 5:24-25** – passed from death into life by believing Jesus
- ❖ nobody will be in hell because of their sin, they will be in Hell for refusing to believe in Jesus
- ❖ we are governed by eternity and must choose now whom we will serve
- ❖ how do we respond to Jesus every day?
- ❖ We can choose to walk in judgement or freedom every day
- ❖ We can choose to live in kingdom of God in peace or struggle and strive in the sea of humanity
- ❖ **Colossians 1:13** – when we choose we are conveyed from darkness into kingdom of Son of His love – get on the conveyor belt!
- ❖ **Coming to the place of dealing with all the sin that easily entangles us**
- ❖ God wants to dig deeper in our lives and remove all the things we have tried to keep hidden, past hurts, resentments – these things keep us from growing
- ❖ Eternal Judgement is coming to the **Day of Atonement**, is dealing finally with all sin
- ❖ This is where we are prepared to deal with all hidden things in our lives

We come to Jesus by

- i) repentance from dead works
- ii) believing into Him
- iii) being baptised into Him
- iv) receiving His Spirit
- v) walking in the victory of His resurrection life
- vi) making those choices to walk in Him

We are to go on to perfection!

We are not to remain immature

When the foundational principles are taught and practiced then we can go on to maturity

God's goal is a mature church, a people fully imitating God as dear children

(Eph.5:1)

A church fully functioning in Agape Love **(Eph.4:16)**

The Doctrine of Christ

2 John 7-10

- those who do not confess Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh are deceivers and an antichrist
- **v.8** do not lose those things we worked for (the foundation that the apostles have laid), that we may receive a full reward
- whoever transgresses and does not abide (live, remain, stay) in the doctrine of Christ does not have God
- he who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son

We are to live/abide in this doctrine. If we do this, we will have God, both the Father and Son.

John 14:23 – we (the Father and the Son) will come and make our home with you

We need to understand the Christ (the only foundation of the church)
This is the revelation that the church is built on (**Matt 16:16-18**)

1 John 2:22 – He who denies that Jesus is the Christ is a liar. He is antichrist who denies the Father and the Son.

1 John 5:1 – Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God
- **v.4** – whatever is born of God overcomes the world
Believing Jesus is the Christ = our victory

'Christ' is not a surname. His name is Jesus and He is the Christ.

'Christ' is a title that reveals to us who Jesus is.

Jews had knowledge of who Christ was, the Gentiles did not have knowledge of the Christ.

Christ – Messiah, anointed One

3 positions that were anointed in the Old T

- Prophets
- Priests
- Kings

David was a type of the Messiah who was to come (prophet, priest and king).

Luke 3:15

- ❖ the people were in expectation
- ❖ they wondered whether John was the Christ
- ❖ John spoke of One mightier who would be coming, One who would baptise with the Holy Spirit and with fire

John 1:1

- ❖ the Word was God (Lit. God was the Word)
- ❖ God became flesh and dwelt among us
- ❖ **V.15** – John bore witness of this One
- ❖ Jesus was before John (the Word become flesh)
- ❖ The eternal God coming in the form of man

John 20:31 – that you may know and believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and that by believing you may have life in His name

Matthew 2:1-2

- ❖ Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?
- ❖ The wise men saw the star

Numbers 24:17 – Balaam

- ❖ I see Him, but not now. I behold Him, but not near. A star shall come out of Jacob.

The wise men came to worship the King.

Herod was troubled and all Jerusalem with him.

This Christ, when He is preached properly, causes leaders of nations to tremble. We need to preach the Christ, that He is the King, He is the ruler. He is ruling and reigning now.

Matthew 2:4 – Herod knew the king of the Jews was called Christ

Micah 5:2 – This ruler would be born in Bethlehem. He has come from the days of eternity (from the eternal realm)

Romans 16:25-26 – Christ, the revelation of the Scriptures, being made known in the Old T prophecies

Matthew 2:11 – the wise men fell down and worshiped the child (Jesus the Christ, God in the flesh)

John 1:40-41 – after Jesus baptised by John

- ❖ **v.41** – we have found the Messiah (the Christ)
- ❖ **v.45** – we have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets wrote
- ❖ **V.49** – You are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel!

Acts 9:20 – Paul was hit by the light from heaven and asked 'Who are you Lord?'

I am Jesus.

Paul immediately went preaching the Christ.

John 3:28 – John the Baptist was sent before the Christ

- ❖ **v.29** – Christ is the bridegroom
- ❖ **v.30** – He must increase, I must decrease
- ❖ **v.31** – the Christ comes from heaven

- ❖ **v.32** – the Christ testifies of heavenly reality
- ❖ **v.33** - If we receive the doctrine of Messiah, we have God
- ❖ **v.34** - the Messiah has been given the Spirit without measure
- ❖ **v.35** – The Messiah is the Son of God. All things have been given into His hand.

Isaiah 4:1 – Old Testament prophecies of Messiah

- ❖ **v.1** – speaks of a bride and a bridegroom
- ❖ **v.2** – the **Branch** of Yahweh (Messiah and His people) shall be beautiful and glorious

Isaiah 11:1

- ❖ a **Branch** coming from the stem of Jesse, speaking of Messiah
- ❖ **v.2** – the Spirit of Yahweh will rest upon Him (the fullness of the Spirit of God)

Jeremiah 23:5-6

- ❖ I will raise to David a **Branch**, a King shall reign and prosper...
- ❖ Yahweh our Righteousness – The Messiah was prophesied to be Yahweh coming as a King
- ❖ The Messiah would rule and reign in the earth

Revelation 22:16

- ❖ I am the Root and the offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star
- ❖ **Jesus was before David, and the offspring of David. He is the Eternal One**
- ❖ **Romans 1:3-4** – Jesus born of the seed of David, declared the Son of God

Jeremiah 33:15-16

- ❖ A **Branch** of Righteousness
- ❖ This is the name by which **she** will be called – THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS – Yahweh our righteousness
- ❖ The Bride of Messiah has the same name as the Bridegroom
- ❖ Messiah and His bride (the church) are one
- ❖ We are called by the same name. We are the body of Messiah.

Zechariah 6:11-12

- ❖ Joshua is the high priest
 - ❖ A crown set on his head
 - ❖ Behold, **the Man whose name is the BRANCH! – Messiah – a priest crowned as a king**
 - ❖ He shall branch out – the Body
 - ❖ We are the branches (**John 15:1-5**, we bear fruit **Isaiah 4:2**)
 - ❖ **V.13** He shall build the temple of Yahweh
 - ❖ **V.13** He shall bear the glory and He shall sit and rule on His throne
- There is a people who are joined to Messiah.

Matthew 22:41-46 – Whose Son is the Christ?

- ❖ What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?
- ❖ How is He David's Son if David calls Him Lord? (He is the root and the offspring of David)
- ❖ He is God in the flesh

Matthew 28:18 – **All authority** has been given to Messiah Jesus in heaven and on earth.

Jesus is the Christ, the ruler of the kings of the earth (**Rev 1:5**)

The bride of Messiah is to take up the authority of Messiah.

Psalms 2:12 – kings, rulers and judges of the earth must submit to Messiah Jesus

John 5:39 – the Scriptures testify of Jesus, the Christ
The Scriptures are the teaching of Christ

Ps 110

- ❖ **v.1** - Messiah, at the right hand of God
- ❖ Jesus reigns in this age and in the one to come (**Eph.1:21-23**)
- ❖ **V.2** – rule in the midst of Your enemies! (**1 Cor.15:25**)
- ❖ **V.5** – He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath – He is fearsome
- ❖ **V.6** – He shall judge among the nations

We live in the doctrine of Christ.

We need to know who Christ is, so that we can be properly joined to Him.

Colossians 1:27 – Christ in you, the hope of glory – the mystery to be revealed is this Messiah in you, the body of Messiah

John 10:16 – one flock (Jew and Gentile), one Shepherd

- ❖ **v.24** – tell us plainly if you are the Christ
- ❖ **v.25** – I told you
- ❖ **v.30** – I and Father are one (**Deut 6:4 – Yahweh is One**)
- ❖ **v.33** – You, being a man, make Yourself God

Ezekiel 34:23-24 – One Shepherd over them, He shall feed them (Jesus is this One) – Jesus was referring to this prophecy about being the Good Shepherd over the flock

Ezekiel 37:24 – David my servant shall be king over them (a Shepherd King)
The Messiah is God, the Prince, God in flesh ruling as a Shepherd King

John 10:25 – The works I do in My Father's name – The Messiah comes in the name of the Father

Psalms 89:24-27 – in the name of Yahweh, the one to come from David, His strength would be exalted

He will cry, "My Father" – God is the Father of Messiah – He comes in the name of God

- ❖ I will make Him my firstborn, the Highest of the kings of the earth

Isaiah 9:6-7 – the government (the kingdom) shall be upon His shoulder

- ❖ His **Name** will be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace**

- ❖ He comes in the Father's name, revealing the Everlasting Father
- ❖ He is the Mighty God!
- ❖ He is the Prince – the Messiah

Colossians 2:2 – Paul wanted them to attain to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ

- ❖ **v.3** – in Messiah are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge
- ❖ **v.4** – don't be deceived
- ❖ **v.8** – Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, basic principles of world – human ideas and human formulas of who God is – **it must be according to Christ! We preach Christ and God is revealed**
- ❖ **v.9-10** – in Him (Messiah) dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily
- ❖ you are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power
- ❖ In Christ, we come into the fullness of God, we are complete and have His complete authority

Brethren we must abide in the doctrine of Christ – then we will have God with us in everything, we will have the Father and the Son, we will know God!

The Name of Jesus

Philippians 2:9-11

- ❖ God has highly exalted Him
- ❖ He has given Him the **Name** which is above every name
- ❖ At the **Name** of **Jesus** every knee should bow (in all spheres of existence)
- ❖ Every tongue should confess that **Jesus the Messiah is Lord** to the glory of God the Father

The name of **Jesus** in English

The name of **Yeshua** in Hebrew

This is the name which is above every name!

At name of Jesus demons flee

- ❖ kings governments, men, women, bow the knee, sicknesses healed

Power of the name comes from the way Jesus was given that name

His character and humility cause Him to be exalted and given that name

Philippians 2:5-6

- ❖ be of the mind of Christ
- ❖ before Jesus came into the earth, He was in the form of God, equal with God
- ❖ **John 5:16-18** – Jews wanted to kill Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath
- ❖ **"My Father and I are working"**
- ❖ Saying God was His Father **making Himself equal with God**
- ❖ Jews knew that if Jesus says God is His Father, He is saying that He is God

Philippians 2:7 – even though being God, He became of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant (a voluntary slave)

- ❖ if you want to be great in the kingdom, be the servant of all
- ❖ this is who God is
- ❖ He came in the likeness of men, He came in the likeness of the ones He wanted to serve
- ❖ **v.8** – humbled Himself, became obedient to death on cross
- ❖ **v.9** – because of what Jesus did in humbling Himself, God gave Him the name which is above every name

Acts 4:12

- ❖ no other **name** under heaven by which men can be saved
- ❖ we are not saved in name of "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" unless we know that this name is **Jesus!**
- ❖ **Jesus** is not found in theological concoctions, religious practices – these are dead works that need to be repented of

- ❖ **Then we need true faith toward God**, the revelation of Jesus!!!!

Acts 3:16

- ❖ His **name**
- ❖ Through faith in **His name**
- ❖ Made this man perfectly healed and whole
- ❖ Only one **name** can do this
- ❖ What name then do you baptise in?
- ❖ Jesus said to baptise in the **name** (Matthew 28:19)
- ❖ What is the **name** of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit?

Acts 2:38

- ❖ Repent, let everyone of you be **baptised into the name of Jesus Christ**
- ❖ We get baptised into the person of Jesus the Messiah by being baptised into His name

Matthew 28:19

- ❖ Peter heard Jesus and was commanded by Jesus to "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptising them **into the name** of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit...
- ❖ Peter obeyed by baptising in the **name of Jesus Christ** (Acts 2:38)

Acts 8:12

- ❖ Philip preaching the kingdom of God and the **name of Jesus Christ**

Acts 8:16

- ❖ what **name** were they baptised in?
- ❖ baptised in the **name of the Lord Jesus**

Acts 8:35-38

- ❖ Peter met an African man, he believed in the true God
- ❖ Philip preached **Jesus** starting from Isaiah 53, the Scriptures
- ❖ Water, "what hinders me from being baptised"
- ❖ If you believe you can be baptised
- ❖ "I believe that Jesus the Messiah is the Son of God" – many "new Bibles" leave this Scripture out
- ❖ Philip just preached Jesus, what name do you think he was baptised in?
- ❖ He would have baptised in **name of Jesus**, not another God

Acts 9:4-5

- ❖ Who are You, Lord?
- ❖ I am **Jesus**!
- ❖ I am Yahweh saving you!
- ❖ I am Yeshua!
- ❖ Like Moses at the burning bush, Paul wanted to know the **name** of this God who manifested to him

- ❖ Not good enough to say "God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" – what is Your name?
- ❖ Not good enough to say "Father, Son and Holy Spirit" – what is Your name?
Jesus!

Acts 9:15-16

- ❖ Paul a chosen vessel of Jesus to "**bear My name**"
- ❖ Paul was charged to bear/carry the **name of Jesus** and speak to kings, Jews and Gentiles in that **name!**
- ❖ **Paul also** had to suffer many things for **Jesus' name**

Acts 9:22

- ❖ immediately after being baptised
- ❖ he was proving that this **Jesus** is the Messiah, God in the flesh, God among us

Acts 10:48

- ❖ Peter interrupted by Holy Spirit in preaching Jesus
- ❖ Holy Spirit fell on Gentiles as he was preaching
- ❖ So he commanded them to **be baptised in the name of the Lord = Jesus**
- ❖ Lord is not a name, the name of the Lord is Jesus

Acts 16:30-33

- ❖ Philippian jailer cut to the heart by earthquake
- ❖ He asks what to do to be saved
- ❖ Believe in **Lord Jesus Christ**
- ❖ Baptised in the name

Acts 19:1-6

- ❖ John's disciples
- ❖ Did you get Holy Spirit when you believed
- ❖ What then were you baptised into?
- ❖ Into John the Baptist's baptism
- ❖ Believe on **Messiah Jesus!**
- ❖ When they heard about **Jesus**, they were **baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**
- ❖ Apostle Paul practiced baptism in the **name of Lord Jesus**

Mark 16:17

- ❖ sign follow believers
- ❖ those who believe in **Jesus name**, they will cast out demons, speak with new tongues
- ❖ it is through faith in **His name**

Why is the name of Jesus so important?

Luke 1:31

- ❖ Mary will bring forth a Son and will call His **name JESUS**

Matthew 1:21

- ❖ angel told Joseph that Mary would bring forth a Son and they are to call His **name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins**

Matthew 6:9

- ❖ "Hallowed be **Your name**"
- ❖ Which **name**?
- ❖ **Father is not a name!** – God likes you calling Him "Father" (Romans 8:15)
- ❖ **We are to say "Father"** and also to **hallow His name**

Moses asked God His name

Luke 1:49

- ❖ **Holy is His name**

John 12:28

- ❖ **Father, glorify Your name**
- ❖ What is the name

John 17:6

- ❖ Jesus said, "**I have manifested Your name**"
- ❖ Jesus was saying, "I am the manifestation of Your name"

John 17:12

- ❖ "**I kept them in Your name, the name which You have given Me**"
- ❖ **V.11** – Keep them through Your name which You gave Me

John 17:26

- ❖ I have declared Your name, and I will declare
- ❖ The love that the Father has for us is revealed in **His name**
- ❖ A good synonym for the name of **Jesus is "Saviour"**
- ❖ **The love of God for His people is revealed in His name**
- ❖ **He is the Saviour, Jesus – John 3:16**
- ❖ When you came to Jesus you were filled with His love, because you believed in His name

1 Timothy 6:1

- good behaviour must be upheld in order that the **name of God and His doctrine** may not be blasphemed
- **name is linked to doctrine**
- we must abide in the **doctrine of Christ** to have God (**2 Jn.9**)
- through doctrine, the **name of God** is made known

- our behaviour upholds the **name**

Name refers to and expresses the attributes of a person, and in the Bible especially, the name of God reveals the person of God

Luke 2

❖ Simeon and Anna (a prophetess) recognized who Jesus was

Romans 1:3

- ❖ Jesus was of the seed of David according to the flesh
- ❖ The deceivers denied that Jesus came in the flesh – this is not referring to natural facts
- ❖ The issue is that Jesus is the Son of God, He is God coming in the flesh

Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 7:14

- ❖ virgin shall bear a Son
- ❖ He is Emmanuel – “God with us”

Where does the name “Jesus” come from?

Gk. “Iesous” – pronounced “Yay-soos”

Hb. “Yeshua” – means “He shall save” or “Yehovah/Yahweh is salvation”

“YHWH” or “YHVH” – no vowels

“Yud Heh Vav Heh”

“Yehovah” is the personal name of God

Genesis 1:1 – called “God” – impersonal title

Genesis 2:4,7 – called **Yehovah** when making man = personal

Exodus 3:14 – what name? = I AM who I AM

❖ summarised as **“I AM”** – NOT “LORD”

John 8:24

- ❖ you will die in your sins
- ❖ if you do not believe that **I AM** you will die in your sins
- ❖ we must believe that Jesus is **I AM**
- ❖ **Jesus is the Eternal Spirit, God, I AM**
- ❖ It is not **“I am he”** – it is literally **I AM**

John 8:28

- ❖ when you lift up the Son of Man (crucifixion)
- ❖ then you will know that **I AM**
- ❖ **NOT “I am he”** but **“I AM”**
- ❖ We were saved by believing in Jesus dying on the cross for us
- ❖ He can save us because He is **I AM**

John 8:53-58

- ❖ Who do You make Yourself out to be?
- ❖ **My Father honours Me**
- ❖ I know My Father
 - v.56** – Abraham rejoiced to see My day, he saw and was glad!
 - v.57** – You're not 50 years old and have You seen Abraham?
 - v.58** – **Before Abraham was, I AM**
 - v.59** – they picked up stones to throw at Him but He disappeared

What does "I AM" mean?

He is everything that is
He is the Eternal One
The self-Existent One
He is Life
He is Light
He is the Creator
He is the complete God

Isaiah 43:10

- ❖ no god after Me or before Me

In John's gospel – I AM:

Jn.6:35 – Bread of Life

Jn.9:5 – Light of the world

Jn.10:7 – the Door

Jn.10:11 – the Good Shepherd

Jn.11:25 – the Resurrection and the Life

Jn.14:6 – the Way, the Truth and the Life

Jn.15:1 – the Vine

Come and see!

The Son of God

Ephesians 4:7-12 – introducing five ministries

Ephesians 4:13 – the ministries are given until we all come to the unity of the faith and **to the knowledge of the Son of God**

❖ we must come to the revelation knowledge of the **Son of God**

Mark 1:1 – the beginning of the gospel of **Jesus the Christ, the Son of God**

We must believe Jesus is the Son of God to be saved but we need to then understand what this means

It is a signpost of a maturing the church that we have some deep knowledge of the Son of God

Genesis 5:1-2

- ❖ Man was made in the likeness of God
- ❖ God created man to be like Him

Genesis 1:27

- ❖ Adam (Mankind), was created in image of God, male and female
- ❖ Men and women are both made in the image of God
- ❖ Mankind/Adam = male and female

Luke 3:38

- ❖ genealogy of Jesus (from **v.23**)
- ❖ family of Jesus taken back to Adam
- ❖ Adam was the **son of God**
- ❖ God is Adam's Father
- ❖ Adam was not born, he was created
- ❖ Sons are not born, they are made/created
- ❖ **Isaiah 9:6** – children are born, Sons are given!

Adam is the son of God, not by natural birth, but by the nature and order of his creation

Adam and Eve in their creation were placed in sonship from their creation
Fully mature adult man and woman

Adam as first son was created in image and likeness of God – “a living soul”
Jesus, the 2nd Adam, was God Himself in the flesh – “The Lord from heaven” – **1 Corinthians 15:47**

Jesus fully manifested the image and likeness of God in a man – **John 14:9**

Jesus was a descendant of Adam naturally as son of God

Genealogy of Jesus in **Matthew 1:1** links Jesus to the **son of Abraham and son of David**

- ❖ this is a spiritual lineage
- ❖ He is the Son of the Promise made to Abraham and David
- ❖ As **son of Abraham = Promised Seed**, every family of earth would be blessed (**Genesis 12:1-3**)
- Acts 2:30** – Peter gives evidence that Jesus is **son of David**
- ❖ David was a prophet and he had received a promise by oath from God that from David's body Messiah would come and ascend the Throne
- ❖ **Romans 1:2-3** – Son promised before by prophets in holy Scriptures
- ❖ **Born of seed of David in flesh (2 Samuel 7:12-14)**
- ❖ **Romans 1:4 – declared Son of God** with power by Spirit of Holiness and by resurrection from dead – God in flesh – resurrection proved He is the Son of God

Abraham had 2 sons in natural

Ishmael – by a slave

Isaac – born of a promise, still a natural son though, born the natural way

The Promised Seed that would reverse the curse was still to come

The **3rd son of Abraham is the Seed**

Jesus, the Messiah

Galatians 3:16 – promise to Abraham and to His Seed, who is Christ, singular

Promise to David

- ❖ one from his own flesh would be Messiah
- ❖ **2 Samuel 7:12-14a, 1 Chronicles 17:10-13a**
- ❖ Not only David's son, but God would be His Father and He will be God's Son (**2 Sam.7:14a**)
- ❖ This was the promise made by oath

Prophetic Word of David

- ❖ **Psalms 2:7** – Messiah is speaking
- ❖ **Yahweh said**, "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You"
- ❖ The nations are given to Him as an inheritance
- ❖ **V.6** – He is the King on Zion
- ❖ **The King is the Son of God**

Matthew 1:20

- ❖ that which is **begotten in her** is of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ Son of God would be **begotten** of God
- ❖ Fulfilment of **Isaiah 7:14** – Son called **Emmanuel = "God with us"**
- ❖ **Son of God = God with us**

Luke 2:11

- ❖ angel announced to Shepherds
- ❖ born in city of David, Saviour, Christ the Lord

Isaiah 9:6

- ❖ child is born – Jesus was born in Bethlehem, wise men saw Him as a child
- ❖ This Child will become a Son – Jesus became a Son fully at His Baptism – “This is My Beloved Son”
- ❖ When Jesus was 12yrs old, He was looking to be about His Father’s business, but was not the time to start ministry, He became subject to His parents
- ❖ **Matthew 3:15-17** – Heavens opened (4000yrs since heavens closed on man) over a Man, Spirit comes, voice says “This is My beloved Son” – Spirit of Sonship fully released in Jesus
- ❖ **First thing He did as Son of God was get victory as a Man over the devil in the earth**

Hosea 11:1

- ❖ Out of Egypt I called My Son
- ❖ Jesus taken to Egypt as a Child (**Matthew 2:13**)
- ❖ **Matthew 2:14-15** – after death of Herod, this prophecy from Hosea was fulfilled, God calling His Son out of Egypt
- ❖ **In first context** = natural Israel corporately coming out of Egypt
- ❖ **But also** = **Hosea** prophesying of Jesus coming out of Egypt
- ❖ **Jesus** still a child but called a Son coming out of Egypt – there is also a prophetic understanding that there is also a Corporate Son, the Body of Christ, coming out of Egypt – **Romans 8:19** – the sons

Child and the Son are the same person

Always within the Child is the innate power to become the Son – **John 1:12**

From the moment we are born again the seed is in us to become a Son, to come to maturity

What is a Son?

- ❖ a mature male Child who has come to the age of inheritance
- ❖ these are the ones who will be manifest in the earth as mature sons – **Hebrews 2:10**

Galatians 4:1-2 – if remain Children, not ready to rule and reign, not able to inherit

John 5:17 – Jesus as a Son walked with His Father and worked with His Father

v.19 – Son only does what Father does

v.20 – **Father** loves the Son and shows Him all things

John 14:8-10

- Some disciples were having trouble understanding
- this is ok, even the disciples when Jesus commissioned them had doubts, share what you know
- **If have seen Jesus, have seen the Father**

Jesus referred to God as Father over 170x in the gospels

At Baptism, Jesus received the Spirit of His Father without measure

Centurion at crucifixion cried "This was truly the Son of God" – he recognized something divine in Jesus

Hebrews 1

v.1 – God spoke in times past to the fathers by the prophets

The Son of God

1. God speaks through the Son

- ❖ if you cannot hear Son, you do not hear Father

2. God appointed Son as heir of all things

- ❖ Son of God has nations as inheritance
- ❖ Ends of earth belong to Son (**Psalm 2:8**)

3. Through Son, God made the worlds/ages

- ❖ **Son** created the worlds/ages
- ❖ **Son created heaven and earth**

4. Son, who being the brightness of glory

- ❖ Son is brightness of glory of God
- ❖ **John 1:14** – we beheld His glory, the glory of the only Begotten of Father
- ❖ **John 1:18** – no one has seen God, only begotten Son, in bosom of Father, He has declared Him
- ❖ Those who had "seen God" had seen the Son who reveals the Father
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 4:6** – God has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ

5. Son is express image of God's Person

- ❖ God is One Person
- ❖ The Son is the express image of God's Person
- ❖ The Bible never says there are 3 persons of God
- ❖ God is the Person – He is Father, Son and Holy Spirit but never said to be 3 persons
- ❖ We can see Him only in the Son
- ❖ **Colossians 1:15** – He is the image of the invisible God
- ❖ **God is invisible** – I can only see Him in the Son
- ❖ **John 14:9; 2 Corinthians 4:4b**

6. The Son upholds all things by the word of His power

- **Colossians 1:17** – in Him all things consist
- The Son puts everything together the way He wants to
- **Psalms 33:6** – by His word the heavens were made

7. The Son when He had by himself purged our sins

- ❖ **Hebrews 10:12a**
- ❖ **1 John 3:5** – He was manifested to take away our sins
- ❖ **1 Timothy 1:15** – Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners

8. Son sat down at right hand of God

- **Hebrews 10:12**
- **Ephesians 1:20-21** – raised to right hand of God

9. Hebrews 1:6 – Let all the angels of God worship Him

- in heaven God gets all the worship
- angels worship the Son
- Wise men worshiped Jesus
- **Matthew 4:10** – only worship YAHWEH
- **John 9:35** – the man healed from blindness worshiped Jesus as God
- **Matthew 9:18** – Synagogue Ruler worshiped Jesus
- **Matthew 14:33** – the disciples in the boat worshiped Jesus as the Son of God
- Jesus said "I AM" in **Matthew 14:27**

10. Hebrews 1:8

- But to the Son He says, "Your Throne O God is forever"
- The Son is God on the Throne

11. Hebrew 1:10

- To the Son He says, "You YAHWEH laid the foundations of the earth"
- The Son is YAHWEH who made the heavens and earth

12. Hebrews 1:13

- Son is greater than the angels

1 Timothy 3:16 – The Son is God manifested in the flesh...

The Wheat and the Tares

Matthew 13:24-30

- ❖ Jesus told a parable
- ❖ Parable of the kingdom of heaven
- ❖ **Matthew 13 = 7 Kingdom parables**
- ❖ 2 difficult parables Jesus explains to us
- ❖ Jesus explains the Parable of the Sower – the seed is the Word of God (NOT finance)
- ❖ Jesus also explains the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares
- ❖ Many ministers misuse and misinterpret the Word according to their own ideas – even tricking the people of God to give them money saying that money is the Seed (**Eph.4:14**)

What is the harvest?

- ❖ many have spoken of an end time harvest of souls coming into the kingdom before Jesus comes
- ❖ but harvest speaks of something coming to maturity
- ❖ harvest at end of age is seen as the church coming to maturity, sons of wickedness and sons of kingdom coming to maturity together

This year we have been journeying through the feasts

We have celebrated Passover and Pentecost so far

Between Passover and Pentecost, there is a harvest time

End of Passover is Day of Firstfruits (of the harvest)

At Day of Pentecost was a harvest feast, the harvest has come in

Acts 2:41 – on Day of Pentecost, 3000 souls came in = harvest of souls, preaching Christ and people will come in, it is a harvest in the sense of gathering new souls

But there is also a harvest of maturity, at the end of the age – The harvest between Pentecost and Tabernacles

Harvest has to do with maturity

- ❖ we do not look for fruit until we see the plant is mature
- ❖ the harvest at end of age is a harvest of souls which has come to maturity

Ephesians 4:11-13

- ❖ five ministries given to bring us to this place of maturity in Christ, a perfect Man
- ❖ this is the harvest of saints and the church growing up in all things into the Head, Christ
- ❖ Evangelists gather souls
- ❖ The other minister are very much working to bring the church to maturity

Hebrews 6:1-3

- ❖ foundations are laid so that the church can go on to perfection – to maturity for harvest

Jesus interprets the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares

Matthew 13:37-43

[Whiteboard on DVD shows picture of interpretation of parable]

v.43 – then righteous will shine forth as the Sun in the kingdom of their Father

- Righteous are in the world
- What is taken out of the world?
- those who offend and those who practice lawlessness are taken out of the world and burned
- harvest is a harvest of righteousness, fruit of righteousness

Lessons learned from Parable of Wheat and Tares

- 1. It corrects our misunderstanding of what harvest is**
 - 2. It clearly teaches that the harvest = maturity**
 - 3. Kingdom of heaven is in the world, it is here, in the Spirit**
- ❖ sons of kingdom are sown in the world
 - ❖ they must grow up to maturity ready for harvest of righteousness (**Hebrews 5:13**)
- 4. Sons of wicked one are taken out of the world and destroyed by fire**
- ❖ very different to “rapture” teaching where they say righteous are taken out of the world and antichrist takes over
 - ❖ do not contradict Jesus’ own clear words
 - ❖ do not re-interpret the Word
 - ❖ teach and preach according to what is written only
- 5. It is the reapers who are commissioned by Jesus to remove the wicked and lawless ones from the world**
- ❖ who are the reapers
 - ❖ they are messengers
 - ❖ righteousness rules in the world
- 6. World will then be filled with righteousness of God – in that day when He comes to be glorified in the saints and admired among all those who believed**

“Angels”

- ❖ angels in the Bible refer to messengers sent by God
- ❖ there are evil messengers representing Satan
- ❖ there are also human messengers
- ❖ In Greek and Hebrew word for “angels” can refer to heavenly and earthly (human) messengers

- ❖ We are to be disciples searching the Scriptures – look up Greek and Hebrew meanings to understand the word of God clearly

Hebrew “Malak” SC# 4397 – to dispatch as a deputy, a messenger (of God) an angel, a prophet, a priest or a teacher

Translated - angel (111x), messenger (98x), ambassador (4x)

Greek “Aggelos” SC# 32 – a messenger, to bring tidings, an angel of God, also a “pastor” (Mr Strong needed to believe in apostles)

Angels of God are spirits, not bodies

Revelation 1:20 – 7 stars are the “angels”, which is actually messengers

- ❖ Do angels or men lead churches?
- ❖ Who were the messengers in the New Testament? They were the apostles

Revelation 2-3 – “To the angel (actually “messenger”) at Ephesus....

The messengers in the New Testament are apostles

Never re-interpret the New Testament

New Testament is the fulfilment and full interpretation of the Old Testament

From Hebrew and Greek use of word “angel” we see it is a decision of the translator to decide if it is a heavenly or human one

Matthew 13:41 – the reapers are the “angels” – literally the “messengers”

- ❖ if the angels will do all the work at the end of the age what is the point of God creating humans
- ❖ it must be human messengers – apostles and other ministers

Matthew 24:31 – Jesus will send His “messengers” and they will gather His elect from one end of heaven to the other

- ❖ who did Jesus raise up to preach the gospel? Apostles
- ❖ **Acts 13:48** – preaching of the gospel gathered the elect, preaching by apostles
- ❖ Those who were appointed to eternal life believed – the elect were gathered
- ❖ It is the work of human messengers to gather the elect

Jesus raised and sent apostles

Jesus did not train and send angels

Who are the messengers that Jesus sends?

John 17:18 – Jesus said as He was sent (as an apostle – Gk “apostello”) by the Father into the world, so He sends (as apostles – apostello) the apostles into the world

- ❖ Jesus today is again raising apostles to send them into the world today
- ❖ To do the work of the ministry to bring the church to maturity ready for harvest time!

What about the judgement at the end of the age?

- ❖ the tares are gathered out of the world and burned in the fire
- ❖ Jesus said His **messengers** would gather the tares out of the kingdom
- ❖ Many have thought that end time judgement will be climactic, tsunamis, cataclysmic events
- ❖ That is a terrible responsibility on the **messengers**
- ❖ This is all happening in the world
- ❖ Do we have to get rid of the strip club and other things that offend in our city, nation?
- ❖ How do we get the victory? Prayer, the Word
- ❖ Most do not have a vision for a righteous, Spirit-filled, fruit bearing, body of mature believers called the church to bring forth the victory of the gospel in the earth
- ❖ And to see the kingdom of God established in the earth!
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 15:25** – Jesus is seated on Throne, He must reign **until He has put all enemies under His feet**
- ❖ Jesus is waiting for something to happen
- ❖ He is waiting for His church to get going, bringing His enemies under His footstool
- ❖ Who will bring the enemies of Christ to His feet? The saints, the church of the Living God
- ❖ The judgement on wickedness and lawlessness comes through and by the Word of God

Confession: As the Church in maturity speaks the Word in reality, the kingdom of God will be manifest in the earth

2 Corinthians 10:6

- when we come to mature obedience in Christ
- we are ready to punish all disobedience all around us
- this is only possible when we have pulled down all strongholds, arguments, and every high thing exalting themselves against the knowledge of God (**v.4**)
- by bringing every thought (trigger, device of the mind) captive to the obedience of Christ (**v.5**)

**Judgement of Ananias and Sapphira in Acts 5 by apostle Peter is an example of God's judgement coming by the Holy Spirit through a man
Judgement begins at the household of God**

Stop preaching false doctrine

Matthew 24:36-43 – the flood came and took all the wicked away in days of Noah

- ❖ Coming of Son of Man will be as the days of Noah
- ❖ Wicked removed and righteous remain

What will be the end of those who do not know God and who disobey the gospel?

2 Thessalonians 1:7-10

Be careful with handling the Word – read the Word as it is not as what people says it is

Sons of kingdom are planted in the world (not the church)
Children grow up in the church, learn to serve and are then sent as sons into the world

The church has believed wrong doctrine concerning the end of the age
Many have no vision to grow up to become sons, mature ones
We must preach sonship and inheritance

There are rewards in heaven
The inheritance is in the earth

Believers are to be encouraged to grow into sonship so they can be planted in the world as sons

Churches have become citadels – in a monastic lifestyle

In days of restoration Jesus is restoring apostles and all the five ministries to bring the church to maturity

More of God's saints are beginning to hear the gospel of the kingdom of God

There is more than "being saved to go to heaven" – salvation is much greater than this

Look at how Peter preached the gospel (**Acts 2**)

As we grow to maturity we are then to be sent out into the world

We are to make disciples, learning how to equip every member for the fulfilment of the ministry they have been called to in the church and out in the world

Making Disciples

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- ❖ fear God and keep His commandments for this is man's all
- ❖ God will bring every work into judgment (everything will be tested)
- ❖ All else is vanity

Matthew 28:18-20

- ❖ **All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth
 - ❖ Go, therefore
 - ❖ Make disciples of all nations
 - ❖ Baptising and teaching them
 - ❖ I am with you till the end of the age
- God will back us as we fulfil the Great Commission.

Isaiah 8:16

- ❖ "Limmud" – Hebrew word for disciple
- ❖ **V.16 – (Rev 19:10)** bind up the testimony,
- ❖ The testimony of Jesus is to be bound in us
- ❖ seal the law among my disciples
- ❖ the Word of God is to be sealed in us

Isaiah 54:13

- ❖ all your children shall be taught (discipled) by Yahweh
- ❖ great shall be the peace of your children

Isaiah 50:4

- ❖ The LORD has given me the tongue of the **learned** (limmud - disciple)
- ❖ Able to speak the word of God in season
- ❖ He awakens my ear to hear (ears are open to the word of God)
- ❖ Disciples learn to hear God speak

Jesus made disciples – He is our example

- ❖ **Luke 10:1-2** – 70 disciples sent out by Jesus
- ❖ 120 disciples in the upper room
- ❖ 500 saw Jesus alive from the dead

Luke 6:12-13

- ❖ Jesus chose 12 to be trained as apostles from among his disciples
- ❖ We are all called to be disciples
- ❖ Jesus gave Himself to the task of discipleship

Disciple – Greek word “mathetes”

1. a learner (one who gives themselves to learn) humble and submitted
2. one who follows another’s teaching
3. seen to be a disciple by abiding (living) in the word (they love the word)
4. one who sticks like glue (adheres) to the teacher (they go wherever the teacher goes and follow their lifestyle)
5. one who imitates the teacher

Discipleship is joining yourself to a teacher. You learn from them, are taught their ways, manner of life and their doctrine.

(Based on commitment)

Peter and the apostles of Jesus made disciples

Acts 6:1

- ❖ the number of disciples was multiplying
- ❖ the 12 summoned the multitude of the disciples
- ❖ 7 were chosen
- ❖ The word of God spread and the number of disciples greatly multiplied

Acts 8:4

- ❖ those who were scattered in persecution, went everywhere preaching the word
- ❖ they had been discipled by the apostles in Jerusalem
- ❖ the fruit of discipleship is that disciples are raised who can preach the word of God (**Acts 11:19**)

Paul and Barnabas (ascension gift apostles) also made disciples

Acts 14:14 – Paul and Barnabas were apostles

Acts 14:19-22

- ❖ Paul had just been stoned and left for dead
- ❖ Some disciples gathered around him and Paul got up
- ❖ They had preached the gospel and **made many disciples**
- ❖ they returned and strengthened the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, through many tribulations

Disciples need to be taught the pure word of God.

The local churches that the apostles established made disciples

Acts 16:1-3

- ❖ a certain disciple named Timothy was there
- ❖ he was well spoken of
- ❖ the church had continued in making disciples
- ❖ the local church is meant to be making disciples
- ❖ Paul wanted Timothy to come with him to train him in ministry

The great apostleship (commission) is to **disciple** all nations

Romans 1:5

- ❖ through Christ we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name
- ❖ people within every nationality made obedient to the faith

We must first be disciples ourselves.

We must then open our lives to the brethren, so that they may learn from us.

Jesus was available to His disciples.

Paul had a number of people with him so that they would learn the ministry.

Disciples need to allow themselves to be corrected.

Matthew 10:24-25

- ❖ a disciple is not above his teacher (a true disciple needs to be submitted, be willing to put themselves under)

Discipleship challenges us.

2 Timothy 3:10

- you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, love, perseverance

- as disciples we need to be careful not to bring any other doctrine

Teach the doctrine of the Word of God that you have learned from your teacher

Paul gave Timothy an inheritance by imparting his lifestyle as an example for Timothy to follow

We need to have a manner of life that others can follow.

Follow and continue in the same purpose.

Discipleship is for all believers.

How do we disciple?

1. preach the gospel (**Mark 16:15**)
2. baptise those who believe (**Mark 16:16**)
3. teach those who are baptised (**Matt 28:19-20**)

The Apostolic Call

In Christ we are always moving forward.

Hebrews 6:1 – Let us **go on** to perfection

Philippians 3:14 – **pressing on** toward the upward call in Christ Jesus

Psalms 24:3 – **ascending** to the hill of the LORD

We need to grow in our commitment and understanding of the call.

1. A call into discipleship

- ❖ preach the gospel to call in disciples
- ❖ **Matthew 16:24-25** – let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me, whoever loses his life for My sake will find it
John 8:31-32
- ❖ If you **abide in My word** you are My disciples indeed (allow the Word of God to shape you)
- ❖ You shall know the truth and the truth will make you free
- ❖ There is a freedom to receive revelation
John 15:7-8
- ❖ If you abide in Me and My word abides in you, you shall ask and receive
- ❖ You begin to hear from the Lord

2. A call into transformation

- ❖ a lifestyle of change and transformation
 - ❖ we need to be willing to change and God will change us
2 Corinthians 3:16-18
 - the veil is taken away when one turns to the Lord
 - we are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, by the Spirit of the Lord
 - the Holy Spirit reveals the LORD to us and we are changed
 - we will become like Him, when we see Him as He is
 - changed into a completely new substance (a whole new creation)**Romans 12:2**
 - ❖ Do not conform to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.
 - ❖ That you may prove the good, acceptable and perfect will of God
Matthew 17:1-2
 - ❖ Jesus was transfigured (transformed) on the mountain
 - ❖ Jesus was changed into another substance before His disciples
- As the Word of God is unveiled to us, we can see Jesus. Our minds are renewed and we are transformed.
- 1 Corinthians 15:49** – we shall bear the image of the heavenly Man

Romans 1:17 – a call from faith to faith

Psalm 84:5-7 – a call from strength to strength

2 Corinthians 3:18 – glory to glory

John 1:16 – grace upon grace (grace for grace), grace transforms us

2 Peter 3:18 – we are to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour

3. A call to reach nations

Romans 1:5 – through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations

Genesis 22:18 – in you and in your seed all the families of the earth (all nations) shall be blessed

- ❖ we are part of the fulfilment of the promise made to Abraham

Romans 1:1-3

- ❖ Paul, called an apostle (He knew the call of God)
- ❖ Paul was separated to the gospel of God
- ❖ **Romans 2:16** – Paul called the gospel 'my gospel'
- ❖ The gospel was promised in the Holy Scriptures (Gal 3:8 – Abraham knew the gospel)
- ❖ Gospel is concerning His Son Jesus Christ

Romans 15:16

- ❖ a minister of Jesus Christ to the nations

4. A call to obtain and fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory

2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

- God chose you for salvation from the beginning

- saved to obtain the glory

1 Samuel 2:8 – God raises up people from the ash heap and sets them among princes to inherit the throne of Glory

Exodus 34:5-7

- ❖ he proclaimed the name of Yahweh
 - ❖ a call into the name of Jesus
- The glory is mercy, grace, long-suffering, goodness, truth, forgiveness, no compromise, faithfulness

The apostolic call is to obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A people who do not compromise on the truth

John 1:14 – glory full of grace and truth, revealed through the Word who became flesh

Habakkuk 2:14 – the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh covering the earth

Isaiah 40:5 – glory shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together

Ephesians 5:26-27 – a call to be part of the glorious church, which is the bride

5. A call to be a sending community, part of an apostolic company

- ❖ a band of disciples formed around apostles
- ❖ a sending community

- ❖ discipleship and training centres, living for the Great Commission
- ❖ apostolic companies are patterns (a pattern people), every member contributing

How to contribute to the apostolic company

i) By ministering the gift given by grace

1 Peter 4:10-11 – as each one has received a gift, minister it to one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God, that God may get the glory

ii) Financially

Acts 4:32-35 – they had all things in common

- ❖ no one among them lacked
- ❖ we can contribute financially into the apostolic call

iii) In love

Ephesians 4:16 – the body edifying itself in love

iv) Imparting grace through our conversation

Ephesians 4:29 – speak what is good for necessary edification that it may impart grace to the hearers

- ❖ decide not to let your flesh dictate to you

v) Through prayer

Philippians 1:19 – through prayer we can supply the Spirit of Jesus Christ

- ❖ we pray for every mission and the Lord will supply the Spirit of Jesus Christ

6. A call to preach and teach Jesus the Messiah, the only foundation

- ❖ be disciplined to teach and preach Jesus
- ❖ **Acts 17:6-7** – they turned the world upside down, saying there is another king – Jesus
- ❖ We are to be faithful to preach that Jesus is the Messiah, the King (**Col 1:28, Eph 3:8**)

7. A call to fellowship in the sufferings of Messiah

Philippians 3:10-11

- ❖ that I might know Him, the power of His resurrection and fellowship of His sufferings
- ❖ we are called to suffer for Jesus, share and participate in the sufferings of Messiah
- ❖ no longer trusting in ourselves, but relying on Him (dead to our own will and alive to the will of God)
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 13:4** – a call to lay down our lives for the brethren (our ministry comes out of the power of the resurrection)

8. A call to rule and reign with the Messiah in His kingdom

Luke 12:32 – it is Your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom

Ephesians 2:6 – we have been raised up and made to sit together with Christ in the heavenly places

Revelation 5:10 – he has made us to be kings and priests and we shall reign on the earth

Revelation 3:21 – he who overcomes will sit down with Me on My throne (on the throne of God)

9. A call to be prepared for the coming of the Messiah

- ❖ a call to be ready, prepared
- ❖ a call to be equipped
- ❖ **1 Thessalonians 5:23** – your spirit, soul and body being preserved blameless at the coming
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 11:26** – proclaiming the Lord's death until He comes at the Lord's Table

10. A call to be bold and to not fear death

- ❖ **Acts 4:29** – they prayed for boldness to speak the Word in the face of persecution
- ❖ They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word with boldness (freedom of speech, with cheerful courage)
- ❖ **Ephesians 3:12** – in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through the faith of Him
- ❖ **Revelation 12:11** – we overcome by the blood of the Lamb, the word of our testimony (the testimony of Jesus), and by not loving our lives to death

The Adoption as sons

Gk "Paidion" – SC Gk #3813 – "little children"

"Paidiske" – SC Gk #3814 – "a young girl"

"Pais" – SC Gk #3816 – "a child, boy or girl"

"teknon" – SC Gk #5043 – child of any age, physical and external aspects of parentage

Gk "huios" – **"son"** pronounced "hwee-os", #5207 – gives prominence to inward, ethical and legal aspects of being a son to a father – like inheritance belongs to a son

- ❖ refers to one resembling another so that the distinction between the two is undiscernible (If seen Son, seen Father = undiscernible)
- ❖ legitimate sons generally (as opposed to illegitimate sons) without reference to gender
- ❖ "sons" can refer to "friends of the Bridegroom" – **Matthew 9:15**
- ❖ **Acts 3:25** - "sons" enjoy certain privileges, "sons of prophets and of the covenants" = legal aspects of sonship
- ❖ "sons" act in certain ways that reveals who their father is – if you are a "son of the devil", your actions reveal your father the devil (e.g. Sons of kingdom and sons of wicked one – **Matthew 13:38**) – also "sons of disobedience" **Ephesians 2:2**
- ❖ "sons" have a destiny – if a son of wicked one the destiny is to burn in hell – if a son of God, then a destiny to walk in the glory

1 Thessalonians 5:5

- "sons of the Day" and "sons of Light"
- not "sons of darkness" or "sons of night"
- how we look and speak reveals our Father
- if our eyes see, we are sons of light

Matthew 5:9

- ❖ peacemakers are "sons of God"

Luke 20:36

- ❖ "sons of the Resurrection"
- ❖ They cannot die anymore
- ❖ "sons of God"

"Adoption"

Ephesians 1:5

- ❖ predestined us to "adoption as sons"
- ❖ KJV mistranslates "adoption as children" – wrong and deceiving

- ❖ "adoption" – **Gk "huiiothesia"** – placement as a son to receive the inheritance, has nothing to do with "children" but speaking of a "son" (huios) given the place as heir and inheritor
- ❖ Once adopted has Father's name, Father's robe
- ❖ "adoption" in Bible does not mean what the modern word "adoption" means

Gk "Huiiothesia" - #5206 – the placement of a son

"son" = come to the age of inheritance, at the age of 30yrs old

- ❖ in Jewish/Biblical culture when boy turned 12 they began training as young man
- ❖ when 30 years, age of maturity, placed as son
- ❖ "adoption" – "huiiothesia" – "sonship" is in relation to God
- ❖ Signifies place and conditions as a son given to one who it does not naturally belong = spiritual adoption
- ❖ **Luke 1:31** – Son will be called "Son of God – Jesus was always Son of God from conception
- ❖ However not many people knew He was "Son of God" – He was only a baby

Jesus

John 1:18 – Jesus is Only Begotten of Father

- ❖ there is an eternal sonship in God concerning Jesus the Messiah

Philemon 10

- ❖ my "son" Onesimus whom I have **begotten** in my chains
- ❖ Paul **begot** him, a spiritual father begetting a spiritual son
- ❖ When Paul sent him back to owner he said "receive him, that is, my own heart"
- ❖ Sons have no discernible difference to Fathers
- ❖ Receiving Son is receiving Father

Luke 2:40

- ❖ Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him
- ❖ Son of God was a "Child" ("paidion")
- v.42** – when 12 years old
- v.43** – "Boy" ("pais" 3816 – child of any age)
 - Jesus was in Temple for more than 3 days with some teachers – they were amazed/astonished at His understanding and answers
- v.48** – Mary said "My son ("teknon")"
- v.49** – **"I must be about My Father's business"**
 - it seems like Mary and Joseph forgot about the destiny of their Child
 - as a 12 year old Boy He is looking for His Father
 - is He ready to be the Son of God? Not yet
- V.51** – He went home and was subject to parents
- v.52** – He continued growing

Luke 3:21-23

- ❖ After baptism "You are My Beloved Son ("huios")
- ❖ He was 30 years of age
- ❖ He is receiving the Spirit of His Father without measure
- ❖ He is called the **Son, the Huio, mature to fully be as God, walk as God**
- ❖ Now He could do all things God could do

Sonship/Adoption is at the age of maturity

Being a son

- ❖ **Galatians 4:1-7** – sonship is not a consequence of birth, it is a spiritual operation, a begetting, is not even the born again experience
- ❖ **John 3:3-5** – spiritual birth is being born again
- ❖ **"adoption"** is not being born again, it is when you have grown to the place of maturity so you can be "placed as a son ready to be given the inheritance"

Ephesians 1:5

- ❖ In Christ we are predestined to the adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself
- ❖ It is according to the good pleasure of His will – He is very happy to adopt you
- ❖ Once you are born again God watches you
- ❖ He watches over you because He wants you to come into the age of Sonship, into the age of Inheritance
- ❖ You are already God's children, but "Spirit of adoption" brings you to the place of inheritance – it is predestined by God to bring us to this place
- ❖ "adoption" is not for little children – it is for young men and women who have grown up to the age of maturity
- ❖ But in God, it happens by faith – it is according to faith – **Romans 10:17** – faith comes by hearing
- ❖ If you believe you are a son – you are – **Galatians 3:26** – sons of God by faith in Jesus Christ
- ❖ "adoption" is a term involving the dignity of the relationship of believers as sons
- ❖ It is not a putting into the family by spiritual birth but it is a putting into the position as sons

Romans 8:15

- ❖ you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear
- ❖ you received the Spirit of adoption by which you cry "Abba, Father"
- v.16** – Spirit bears witness we are "children" of God
 - "Spirit of sonship" is in our hearts as children (Spirit of sonship is Holy Spirit, been in you since born again)
 - The Spirit is there to bring us to place as sons
 - many are told that inheritance is heaven
 - our inheritance is much greater and is to be received in the earth
- v.17** – if children of God then we are heirs of God, joint heirs with Christ
 - Spirit of Sonship tells us we have a destiny to inherit all things of God

IF – we suffer with Him that we may be glorified together

- ❖ the way into full adoption will involve suffering – it brings us to a place to receive the adoption
- ❖ even servants of God are mostly insecure people
- ❖ servants never really know if they have done enough – always pushing, striving, driven
- ❖ sons relax a whole lot more, sons are secure, they know the Father, they know Father has all things in hand

Galatians 3:26

- ❖ all sons (huios) of God through faith in Jesus Christ
- ❖ It is through FAITH

v.27 – Christ is the Son

- when you are baptised you put “Christ on and you become the Son” just like Jesus put on the Father when He was baptized

v.28 – You are all One in Messiah Jesus – lose all distinctions, all sons, one in Him, the Son

v.29 – If of Christ, then you are Abraham’s Seed

- because of this you are an heir and the promises given to Abraham you receive

4:1 – “heir” as long as he is a child does not differ at all from a slave

- ❖ child even though an heir, while still a child, he cannot inherit, he must grow up
- ❖ as a child he is under guardians and tutors
- ❖ children need to be nurtured, bringing them up, need “milk of word”
- ❖ children then need “bread”
- ❖ young men then need “meat” to do the work
- ❖ then to age of maturity able to receive inheritance

v.2 – time appointed by Father

- it is end of age and Father is looking for sons
- it is the appointed time, God is handing out the inheritance to His church
- you can receive it because you believe it, it is by faith

v.3- children still under bondage

v.4-5 – Jesus came to redeem us, He died on Cross so that we could become sons (huios) who can inherit all the Father gives

- it does not say Jesus died on Cross to take us to heaven
- we are to become sons getting the earth ready for Jesus to come
- judging disobedience around us as sons

- **1 John 2:12-14** – little children know sins are forgiven, young men get victory over devil, fathers “know Him who is from the beginning”

- “glory” is not going to heaven – God is glory, Christ in us is the hope of glory manifesting in us!

v.6 – because you are sons God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son = same Holy Spirit Jesus received at His baptism “This is My Beloved Son”

- Jesus was clothed in Father’s Robe = Spirit of the Son = the covering of the Spirit of the Son of God

- if you are a son – God has sent the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying “Abba, Father”

v.7 – therefore, you are no longer slaves/servants

- you are a son

- if a son then an heir of God through Christ = walking in the inheritance

- because Jesus has all the nations for His inheritance, so do we as sons

Hebrews 2:10

❖ Jesus suffered and died on the Cross

❖ To bring **many sons to glory**

❖ **Not many souls to heaven**

❖ Sons (those who have a Father and receive the inheritance) to glory

❖ Apostolic company is a company of sons

Revelation 21:7 – overcomers inherit all things and are called the Son

Measuring the Temple

1 Timothy 3:15 – the church is the pillar and ground of the truth

Romans 1:5 – we have received through Christ grace and apostleship/commission to bring nations to obedience to the faith

The commission is to make disciples of all nations

The apostolic vision is international, it is world wide, it is discipling nations

The only vision in the Bible is to disciple all nations – we are not to follow our own vision

Tabernacle is called **“Tabernacle of Testimony” or “Tent of Witness”**

Testimony and Witness

Revelation 15:5

- ❖ The “Temple” (the Sanctuary, Inner Shrine = Holy of Holies)
- ❖ What was opened in heaven? The Inner Shrine of the Tabernacle of Testimony was opened
- ❖ In heaven, the Holy of Holies was opened
- ❖ 7 messengers are sent from this place – could be talking of men
- ❖ This ties with parable of wheat and tares – Son of Man getting His messengers to go and bring judgement, gathering out of kingdom all that offends

Revelation 11:1

- ❖ John given a reed like a **measuring rod**
- ❖ **John was to measure something**
- ❖ **Measure the Temple, the Altar and those who worship there**
- ❖ **Temple = house**
- ❖ **Altar = altar of prayer, worship, where revelation comes**
- ❖ **Lampstand** (is in the House) – is the church which is in the **House**
- ❖ it represents **Light – the Prophetic ministry**
- ❖ it represents **Oil – realm of the Spirit, the anointing – Romans 14:17**
- ❖ When Jesus breathed His last on the Cross, the veil was torn – the veil is no longer there in the heavenly Tabernacle
- ❖ **The Table of Showbread** – 12 loaves representing people of God, and a pitcher of wine = Bread and Wine, the Lord’s Table to come to daily in the House of God
- ❖ It is the **Bread of His Presence, Bread of Word (Matthew 4:4)** – Here is the **Teaching ministry**, line upon line

God speaks from the Inner Shrine, through the Altar of Incense, through Lampstand (prophetic), through Table (Teaching)
These are the "oracles of God" – **Hebrews 5:12, 1 Peter 4:11, Exodus 25:22, Hebrews 4:12**

Measuring

❖ **Ephesians 4:11-16**

- ❖ Five ministries given for particular purpose
- ❖ Build up body of Christ until....
- ❖ We all come to the...**measure of the stature of fullness of Christ**
- ❖ **Christ is the measuring rod**
- ❖ Everything is measured according to how we stand in Christ
- ❖ This measuring comes through the 5 ministries Christ has given
- ❖ This is how the Holy House of God is measured according to Christ
- ❖ He is the plumb Line, the measuring rod

Revelation 11:2

- ❖ Leave out the Court outside the Temple
- ❖ Do not measure it
- ❖ It is handed over to the Gentiles/unbelievers to tread it under foot
- ❖ Outer Court
 1. Come through the gate - Evangelist
 2. Place of altar of burnt offering (Cross, sins forgiven) – believe what Jesus did, offering was consumed by fire – it burns, consumes
 3. Water Laver – baptism, basic Word of God (**Eph.5:26-27**) – Pastor is working here

(Many people have built their churches in the outer court, only believing in the Cross, but not believing in Baptism – some get baptised but do not go on to the House)

Acts 2:38

- ❖ we are not to linger in the Outer Court
- ❖ God is only interested in His house – the outer Court is not the House of God, it is not the Body of Christ – Baptism is into the Body in water and the Spirit (**1 Corinthians 12:13**)

4. We have to receive the Holy Spirit to come through the door into the house
In the house we minister by the Spirit
At the Table, the Lampstand and the Altar of Incense (**Revelation 5:8** – place of prayer and worship)

Acts 2:38

- ❖ repent, believe, be baptised and receive Holy Spirit
- ❖ repent – show me you are serious, you want to change
- ❖ baptised – into the name of Jesus the Messiah (the name of Father, Son, Holy Spirit), the name of God saving us – Jesus

- ❖ if truly baptised into Christ you will receive the gift of Holy Spirit
- ❖ you will enter the house
- ❖ On Day of Pentecost, 3000 souls went from outside, even outside the outer court, through the gate, through the altar of burnt offering, through the water laver and into the house of God
- ❖ God is not in the outer court – He wants you to come into His house

Acts 8

- ❖ Philip was discipled, a deacon and he can preach
- ❖ **v.12** – preached kingdom and name of Jesus Christ, they believed and were baptised
- ❖ **v.14-16** – been baptised but not received Holy Spirit
- ❖ apostles called to lay hands on them to get them right into the house of God (**v.17**)

Revelation 11:2

- ❖ "Gentiles" – mostly means those who are not believing, not brought into the Israel of God = all people who do not believe
- ❖ They tread the city, the outer court under foot

v.3 – God will give power to His 2 witnesses

- **Acts 1:8** – you will receive power when Holy Spirit comes upon you and you shall be My witnesses
- Jesus' primary instructions to the apostles was to receive His power by the Holy Spirit to be His **witnesses**
- which probably means **you will die as a martyr**
- make sure you make 11 faithful sons, apostles, then you can die for the gospel

v.4 – Messenger of God told John that the 2 witnesses were the 2 **Olive Trees** and 2 **Lampstands** standing before the God of the whole earth – Bible interprets itself, never look for your own interpretation, The Bible links together

- **Olive Trees – Zechariah 4:2**
- **Lampstands, 7 pipes**
- **2 Olive Trees are beside the Lampstand to the right and the left**
- **oil is coming from 2 olive trees**, unlimited amount
- **Revelation 1:20** – Lampstands are the churches
- unlimited supply of anointing coming into the complete church
- **v.6** – not by might, nor by power but by My Spirit
- **v.11** – What are the Olive Trees? What are the 2 branches giving oil into the bowl?
- these are the **2 Anointed Ones** – they stand beside the Lord of the whole earth
- they release Anointing to the Church – they are the life flow to the church
- **2 Olive Trees – Word and Spirit**
- God releases His anointing through His Word and Spirit

2 Lampstands

- **Revelation 1:10-12** – John was in the Spirit – He was in the house of God
- John heard the voice of a trumpet – hearing the Voice of God
- “I Am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End”
- turned to see the Voice
- he saw 7 golden Lampstands
- in midst of golden Lampstand was Son of Man
- John almost died
- **v.20** – the mystery of 7 Lampstands = the **7 churches**
- so wherever you see the Lampstand come up in the Scripture, it is a prophetic picture of the completed church
- what does **2 Lampstands mean?** It is **2 churches**
- **2 witnesses of Rev. 11 are 2 Olive Trees and 2 Lampstands**
- in finding out about Olive trees we found out about the last days church
- **2** is the number of “witness”
- **2 churches can mean “the witnessing church”** receiving the full anointing of the Holy Spirit to preach and proclaim the revelation of Jesus the Christ
(**Revelation 1:1**)

Revelation 11:3

- ❖ when measuring is done power will be given to **2 witnesses**
- ❖ they will **prophecy – Revelation 19:10** – proclaiming the testimony of Jesus
- ❖ this witnessing church is the remnant church of the last days that is in the house receiving the full anointing
- ❖ you are unstoppable when part of this church, nobody can kill you
- ❖ your words are likened to Moses and Elijah
- ❖ last days church will have same sort of authority and power
- ❖ cannot be killed until God allows them to be killed – this will just bring forth more witnesses

Warning – these days are upon us

- ❖ Muslim insurgencies (Kenya, Nigeria, Iraq)
- ❖ **Revelation 12:11** – not loving our lives to the death
- ❖ John wrote book of Revelation in the midst of a time of serious persecution – encouraging the church to be willing to lay down their lives
- ❖ Martyrdom is the highest form of faith

When measuring has been done, what happens?

The church is then released in power to witness

When we (the worshipers) measure up, the power will be released

This will not be done in your own strength

Just focus on measuring up

Get committed, submitted and accountable

It is a people in order

Revelation 11:15

- ❖ the result is the "the kingdoms of the world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ"

Hebrews 9:11-12

- ❖ Christ came as High Priest
- ❖ With perfect Tabernacle
- ❖ Tabernacle not made with hands, the heavenly One
- ❖ He came with His own Blood and entered the Most Holy Place
- ❖ He obtained eternal redemption

v.14 – Christ offered Himself without spot through the Eternal Spirit

v.23 – was necessary that copies of things in heavens had to be purified with blood

- but the heavenly things themselves needed better sacrifices – the blood of Jesus

v.24 – Christ entered the Holy of Holies in heaven, offered once

v.28 – those who eagerly wait for Him, He will appear a second time, apart from sin for salvation

Hebrews 10:12

- ❖ After Jesus offered one sacrifice for sins forever
- ❖ He sat down at right hand of God
- ❖ **V.13** – now waiting for His enemies to make a footstool for His feet
- ❖ **V.14** – He has now perfected forever those who are being sanctified
- ❖ **We can come all the way in**
- ❖ **The last days church will bring all His enemies under His feet!**

The Feasts of YAHWEH

Leviticus 23 – chapter in the Old T that deals with the **feasts of Yahweh (v.2)**

These feasts are ordained by God, we are all invited. We need to come to the feasts in the way God wants us to.

Exodus 23:17 – 3 times a year every male in Israel to journey to Jerusalem to celebrate feasts

Leviticus 23:4 – feasts celebrated at appointed times

The church has left its Scriptural roots and stopped remembering and celebrating the feasts of Yahweh

Matthew 5:17

- ❖ Jesus did not come to abolish the law
- ❖ Jesus came to fulfil the law
- ❖ We must understand the fulfilment of the law/instruction/teaching of Moses

3 main areas of Law of Moses

1. the 10 commandments
2. the pattern of the Tabernacle
3. the feasts of Yahweh

The feasts can be seen as a prophetic calendar (linear)

The feasts are also to be celebrated each year (cyclical)

John 5:39 – the Scripture testifies of Jesus, it is the prophetic Word confirming who Jesus is

Leviticus 23 – the Feasts of Yahweh

- ❖ 3 appointed meeting times
- ❖ 7 aspects
- ❖ Feast of Passover
- ❖ Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)
- ❖ Feast of Tabernacles

Passover

First part – 14th day of 1st month

Leviticus 23:5 – the beginning month (**Ex 12** – Moses instituted the Passover)

- blood of the Lamb (**Jn 1:29** – Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, John recognised the fulfilment)
- the blood, applied by faith, delivered the children of Israel
- took place in Egypt (in the world)

- we have to repent, have a change of mind
- the deliverance of God's people by the blood of the Lamb
- **repentance** and **faith** are the elementary principles involved (**Heb.6:1**)
- Jesus died on the cross for our sins (the first meeting place)

Second Part – Feast of Unleavened Bread

v.6 – 7 days you must eat unleavened bread

- this is speaking of no sin, nothing that defiles was to be among them
- it is to do with getting the leaven out of your life
- delivering us from bondage from Egypt
- Jesus was buried, He buried sin, condemned sin in the flesh (**1 Cor 5:7-8**, **Romans 8:3** – unleavened bread of sincerity and truth, Jesus)

Third part – Day of Firstfruits

- ❖ the Day of Firstfruits
- ❖ the first ripe crop of the harvest (a cereal crop)
- ❖ **Leviticus 23:9-11** – the day after the Sabbath (the day Jesus rose from the dead – **Matthew 28:1**)
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 15:20,23** – Jesus is the firstfruits of them that rise from the dead
- ❖ Speaking of the resurrection

Jesus is the fulfilment of the Feast of Passover

We need to repent, believe in the blood and be baptised in water into the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (Rom 6:3-4) – this is fulfilling the feast of Passover!

This is the complete born again experience.

We are to remember the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus (the power of the blood).

The Israelites kept the feast by getting out of Egypt. They went through the sea – a type of baptism (**1Cor 10:2**)

Faith is the key aspect.

Feast of Weeks (Pentecost)

- ❖ 50 days between the Day of Firstfruits and Pentecost
- ❖ There was a cereal harvest during those 50 days (a harvest of souls coming into the experience of being born again)
- ❖ **Exodus 19:1** – they came to Mt Horeb in the **3rd month** (the first Pentecost)
- ❖ Moses went up the mountain for 40 days and 40 nights
- ❖ Jesus appeared to His disciples during 40 days after His resurrection
- ❖ **Ephesians 4:8** – Jesus led captivity captive and gave gifts to men
- ❖ **Leviticus 23:16** – present the new grain offering, new creations, born again
- ❖ **Leviticus 23:17** – bake the bread **with leaven**
- ❖ **There was leaven** at this feast (there is still some mixture here, it is not pure yet)
- ❖ It is not yet the feast of maturity
- ❖ Moses came down with the Law on stone

- ❖ **Exodus 32:28** – Moses found them worshiping a golden calf, an idol
- ❖ 3000 souls died that day
- ❖ There was cloud, thunder, lightning and power
- ❖ There is a manifestation of God's power at Pentecost

What is the fulfilment of Pentecost?

- ❖ **Acts 2:1-4** – when the Day of Pentecost had fully come (the fulfilment)
- ❖ Manifestation of the power of God, the Holy Spirit released (tongues of fire)
- ❖ They were released to be witnesses – **Acts 1:8**
- ❖ **Acts 2:41** – 3000 souls saved, baptised that day
- ❖ The Law written on our hearts, the Spirit brings life (**2 Cor 3:3-6** – epistles of Christ, on tablet of our heart)
- ❖ Jesus, having ascended to the Father, poured out the Holy Spirit
- ❖ A baptism in the Holy Spirit (**laying on of hands – 4th foundation of faith – Heb.6:1-2**)
- ❖ The first Pentecost was in the wilderness
- ❖ God tested their hearts

There is an unfolding revelation of God through the feasts.

We are not to camp at the feast of Passover or at the feast of Pentecost, we are to go on.

Feast of Tabernacles

- ❖ in between Pentecost and Tabernacles there was 4 months
- ❖ this is a period of growth and teaching, being instructed and learning to walk in the ways of God
- ❖ young men learning to serve in the house, overcoming the wicked one, the Word abiding in them
- ❖ **1 John 2:12-14** – 3 stages of growth (children - Passover, young men - Pentecost, Fathers - Tabernacles)
- ❖ This period involved pruning/testing
- ❖ The olive and the grape harvest (new wine and oil)

First Part - The memorial blowing of Trumpets – 1st day

- in the **7th month – maturity, perfection**
- **2 Peter 1:12** – release of the word that is the present truth
- ❖ The blowing of the prophetic word, preparing for the coming of the Lord (it's time to come up to maturity)
- ❖ **Revelation 1:10-12** – John heard the voice as of a trumpet (Rev 1:20 – Jesus in the midst of the church, calling the people up)
- ❖ **Revelation 4:1-2** – a voice as of a trumpet – come up here
- ❖ Reminding us of our destiny of where we are meant to come to
- ❖ A call to walk in the power of the resurrection (**1 Cor 15:51-52**)
- ❖ **Philippians 3:10-11** – that I might know Him and the power of His resurrection – (the reality of the **fifth foundation of the faith, the resurrection of the dead – Heb.6:1-2**)

Second Part - The Day of Atonement – 10th day

- ❖ the High Priest would enter into the Holy of Holies with the blood (**Lev 16**)
- ❖ there was a scapegoat and a sacrificial goat (**Heb 13:13** – Jesus was the scapegoat and the sacrificial goat)
- ❖ Jesus' blood was placed on the mercy seat (**Heb 9:11-12, Heb 6:19-20** – Jesus went in as a forerunner for us)
- ❖ A day of affliction of the soul (they were to fast and humble themselves)
- ❖ A deep working of God in our lives
- ❖ The final dealing with sin
- ❖ Entering the glory – coming into the Holy of Holies
- ❖ **Eternal judgment** (the sixth foundation of the faith **Heb 6:1-2**) – all sin is finally dealt with
- ❖ **Hebrews 4:12** – dealing with the thoughts and intents of our hearts
- ❖ **Jeremiah 23:29** – is not My word like a fire... (to burn up the wickedness and every evil intention – baptism of fire)
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 10:4-6** – bringing every thought captive to obey Christ
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 3:12-16** – our works, what we have built with, will be declared by fire – the **Day** will declare it = **the Day of Atonement!**

Third Part - The Feast of Tabernacles – Feast of Booths

- ❖ 7 days dwelling in temporary booths
- ❖ A righteous, spirit-filled, fruit-bearing people
- ❖ **Walking on to perfection – Let us go on to perfection – Heb.6:1**
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 5:1-5** – we are groaning for our habitation from heaven
- ❖ We can begin to walk in that habitation from heaven
- ❖ **John 1:14** – Jesus, as God in the flesh, was God tabernacling with us
- ❖ God fully indwelling His people
- ❖ Coming to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ (**Eph. 4:13**)
- ❖ From the beginning, God wanted a dwelling place with men in the earth
- ❖ **Revelation 21:3-4** – Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men
- ❖ **The 8th day – John 7:37** – on the last day, that great day of the feast (speaking of the **feast of Tabernacles – John 7:2**), Jesus stood and cried out, if anyone thirsts let him come to Me and drink
- ❖ **John 7:38** – he who believes, out of his inner most being will flow rivers of living water
- ❖ The river is flowing from a people in whom He is tabernacling
- ❖ **Revelation 22:1** – water of life, proceeding from the throne
- ❖ **Matthew 4:4** – every word that proceeds from the mouth of God
- ❖ The throne of God has been set up in a people
- ❖ **John 7:39** – the release of the Spirit of Sonship
- ❖ Able to father others

3 times every year to meet with God in a peculiar way
Let us keep the feasts in reality!

Filling the Heavlies

Filling the heavlies with the knowledge of the manifold wisdom of God

Ephesians 3:8-11

- ❖ Paul had a very healthy self image – saw himself as the less than the least of saints
- ❖ He knew he was a scurrilous, wicked, arrogant person before he knew Messiah
- ❖ He thought of himself as the “Chief of sinners”
- ❖ Grace was given to him – God’s free endowment of God’s ability to do things for God
- ❖ Grace enabled Paul to fulfil the commission Jesus gave him before he was saved (**Acts 9:15-16**)
- ❖ Grace enabled Paul to preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable/unfathomable riches of Messiah
- ❖ From Adam and Eve onwards, some part of every generation of man has turned away from God to look for secret wisdom in the darkness
- ❖ Gentiles, in their cultures and heritage never had an expectation of the Messiah to come – not expecting God to come in the flesh
- ❖ Paul was raised up to teach us Gentiles the mystery of Messiah

This was to **make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery**

- ❖ it is by revelation
- ❖ **Ephesians 1:17** – spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him
- ❖ To enlighten the eyes of our understanding
- ❖ To know hope of His calling, knowledge of glory

1 Corinthians 2:6-8

- speak wisdom among the mature
- not wisdom of this age, rulers of this age (demonic rulers in heavlies, professors, men raised up by the demonic rulers) did not know this wisdom
- this is the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory
- the wisdom was there in the beginning at the Tree of Life
- somehow Adam and Eve found themselves at the other tree – something in their hearts drew them away, the fruit was “to make them wise”

Paul wants us to see what is the fellowship of the mystery

- ❖ this is **many sons to glory (Hebrews 2:10)**
- ❖ this is the fellowship of sons
- ❖ fellowship of servants becomes full of competition
- ❖ sons have a common Father
- ❖ sons of the Glory

- ❖ “fellowship” – Gk koinonia – participation
- ❖ Other versions call it an “administration” of the mystery

Learn to ask questions of God, ask questions of Scriptures

This mystery was hidden but God ordained it before the ages for our glory

- ❖ we will not understand the glory without receiving the wisdom
- ❖ it is not for babes, it is for mature, those who have come of age

1 Corinthians 2:8

- rulers of this age did not understand this wisdom
- if devil understood he would not have crucified Jesus
- **revelation 12:11** – when we know our physical death is not a problem then we have victory over the devil!

1 Corinthians 2:10

- God reveals this mystery to us by the Spirit
- He speaks them into our heart, into our understanding

1 Corinthians 2:16

- we corporately as the sons of Glory have the mind of Christ
- when we continue to come together sharing what God is saying, we come into the mind of Christ!

Ephesians 3:9

- ❖ fellowship of mystery was hidden in God from the beginning of the ages
- ❖ it was always there, available, but it was hidden in God
- ❖ God created all things through Jesus Christ
- ❖ The mystery is all about Jesus Christ
- ❖ **John 1:3** – all things were made through Him (the Word who was God) and without Him nothing was made that was made
- ❖ **Nothing was made without the Word, the Son of God, Jesus Christ**
- ❖ Jesus created all things!
- ❖ We have the mind of Christ – we can understand this mystery
- ❖ It is our inheritance to walk in this mystery
- ❖ It is only hidden so you have to seek for it

Colossians 1:16

- ❖ Jesus created everything
- ❖ By Him all things were created
- ❖ Even thrones and dominions, principalities and powers
- ❖ Start to know your rightful place in the universe
- ❖ Jesus created all the powers for Himself
- ❖ They will bring Him glory by you speaking to them the mystery
- ❖ The true knowledge of the mystery brings you to the place where you have no fear of principalities

Why does God want us to know the mystery?

- ❖ for the purpose that **NOW** the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church
- ❖ **Manifold = many coloured, many varieties, much variegated, many fold, it is deep and meaningful**

Proverbs 8:22

- ❖ Yahweh possessed Me (wisdom) from before the earth was created
- ❖ Who is the Wisdom = Jesus
- ❖ Wisdom/Jesus was there before everything
- ❖ Jesus was there before any dust on the earth
- ❖ **v.27** – When Yahweh drew a circle on the face of the deep Wisdom was there (the earth is a circle)
- ❖ **v.29** – the sea has a limit set by Yahweh
- ❖ **v.30** – Wisdom was beside Yahweh as a master craftsmen
- ❖ **Wisdom's delight is with the sons of men** – Jesus loves people

Ephesians 3:10

- ❖ manifold wisdom is being made known by the church to the principalities and powers
- ❖ Principalities and powers are occupying the space between the earth and God's heaven, the Throne – we can call it the "2nd heavens"
- ❖ This area has powers, dominions and **names (Ephesians 1:21)** – "Allah", "Buddha", "Krishna"
- ❖ 1st heavens = sun, moon and stars
- ❖ 3rd heavens = **2 Corinthians 12:1-4, "caught up to the 3rd heavens"** – also called "**Paradise**"
The uncreated heavens
- ❖ 2nd heavens therefore is inhabited by fallen angels, Satan and his dominions

Ephesians 3:10

- ❖ church is to make known the manifold wisdom of God to the 2nd heaven realm

Ephesians 3:11

- ❖ it is in accordance with God's eternal purpose accomplished in Christ Jesus
- ❖ **Ephesians 1:10** – in fullness of times, the eternal purpose is to gather all things together in Christ – things in heaven and on earth brought together in Him
- ❖ **How is the heavens and earth come together in Christ?**
- ❖ **How is Christ going to fill all things?**

Ephesians 1:20

- ❖ Christ was raised from dead from lower parts of earth
- ❖ Christ was raised to be seated at right hand of God – in 3rd heavens – the place of ultimate authority

Ephesians 1:21 – Jesus is raised **far above all the 2nd heaven realm**

v.22 – God put all things under Christ's feet

- God made Christ to be the head over all the principalities and powers
- Can only get into 3rd heavens by the blood, Satan cannot get in there
- As Head of all this He was also made **head of the church**

v.23 – the church is **His Body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all**

- when the church understands the mystery, the church will fill all things with the fullness of Messiah!

How will this happen?

❖ God has already accomplished this eternal purpose in Christ Jesus –

Ephesians 3:11

❖ **So what has to happen to see this come into reality**

❖ **Ephesians 2:1-2** – saved, no longer being sons of disobedience, there are many sons of disobedience and demons in the earth realm

❖ **Philippians 2:5-11**

Members of the church need to have a mind change

❖ when Jesus was on the earth, He did not think people should treat Him like "God"

❖ He made Himself a bondservant, no reputation

❖ He humbled Himself, willing to die

❖ Therefore God also highly exalted Him and gave Him **the name**

❖ **There is a name in the universe now that is above every other name!**

❖ At the name of **JESUS** every knee should bow

❖ A) of those in the heavens (2nd heavens)

❖ B) of those on earth – sons of disobedience

❖ C) of those beneath the earth – demons

❖ They will confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father**

As we cooperate with God and grow in the knowledge of the glory of the Eternal One (**Habakkuk 2:14**)

❖ we enter into committed discipleship to know this knowledge

❖ i) **commitment** to follow the call of God = "Come follow Me (Jesus) and I will make you fishers of men"

❖ ii) **submit** – we must learn how to submit, we must stop fighting where God places us and learn submission to God, learning to not to be offended

❖ if we do not submit in the Body we will go nowhere

❖ iii) **Accountability** – we are accountable for our behaviour, accountable as a disciple – we send people to do things and they report back, it involves being in classes, doing the training

Through committed disciples getting a hold of the knowledge of the glory, the Body will keep growing out, **filling the heavenlies**

As we keep going out on mission, more trained disciples going out, filling the heavenlies with knowledge of the glory

As this happens, Revelation 11:15 becomes ever closer – the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord (Jesus) and of His Christ (Body)

The church will inherit nations in Christ (**Psalm 2:8**)

Spiritual Warfare

Walking in the authority that Christ has given

1 Timothy 3:16 – the mystery of Godliness which is the foundational confession of the church

Matthew 10:7-8

- ❖ Jesus gave His disciples authority
 - ❖ To preach
 - ❖ To heal sick
 - ❖ To cast out demons/devils/evil spirits/unclean spirits
- All this in context of preaching the gospel of kingdom of heaven/God

Jesus' ministry was characterised by casting out demons/devils

This was the one new thing that came with Jesus – He became famous for this

Luke 13:10-17

- ❖ story of woman's deliverance from spirit of infirmity – brought healing
- ❖ healing and discerning of spirits are separate gifts of Spirit but very often demons must be cast out to bring healing

Luke 8:26

- ❖ this man was completely possessed, he had no self control left
- ❖ **v.27-28** – demons in the man knew who Jesus was straight away, Son of the Most High God
- ❖ **v.29-30** – name was "legion", as many demons had entered him (possibly 12,000) – demons work in gangs
- ❖ **the demons begged Jesus that they would not be thrown into the abyss**
- ❖ **v.32-33** – swine got possessed with the demons that were cast out and drowned in the lake
- ❖ **v.36** – the man was healed
- ❖ **v.39** – the man went and testified to the city what Jesus had done for him

A great story of setting a person free from being fully demonised

This man was probably demon "possessed"

Jesus had authority over the devil

Luke 4:1, Matthew 4:1

- ❖ when Jesus was filled with Holy Spirit, the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to do battle with the devil

Luke 14:13

- ❖ the devil left Jesus for an opportune time

As Jesus came to end of His ministry, in **John 14:30** – Jesus said, “**The devil has nothing in Me**” – devil had nothing to hold onto in Jesus, no place of accusation or foothold

1 Corinthians 2:8

- Jesus’ death was brought about by the rulers of this age but it was God’s predetermined purpose (**Acts 2:23**)

Throughout Jesus’ ministry He was in confrontation with demons

Luke 8:22

- ❖ demons are foot soldiers of the generals who are seated in heavenly places (the principalities, powers...)
- ❖ Jesus crossing to other side of Lake with His disciples
- ❖ Windstorm on the Lake, boat filling with water
- ❖ Disciples believed they would perish
- ❖ Jesus then **rebuked** the wind and the raging of the water
- ❖ He rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith
- ❖ **What was stirring up the wind and the water? What was Jesus rebuking?**
- ❖ Possible that the powers working through the Gadarene demoniac were stirred up knowing Jesus is coming
- ❖ The powers then stirred up a windstorm, the waves, Jesus dealt with the heavenly power, and He marched into the Gadarenes in the victory
- ❖ This reveals the absolute authority of Jesus over all realms of the demonic – He has given this authority to His church

3 levels of Spiritual Warfare – they overlap

1. Individual level

2. Local church level – body of believers in city or locality/region under leadership of elders who are related to apostles (no different denominations)

3. International or worldwide church under leadership of apostles and prophets

Principality - has an area, a domain, a territory to rule, cannot go outside its sphere

The devil is totally indiscriminate in his attack on individuals and ministries
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We know the power of the name of Jesus – **Philippians 2:9-11**

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- ❖ we need to know the power that worked in Christ to raise Him from the dead to seat Him in the heavenlies with absolute authority
- ❖ He is on the Throne
- ❖ He is the Messiah – on Throne of David forever
- ❖ **Acts 2:33** – Jesus has been exalted to right hand of God, has poured out Holy Spirit
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- ❖ This is why discipleship is paramount, so that the brethren can stand
- ❖ Because of wrong understandings there are needless casualties of war
- ❖ People who go into warfare against powers without being sent, being outside the sphere of their authority get very hurt, even die
- ❖ We are called to preach the gospel, make disciples, not to walk around places pulling down powers, spiritual mapping
- ❖ We pull down strongholds by preaching the gospel, the clear word of God

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Spiritual Warfare

Walking in the authority that Christ has given

1 Timothy 3:16 – the mystery of Godliness which is the foundational confession of the church

Matthew 10:7-8

- ❖ Jesus gave His disciples authority
 - ❖ To preach
 - ❖ To heal sick
 - ❖ To cast out demons/devils/evil spirits/unclean spirits
- All this in context of preaching the gospel of kingdom of heaven/God

Jesus' ministry was characterised by casting out demons/devils

This was the one new thing that came with Jesus – He became famous for this

Luke 13:10-17

- ❖ story of woman's deliverance from spirit of infirmity – brought healing
- ❖ healing and discerning of spirits are separate gifts of Spirit but very often demons must be cast out to bring healing

Luke 8:26

- ❖ this man was completely possessed, he had no self control left
- ❖ **v.27-28** – demons in the man knew who Jesus was straight away, Son of the Most High God
- ❖ **v.29-30** – name was "legion", as many demons had entered him (possibly 12,000) – demons work in gangs
- ❖ **the demons begged Jesus that they would not be thrown into the abyss**
- ❖ **v.32-33** – swine got possessed with the demons that were cast out and drowned in the lake
- ❖ **v.36** – the man was healed
- ❖ **v.39** – the man went and testified to the city what Jesus had done for him

A great story of setting a person free from being fully demonised

This man was probably demon "possessed"

Jesus had authority over the devil

Luke 4:1, Matthew 4:1

- ❖ when Jesus was filled with Holy Spirit, the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness to do battle with the devil

Luke 14:13

- ❖ the devil left Jesus for an opportune time

As Jesus came to end of His ministry, in **John 14:30** – Jesus said, “**The devil has nothing in Me**” – devil had nothing to hold onto in Jesus, no place of accusation or foothold

1 Corinthians 2:8

- Jesus’ death was brought about by the rulers of this age but it was God’s predetermined purpose (**Acts 2:23**)

Throughout Jesus’ ministry He was in confrontation with demons

Luke 8:22

- ❖ demons are foot soldiers of the generals who are seated in heavenly places (the principalities, powers...)
- ❖ Jesus crossing to other side of Lake with His disciples
- ❖ Windstorm on the Lake, boat filling with water
- ❖ Disciples believed they would perish
- ❖ Jesus then **rebuked** the wind and the raging of the water
- ❖ He rebuked the disciples for their lack of faith
- ❖ **What was stirring up the wind and the water? What was Jesus rebuking?**
- ❖ Possible that the powers working through the Gadarene demoniac were stirred up knowing Jesus is coming
- ❖ The powers then stirred up a windstorm, the waves, Jesus dealt with the heavenly power, and He marched into the Gadarenes in the victory
- ❖ This reveals the absolute authority of Jesus over all realms of the demonic – He has given this authority to His church

3 levels of Spiritual Warfare – they overlap

1. Individual level

2. Local church level – body of believers in city or locality/region under leadership of elders who are related to apostles (no different denominations)

3. International or worldwide church under leadership of apostles and prophets

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Casting out devils

Matthew 12:29

- ❖ first bind the strongman
- ❖ then we will plunder his house

What is Jesus talking about?

- ❖ **Matt.12:24** – Jesus accused about casting out demons by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons
- ❖ **v.25** – Satan does not cast out Satan, a house divided against itself will not stand
- ❖ **v.28** – if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God then the kingdom of God has come upon you
- ❖ **casting out demons is a specific manifestation of the kingdom like no other**
- ❖ when we see a physical manifestation of the demon leaving and then the peace come, we see the clash of the kingdoms and a clear manifestation of the “kratos” power of the kingdom of God
- ❖ **v.29** – must first bind the strongman in order to plunder his house
- ❖ **v.43** – when unclean spirit leaves a man it goes into dry places
- ❖ **v.44** – the house is the person who is demonised – in order to get the demons out of the house (the person’s life), the strongman must be bound first so that all the little demons can go
- ❖ **the strongman is singular**
- ❖ must never leave a house that has been cleansed empty – must be filled with the Holy Spirit
- ❖ bind the strongman so that the person can cooperate with you to get free

When person is free, lay hands on them to be filled with the Holy Spirit

We must not have anything in our possession that is a doorway for witchcraft, evil spirits – can be fetishes, can be a text message sent on a phone, can be runes, tarot cards and any other witchcraft item – can be that a wizard, witch, psychic laid hands on you...break it in Jesus name

Steps in casting out a demon

❖ a guide to help you to minister

- i) must know your authority in Christ
- ii) no need to shout if you know your authority in Christ – demons will obey at a whisper

1. **establish that the victim wants to be free of the demon** – if they do not want to be free there is no point in trying to deliver her
 - ❖ an adult person needs to personally seek deliverance
 - ❖ in case of children or seriously handicapped person, then the parent or guardian can bring them for deliverance
 - ❖ this is doing things in God's order
2. **Bind the demon in the person (the strongman)**, then talk to the person directly
 - ❖ do not communicate with them
 - ❖ communicate with the person, not the demon
 - ❖ sometimes person will be in a trance, bind the demon in the name of Jesus (know you have the victory before you begin) – call the person out of the trance, call them back and communicate with the person
3. **Find out the person's personal name** finding out that they want to be free
 - ❖ get the person to confess the name of Jesus
 - ❖ if they call on the name of Jesus they will be delivered
 - ❖ the demon may resist and try to stop the person by choking them
 - ❖ again bind the devil commanding it to stop choking and get the person again to confess the name of Jesus
 - ❖ do not entertain the devil
 - ❖ command demon to be quiet – do not waste time talking with them
4. **Lead person in prayer of command** agreeing together that the demon must depart
 - ❖ sometimes it goes with a sigh, a breath, a cough, a retch
 - ❖ sometimes the sign is not visible or audible but you simply know it is gone
5. **make sure the person is a believer**
 - ❖ lead them to Jesus
 - ❖ pray for them to be filled with Holy Spirit
 - ❖ water baptism is essential if the person has not been baptised as a believer

The sphere of authority

There are specific spheres of authority that each individual needs to be aware of

- i) **each individual has authority over their own life**
 - ❖ we have complete authority over our own life to keep it pure and holy
 - ❖ Jesus will give the authority to you cast devils out of you and keep your life clean, pure and holy – must make Godly decisions, be careful what you allow in
- ii) **parents have authority over their family**
 - ❖ father and mother have spiritual authority to protect their children bringing them up in Christ
 - ❖ parents should bring up their own children in God's ways

- ❖ parents have spiritual responsibility and therefore authority
- ❖ single mothers have responsibility over the children – they can give authority to others to help them bring up their children, but must be given permission
- ❖ we must honour where honour is due

iii) authority over personal finances and family finances, over the family home and any family property

- ❖ if have a business, you have authority over the business
- ❖ if a teacher, you have authority over your classroom – but she does not have authority to bind the demons in the class next to her
- ❖ we have authority in the area of our responsibility

iv) We all need to stand under the right authority to be able to exercise authority

- when we are in proper apostolic order, then the local church will be able to stand against the demonic

Seeing Jesus as He is

Ephesians 4:13

- ❖ we are to come to the knowledge (a deep knowing) of the Son of God (a sign of maturity)

1 John 3:2-3

- now we are children of God
- it has not yet been revealed (appeared, made visible) what we shall be
- when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is
- we are being changed into His likeness, as we see Jesus as He is

Revelation 1:1

- ❖ the revelation of Jesus Christ
- ❖ the book is primarily an unfolding **revelation** ("apokalupsis" means uncovering, unveiling) of Jesus the Christ
- ❖ "**apokalupsis**" the progressive and immediate unveiling of the otherwise unknown and unknowable God to His church
- ❖ **2 Corinthians 3:16** – the veil is removed when one turns to the Lord
- ❖ We are to walk into an ever increasing knowledge of God
- ❖ It is the glory of kings to search out a matter

Revelation 2 and 3

- ❖ 7 churches mentioned
- ❖ Jesus gives a description of Himself in each letter, revealing more of Himself
- ❖ The message is to His church (7 churches – complete church)

Revelation 2:1

- ❖ He, Jesus, holds the 7 stars in His right hand
- ❖ Walks in the midst of the 7 golden lampstands
- ❖ **Revelation 1:20** – 7 stars are the angels (messengers) of the 7 churches
- ❖ The right hand speaks of the place of authority
- ❖ Jesus has all authority
- ❖ God works in the earth through His right hand
- ❖ Jesus executes the power of God in the earth
- ❖ The 7 messengers are the ones carrying the message to the church
- ❖ In the New T the ministry given by Jesus to the church to carry the message was the apostle
- ❖ The message comes from the right hand, comes with authority
- ❖ **Ephesians 4:8** – when Christ ascended to the right hand of God, He gave gifts to men (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, teachers)
- ❖ Jesus released messengers
- ❖ Jesus also walks in the midst of the 7 golden lampstands (the church)
- ❖ We will find Jesus being revealed in the midst of His church

- ❖ **Ephesians 1:23** – body of Christ the fullness of Him
- ❖ **Matthew 18:20** – where 2 or 3 gather together in My name, I AM in the midst of them
- ❖ Jesus is the one who is there
- ❖ **Hebrews 2:12** – Jesus in the midst of His assembly, He declares the name of God to us
- ❖ The lampstand picture comes from the Tabernacle of Testimony
- ❖ **Exodus 25:36** – all of the lampstand shall be **one piece** of hammered gold
- ❖ The church is not divided denominations trying to come together
- ❖ **2 Peter 1:4** – we have become partakers of the divine nature (the Godhead) – this is the gold, the nature of gold
- ❖ We are of the same nature as Jesus
- ❖ Jesus is the staff of the lampstand
- ❖ **Hebrews 2:11** – He who sanctifies and those who are being sanctified **are all of one**, He is not ashamed to call us brethren, we are of the same nature with Jesus

Revelation 2:8

- ❖ Jesus, the First and the Last, who was dead and came to life
- ❖ **Revelation 1:17** – I am the First and the Last (Jesus), John fell down as dead before Jesus
- ❖ When Jesus is revealed in all of His glory, no flesh can dwell in His presence
- ❖ Jesus can release death to your flesh and resurrection power to your spirit man
- ❖ **Revelation 1:11** – everything begins and ends with Jesus
- ❖ Jesus is the all in all - **Colossians 3:11**
- ❖ **Philippians 1:6** – Jesus began the work in you and will complete it
- ❖ **Isaiah 46:10** – He declares the end from the beginning
- ❖ **Hebrews 12:1-2** – He is the author and finisher of faith

Revelation 1:18

- ❖ I am He who lives and was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore
- ❖ He has the keys of Hades and Death
- ❖ **Hebrews 2:14-15** – Jesus destroyed Him who had the power of death
- ❖ No longer in bondage to a fear of death
- ❖ **Colossians 1:18** – Jesus is the head of the body, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the pre-eminence – He releases resurrection life to the Body

Revelation 2:12

- ❖ Jesus - He who has the sharp two-edged sword
- ❖ The doctrine of Balaam and the doctrine of the Nicolaitans (these doctrines were leading the people of God astray)
- ❖ **Revelation 2:16** – unless you repent, I will fight against you with the sword of My mouth
- ❖ **Hebrews 4:12** – the word of God is living and active, it cuts and destroys false doctrine

- ❖ **John 12:48** – the word that I (Jesus) have spoken will judge Him in the last day
- ❖ We are accountable to the Word, it will judge us
- ❖ **Jeremiah 20:9** – Your word is like a fire in my bones
- ❖ **Psalms 119:130** – the entrance of Your word brings light and understanding to the simple
- ❖ **John 1:1** – in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, the Word was God
- ❖ **Revelation 19:13-15** – His name is called the Word of God
- ❖ An army in heaven, those raised to be seated with Him in the heavenly places – these ones follow the Word of God into battle
- ❖ His word strikes nations, He shall rule (shepherd) them with a rod of iron
- ❖ Nations come to obedience to the faith through the army that follows the Word into battle for the nations (**Romans 1:5**)

Revelation 2:18

- ❖ the Son of God who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass
- ❖ **John 1:18** – no one has seen God at any time, the only begotten Son has declared Him
- ❖ He fully represents and manifests God
- ❖ **John 3:35** – the Father has given all things into His (the Son) hand
- ❖ Jesus as the Son, fully declaring God, comes to deal with Jezebel
- ❖ **John 5:18** – Jesus said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God
- ❖ **Revelation 2:26** – to Him who overcomes I will give power over nations (**Psalms 2:7-8** – Jesus has the nations for His inheritance)
- ❖ We are not to tolerate Jezebel
- ❖ **Luke 11:33-34** – when your eye is good, your whole body is full of light, the eye shows what is inside the person – Jesus is full of fire!
- ❖ **Hebrews 12:29** – our God is a consuming fire
- ❖ **Luke 3:16-17** – He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire
- ❖ Chaff is burnt with fire, wickedness is burned up by the fire
- ❖ **Jeremiah 23:29** – is not My word like a fire
- ❖ **Psalms 110:1** – Jesus feet are like fine brass, His feet are on the necks of His enemies
- ❖ Brass speaks of judgment
- ❖ In Tabernacle of Testimony in outer court – Altar of burnt offering overlaid with brass judges sin, Brazen Laver of water made with brass speaks of baptism, judging the old man
- ❖ **John 14:30** – the ruler of this world is judged!

Revelation 3:1

- ❖ Jesus – He who has the seven Spirits of God and the seven stars
- ❖ **Ephesians 4:4** – there is one Spirit
- ❖ **John 4:24** – God is Spirit
- ❖ 7 speaks of completeness
- ❖ **Colossians 2:9** – in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily

Isaiah 11:1-2 – one coming from the line of David

- ❖ The Spirit of Yahweh shall rest upon Him
- ❖ Spirit of wisdom and understanding
- ❖ Of counsel and of might
- ❖ Of knowledge and of the fear of Yahweh = 7 Spirits of God
- ❖ **Luke 4:18-19** – the 7-fold anointing on the Messiah

Revelation 5:6 – 7 horns (speaking of governmental authority) and 7 eyes (looking for those whose hearts are loyal to Him – **2 Chronicles 16:9**)

7 stars are the messengers sent out by the 7 Spirits of God

- ❖ **John 3:34** – Those whom God sends (as messengers) God does not give them the Spirit with any measure
- ❖ **Revelation 4:5** – 7 lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the 7 spirits of God filling the church before the Throne of God

Revelation 3:7

- ❖ Jesus - **He who is holy**
- ❖ **John 12:39-41** – Isaiah saw Jesus and spoke of His glory
- ❖ **Isaiah 6:1** – I saw the LORD sitting on the throne (**v.3** – Holy, Holy Holy is Yahweh God Almighty) – Jesus is Yahweh, the Holy One!
- ❖ **Psalms 16:10** – you will not allow Your **Holy One** to see corruption
- ❖ Jesus – **He who is true**
- ❖ **True** – genuine, authentic, real, actual, integrity
- ❖ **1 Jn 5:20** – that we may know Him who is true... the true God and eternal life
- ❖ we will know Him who is true, when we come to know the Son of God
- ❖ **1 Jn 5:21** – keep away from idols – Jesus is the genuine, authentic God
- ❖ Jesus – the **one who has the key of David**
- ❖ **Isaiah 22:22-23** – the key of the house of David, a glorious throne (the authority to rule and reign)
- ❖ **Matthew 16:16-19** – I give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven
- ❖ Jesus gives His keys to the ones who know who He is (to open and to shut)
- ❖ **Psalms 24:7** – gates to nations open to the King of glory
- ❖ **The key is the revelation of Jesus!**
- ❖ **Acts 16:7, 10** – the Holy Spirit shut the door
- ❖ There is a time when the door will open for nations, we are to go through when that happens

Revelation 3:14

- Jesus – the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the Beginning of the creation of God
- Jesus is the Amen – **2 Corinthians 1:20** – the fulfilment of all the promises of God
- the eternal purpose of God was accomplished in Christ Jesus
- the faithful and true witness
- Jesus has faithfully represented God and testified truthfully
- the **Beginning** – the source, the head, sometimes translated as 'prince'

- **Acts 3:15** – the prince of life – the Source of all Life
 - **Hebrews 12:2** – the author, the source of all faith
- Jesus is the Source and the Beginning of all Creation – He Created all things

We come into an ever increasing revelation of God, when we see Jesus as He is.

The Kingdom of God

The Gospel, the good news, revolves around the King and the Kingdom of God

The Kingdom = "an estate, a place, a certain people, a realm where the desire, the will and wish of a king is obeyed"

King is different from a President

King is a person who has all the authority in the area of his administration – his word is the law and constitution

Authorities of a king in a kingdom

1 Samuel 8:11

- Israel demanded a king
- the behaviour of a king
- sons taken for chariots, horsemen, captains, some to plow his ground and his harvest
- take young men to war, take daughters for bakers
- take your land to use it for himself, take a tenth of all your produce....
- he can get anything he wants – he has complete authority

In Africa there used to be kings of tribes

A king could take your wife or daughter to be his – his word prevailed in every matter

Positive aspects of kingdom in regards to Jesus

- ❖ Jesus must be preached so that we know the attributes, the integrity and reality of who this King of the Kingdom is
- ❖ Then we can make a good decision if we want to be in that kingdom
- ❖ The King Jesus is marvellous

Who is Jesus?

In book of Revelation Jesus the King is coming to inspect His church, the embodiment of His kingdom (Revelation 2-3)

- ❖ He is Alpha and Omega, He has sharp two edged sword, He is Son of God, Flaming Fire, Fine Brass (the Judge), Holy One, True One, has key of house of David, Amen, faithful and true witness, the Apostle (building the church – the expression and manifestation of the kingdom), Messiah
- ❖ We must understand who our King is if we are to develop a desire to live and serve in this kingdom

The gospel is about a kingdom which has a King

If you are to be a citizen of this kingdom, sit down and quickly understand the King

We cannot exhaust defining this King!

He is not the one that was described to the Israelites when they demanded a king like the nations

John, Jesus and the apostles preached the kingdom of God

When John the Baptist came to introduce the King he said "repent, the kingdom of God/heaven is at hand" – **Matthew 3:2** – John preached the kingdom

Matthew 4:17 – Jesus also preached the kingdom of God/heaven is at hand

Acts 28:31 – apostle Paul kept preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things concerning Jesus the Christ

❖ with all confidence, unstoppable

Matthew 13 – Jesus used parables to explain the kingdom

❖ the Tares and the Wheat – kingdom of God on earth, sons being raised to inherit the kingdom in the earth

Why must gospel rotate around the Kingdom?

Genesis 1:26

- ❖ man was given authority
- ❖ he was given the kingdom – dominion over all the earth and every living thing
- ❖ Kingdom = "King" + "dominion"
- ❖ Adam, man and woman, were given position as kings, having dominion
- ❖ God enthroned man and gave him the earth, telling him to dominate, take charge

"Dominion" – Hb "malak" – part of word for "kingdom"

Man was only to rule, dominate, by obeying God

As long as man obeyed God, they had authority to have dominion over the earth
God through man rules the earth

When man disobeyed God, the kingdom was lost, the King (God) was not being obeyed

Man obeyed the devil – so who is ruling?

Now the devil began to rule the earth through the man

John 16:11 – the Ruler of this world is judged

❖ Jesus came to judge the ruler of this world

Genesis 10:8-10

- ❖ a kind of government, kingdom in place, being developed
- ❖ Nimrod began his kingdom in Babel and other places

Genesis 11

- ❖ they then began building a tower in Babel
- ❖ God destroyed this plan
- ❖ "Babylon" is "confusion"
- ❖ This kingdom is opposite to the kingdom of God
- ❖ **Revelation 18** – Babylon is called the "Mother of Harlots" – it is the kingdom brought in by the devil to confront the kingdom of God

God's plan to bring back His kingdom

God's kingdom

Genesis 12:1-3

- ❖ God begins His plan for His kingdom to be established
- ❖ He calls Abram – in Abram all the families of the earth will be blessed
- ❖ This is plan of God that will move through the Bible to the end
- ❖ Through the descendants of Abram God will restore His kingdom – a people who will obey the desire, will and wish of God

If you have a king, there will be a kingdom

Genesis 49:10

- ❖ promise of a King coming from Judah (Abraham – Isaac – Jacob – Judah)
- ❖ the people will be obedient to Him
- ❖ He is called "SHILOH" – Him whose right it is to rule – "to whom dominion belongs"
- ❖ He will rule, gather them, bring them into obedience
- ❖ He is the Man who everybody would wish to be their Ruler

Exodus 19:6

- ❖ Mount Sinai
- ❖ You shall be to Me (God) a "kingdom of priests and a holy nation" = 2nd appearance of word "kingdom"
- ❖ This is a set up of God – God setting up a kingdom
- ❖ "priests" are incorporated into the kingdom here

All empires and kingdoms of the world can be labelled with one word –
"Babylon"

In today's church, the church has allowed Babylon to creep in, using worldly leadership structures

God will form a people who will be given His law so that they will speak His constitution

Priests will be able to reconcile others to God and be part of this kingdom – they will stand between God and others

God sees He has to enter a serious agreement with these people – “a covenant”

At Mt Sinai God told Moses to “write”

First time a document of agreement was written down (after 2500 years of history)

Exodus 34:27

- ❖ **Write** these words
- ❖ According to the terms of this covenant, write it down
- ❖ Document this agreement, covenant
- ❖ God wanted them to be a people who would dwell in the land according to My ways
- ❖ When people see you they will see what I am like

What was written down to govern these people?

- ❖ the covenant, the constitution of God would preserve them as a people
- ❖ God is setting up a kingdom
- ❖ This would link them with God

Laws

- ❖ helped them to operate as kings, fulfilling the instruction
- ❖ 10 commands (1-4 = how to love God, 5-10 = how to love neighbour)
- ❖ As priests God gave them the Tabernacle of Testimony
- ❖ Implementing the Law = kings
- ❖ Implementing the Tabernacle = priests – getting people into Presence of God through worship
- ❖ Feasts – getting the people to meet with God at appointed times

Jesus came to fulfil (make them full) the Law

Those laws were on stone

They were given to govern them until SHILOH would come, and enable them to obey by the Spirit – bringing a change within man (**2 Cor.3:3-6**)

The New Covenant would be God putting these laws into their minds and write them on their hearts (**Jer.31:31-34**)

A New Covenant people are a people with a New Constitution governing us – it has been put within us

Fulfilment is coming out of physical into our hearts

Hebrews 8:1

- ❖ this is the main point
- ❖ transferred from temporal to what was built by God

- ❖ Jesus is high Priest

Hebrews 10:1-7

- ❖ law was shadow of things to come, not the very image
- ❖ Jesus came to remove the shadow that the real can come

Bible rotates around Law, Tabernacle and Feasts

2 Samuel 7:12-14a

- speaks of David's son
- His kingdom will be established
- God's house will be built by the Son
- not Solomon – his kingdom not forever

Isaiah 7:14

- ❖ speaks of virgin birth of Jesus
- ❖ Emmanuel – God with us
- ❖ Strange, wonderful King
- ❖ The king is in "the volume of the Book"
- ❖ Recorded 700 years before He was born
- ❖ His history was written before He was born

Micah 5:2

- ❖ birth place – Bethlehem
- ❖ even where He would be born was recorded

Jeremiah 31:15

- ❖ even events around His birth were recorded 500 years before He was born
- ❖ children being slaughtered to try and kill the King as a Child

Isaiah 40:3

- ❖ John would introduce the King

All things were written in the volume of the Book concerning Jesus

Jesus the King comes to establish His kingdom!

Matthew 4:17

- ❖ repent (change your mind), the kingdom of heaven is at hand

Matthew 16:15-19

- ❖ Peter gets revelation of who Jesus is
- ❖ Peter is given the keys of the kingdom of heaven

Jesus raised up the apostles

The Apostles then began to build up a people who can embody the kingdom in the Spirit

The "Ecclesia" the church is to embody the Kingdom

The "Ecclesia" in the Roman Empire set up, was a people who make decisions for the government

Jesus adopted this word "Ecclesia" for His kingdom, His church

This people (the Church) will be unstoppable, the gates of Hades will not be able to stop this people

The Church is a people who will obey the King and express and manifest the kingdom on earth when they are walking in maturity

How to enter the kingdom and who you are in the kingdom

John 3:3-6

- ❖ you must be born again into this kingdom
- ❖ to be born into the kingdom means you are a son of the kingdom

Benefits of being a kingdom person

- ❖ then you can inherit the kingdom
- ❖ we are to grow up to be "sons of the kingdom"
- ❖ you are born into it, and are to grow up to inherit it
- ❖ enter kingdom by birth

John 18:36

- ❖ kingdom is not of this world
- ❖ it is not the same as Babylon
- ❖ if kingdom was like world, servants would fight
- ❖ kingdom operation is spiritual – it is inside people – **Romans 14:17**, understand the kingdom from inside, righteousness, peace and joy in Holy Spirit
- ❖ Kingdom works from inside and comes to the outside

When Jesus was in the Body He was the representative of the kingdom of God on earth

Church is Body of Christ – embodying Kingdom of God

As apostles and prophets open the mysteries, the principalities and powers give way – **(Ephesians 3:10) – and the glory of God begins to fill the earth**

If church does not move into the wisdom of God, the kingdom will not be manifested on earth

Casting out demons, healing sick are manifestations of power of the kingdom of God

Kingdom of God brings life, opposite to kingdom of darkness

There is need for the church to mature

If church does not mature we will be in trouble

Immature church has no capacity to manifest kingdom on earth

Kingdom of God comes to displace devil's rule
We receive it by promise but we can only get it by fighting (like Israelites entering Canaan)
When church grows to maturity they become fighters
Apostles and prophets must be given their place to bring the church to maturity in the wisdom of God so that we can fight for the inheritance
Church must grow

Church is to inherit the earth after displacing principalities and powers
I am born again to grow to maturity to understand the wisdom of God, receiving the mysteries so that we can displace principalities and powers so that we can look forward to a new heaven and new earth where righteousness dwells

Revelation 5:10

❖ we shall reign on the earth as kings and priests

Daniel 2:44

Daniel 7:26-27

Revelation 5:10

Revelation 11:15

Psalms 37:9

Psalms 25:13

Proverbs 2:21

Psalms 115:16

Isaiah 60:21-22

Matthew 5:5

Psalms 37:10-11

Psalms 37:22

Psalms 37:28-29

Proverbs 10:32

Matthew 6:9-10

Finally, the manifestation of the sons will usher the creation into glory

– Romans 8:19-22

- creation eagerly waits for the sons to be revealed
- creation will be delivered from bondage to corruption
- into the glorious liberty of the children of God

Christ's prayer will be answered

Matthew 6:9-10

- Your kingdom come
- Your will be done **on earth**
- As it is in heaven

Yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever! Amen!

The Resurrection and the Coming

Rapture teachers do not teach the resurrection

Acts 23:6

- ❖ **"resurrection" – Gk 'Anastasis'**
- ❖ a standing up again, restoration to life, rising from the dead – can also mean a moral recovery of spiritual truth, the resurrection of Jesus from the dead is a prototype of the future resurrection of all that are in the grave
- ❖ in Acts 23:6 Paul said this is why he was on trial – concerning the resurrection of the dead

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

- basic gospel is the facts about Jesus' life
- Jesus **died, buried and rose** on 3rd day according to the Scriptures
- we experience this through baptism

1 Corinthians 15:5

- Jesus was seen alive from dead by Cephas
- then seen by the 12
- then seen by 500 brethren at once
- only brethren saw Jesus alive after the Cross
- when Jesus comes who will see Him?
- When we see Him we will be changed and transformed

1 Corinthians 15:12

- there were arguments among the Corinthians about the resurrection
- v.13** – if there is no resurrection, then Christ is not risen
- v.14** – if Christ not risen, faith empty, preaching empty
- v.15** – false witnesses if we preach resurrection if there is no resurrection
- v.16** – primary truth of gospel is that because Jesus rose from dead, we also will rise from the dead
- v.18** – if no resurrection, those who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished
- v.20** – Christ is risen from dead, He is **"firstfruits"** of those who have "fallen asleep" (died)
- v.21-22** – In Adam, all die, In Christ all will be made alive
- the hope of the church is the resurrection of the dead, from the dead

When does the Resurrection happen?

- v.23** – Christ the firstfruits
- afterwards those who are Christ's at His **coming**
- we will rise from the dead at the **coming**
- "Coming" – Gk 'parousia'**

- ❖ never used to describe the first coming as a man
- ❖ Coming is referring to Him coming in glory as God
- ❖ "Parousia" was originally the official term for a visit by a person of high rank, especially a king. It was an arrival that included a permanent presence from that coming onward. The glorified Messiah's arrival will be followed by a permanent residence with His glorified people

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

- we must study the Word in context
- verse, passage, chapter, book, testament, Bible

v.13 – we are not to be ignorant of the hope of resurrection

v.14 – If we believe that Jesus died and rose again (the most important tenet of our faith)

- then we can believe that those who sleep (died) in Jesus will come with Him – God will bring them with Jesus when He comes

v.15 – by the word of the Lord

- we who are alive and remain until the **coming of the Lord** (there is a generation of believers living on the earth when Lord comes)
- these ones will not enter the glorious realm with Jesus before those who died previously

v.16 – Lord Himself will **descend** from heaven

- **descend** = descend, come down (SC#2597 Gk, "come down" (41x), "descend")
- scholars – inherent within this word is someone or something leaving a higher position to arrive at a lower one (there is no sense of bouncing back up again, it just means to come down, it does not go back up again)
- coming with a **shout**
- with voice of arch angel
- with trumpet of God
- "dead in Christ" = those who have fallen asleep

v.15 – parousia – coming

- people will be alive and remain until the **coming of the Lord**

"coming" 24x – being near, advent (to come to), in context of Christ coming to punish Jerusalem

Jesus is **"Coming"** to be near you – We are not **"Going"** to be near Him, He is **"Coming"** to be near us

1 Thessalonians 5:23

- spirit, soul and body preserved blameless at the **coming** of Lord Jesus Christ
- we are to be blameless in order to be part of His Coming
- we are to be focused, not messing around

1 Thessalonians 3:12-13

- establish your hearts blameless in holiness before God the Father at the **coming**

i) we must be blameless in holiness, established in our hearts – prepared

ii) when Lord comes, He is coming with all His saints, everyone who has died believing in Him are coming with Him (**Hebrews 12:1**, the cloud of witnesses)
He is coming to be with us – when we see Him we shall be changed to be like Him

2 Thessalonians 2:1

- concerning the **Coming** and our gathering together to Him
- Jesus is Coming and we will be gathered to Him

James 5:7-8

- ❖ as a farmer be patient until the **coming** of the Lord
- ❖ Establish your hearts for the **coming** of the Lord is at hand

2 Peter 3:4

- where is the Promise of His **coming**?
- in the day of which the Lord will come

1 John 2:28

- abide in Him
- when He appears we will have confidence
- not be ashamed at His **coming**

2 Peter 1:16

- Peter says that he was an eyewitness of the majesty of His **coming**
- did not make up stories about it
- they saw the Transfiguration (**Matthew 17:1-2**)
- they saw the "trailer", "preview" of the **coming**
- **Peter saw the coming!**
- it is worth giving everything to be part of this **coming!**

1 Thessalonians 4:17

- we who are alive and remain will be "**caught up**" together

Gk "harpadzo" – to seize :- catch up (4x), take by force (3x), catch away (2x), pluck (2x), catch (1x), pull (1x)

- ❖ no sense in this word about going up to heaven

Revelation 12:5 – male child "**caught up**" to God and His Throne

Matthew 11:12 – kingdom suffers violence and the violent "**take it by force**"

Matthew 12:29 – "**plunder**" the house of the strongman

John 6:15 – "**take Him by force**" to make Jesus king

2 Corinthians 12:2,4 – Paul had an experience of being "**caught up**" to 3rd heaven, "**caught up**" to Paradise – Paul came back to do something on the earth

Jude 23 – "**pluck**" sinning Christians from the fire = rescuing them from the fire of judgement

1 Thessalonians 4:17

- dead in Christ rise first
- ones who are alive and remain will be **caught up** (seized, pulled) together with them, to meet the Lord in the clouds in the air
- dead will rise in resurrection at the **coming**
- **not raptured to heaven, but we will rise from the dead**
- it means to stand again, be restored to life
- alive ones will be caught up together with those who are rising from the dead
- they are coming with Jesus and rising at same time
- "air" is all around the earth – **"air" = "air"**
- we will meet Jesus in the earth realm
- in the "clouds" – what are the clouds?
- Cloud in Old T was a symbol of Presence of God
- clouds also used like this in New T, He is coming with the clouds
- **Hebrews 12:1** – "cloud of witnesses" = Old T saints – and what about all the New T saints also
- they are coming with Jesus – maybe this is the clouds
- "we will meet the Lord" and we shall always be with the Lord

Make sure you are with the Lord when He descends from heaven

Do not miss the Coming

When He comes the dead are raised

Those who are alive will be transformed (Philippians 3:20-21)

Covering

Do you need an umbrella?

Genesis 2:25

- ❖ they were both naked (the man and his wife) and they were **not ashamed**
- ❖ even though they were naked they were **under a covering**
- ❖ they were innocent, perfect and were properly covered
- ❖ sin and disobedience led them to be **uncovered**
- ❖ if Adam had continued in obedience to God they would have **remained under the covering**

Genesis 3:7

- ❖ their eyes were opened
- ❖ **they knew they were naked**
- ❖ they tried to cover themselves with fig leaves = **man's covering**
- ❖ even with fig leaves they felt **afraid, uncovered, ashamed**

Genesis 3:10

- ❖ Adam heard God's voice
- ❖ He was afraid and **hid himself**
- ❖ Man's covering are places to hide but they are not adequate to cover us (protect us) and the evil one will be able to harass us
- ❖ Man's covering caused Adam to still be afraid and ashamed in God's presence

What did God do for Adam?

Genesis 3:22

- ❖ God made tunics of skin and **clothed them**
- ❖ **God covered them**
- ❖ It was not the direct covering of His glory
- ❖ It was a covering of skin
- ❖ **It was covering that required shedding of blood – covered sin**
- ❖ This was only a temporary covering
- ❖ It was effective due to blood shed but still temporary
- ❖ Until Jesus came, died and rose again, the covering was through **the blood of animals**
- ❖ This could not actually take away sin – it was only a type of blood of Christ

Now in Christ, the original covering has been fully restored

John 17:1,5

- ❖ Glorify Me together with Yourself with the **glory** I had with You before the world was
- ❖ When God created Man, He covered them with the glory
- ❖ The same glory Jesus had with the Father

John 17:21-22

- ❖ all believers to be One, as Jesus and Father are One
- ❖ when we come back into **full covering of glory of God** then the world will see Jesus in us
- ❖ the **glory** which Father gave Jesus, He gave this **glory** to the apostles and the ones who would receive the apostles would receive this **glory**

Only reason “covering” is an issue to so many in the church world is because we have not discovered the covering of the glory in Christ – because we have not received the apostles that Jesus sends

Matthew 10:40 – receiving apostles that Jesus sent = receiving Jesus = receiving Father

- ❖ **they are covered!**

**The glory is first given to the apostles Jesus sends
It is then given to those who receive the apostles**

Jesus wants all of His people to become one

It is only out of this glory that we become one

It is only out of this oneness that we become perfect – grow to perfection (a perfect man)

Oneness not brought about by church unity movements

Oneness comes only by people who have come back under the glory

Receiving an apostle is coupled with receiving a father – you step into it and are changed

This is a covering which brings security, not trying to prove anything of ourselves

Steps to the glory

1. **Submission** – in Body – **Ephesians 5:21**
2. **Humility** – 1 Peter 5:5
3. **Grace** – 1 Peter 5:5
4. **Ministry** – 1 Peter 4:10-11
5. **Unveil the mystery** – Ephesians
6. **Mystery unveils the glory** – 1 Corinthians 2:6-8
7. **Glory brings us into Oneness** – John 17:22, Ephesians 4:4-16
8. **Oneness brings us into Perfection** – John 17:23-24

The original covering was the covering of the glory of God

In John 17 – Jesus prayed apostolically and prophetically that through His death and resurrection He would restore the covering of the glory

- Prophetically the trumpet call has gone out to bring us to perfection (Feast of Tabernacles)
- 3 years ago a prophetic word released that we are coming to the **Day of Atonement**, to have sin dealt with finally – getting all the sin out
- even this year in celebrating the Feast of Passover/Unleavened Bread – God has been getting the leaven out, delivering us from demons and sin

Christ is our covering!

No man can cover me – only Christ!

We belong to the church that Jesus is building

Colossians 1:18

- ❖ Christ is the head of the church, the Body
- ❖ He is the Beginning – the Source
- ❖ The Bishops are not the head of the church
- ❖ Senior Pastors are not the head of the church
- ❖ In all things Jesus is given the **First Place – Pre-eminence**
- ❖ **Jesus is the covering – the only One with headship**

1 Corinthians 11:2-16

v.3 – Head of every man is Christ

- Head of every woman is man
- Head of Christ is God

v.10 – woman should have authority on her head because of the angels

- will a natural “head covering” protect you from the devil?
- warfare is all around
- a woman needs her head covered, she needs authority on her head
- how? By submitting to her husband who is under Christ – she will have authority on her head and be protected from the devil!
- a woman can only be under the covering if it is a husband under Christ
- Head of Christ is God
- Christ, though equal with God, humbled Himself – He was fully covered by His Father
- Jesus taught us how to walk as a Son to the Father, remaining under the covering

v.16 – teaching on head covering for women was a **custom** = not a Scriptural requirement

In the Word there is the:

- ❖ **clear Word of God – commands**
- ❖ **principles of living that we will be blessed by if we do, but not sinning if we do not**

What about divorcees, single mothers and single women?

They have to submit into the Body and receive the elder, the apostle as their spiritual covering

Everyone of us needs a covering – it is Christ

How is that covering released? It is through receiving apostles that Jesus sends

Head of man is Christ – the Anointed One

- ❖ come under the anointed covering that comes through the apostle(s) Jesus sends
- ❖ when under attack by devil, submit to the rest of the Body and ask for the covering of the Body of Messiah

Covering is not a position!

Covering comes from a person through a Person (Messiah)

God gave man a responsibility to look after his wife

1 Peter 3:6-7 – If man covers/protects his wife and treats her right, his prayers will be answered by God

- husbands who look after their wives will have strong, secure wives

Paul spoke about headship in the creational order that was not disturbed by the fall

Anointing of Christ released as husband stands under Christ, and then the woman stands under the man – the anointing flows down

If children do not obey the mother that is the fault of the husband/father
Father/husband sets the tone, discipline

1 Corinthians 11:10

- if head is uncovered spiritually we come under the attack of “angels”, which are demonic
- very often it manifests as dizziness, headache
- if head is uncovered
- when this happens, quickly come back under the covering by submission to one another
- **Ephesians 5:21**
- husbands can ask for prayer from wives and family and the Body of Christ

Timothy was told not to let others despise his youth

A young man who is properly submitted and trained can release the anointing – people who want it need to stand under it, receive it, submit to the one who is anointed and stand under the covering of Christ

Finally we have to get our own anointing

We can receive the anointing through the laying on of hands

We can receive the anointing, the grace by sitting under a person’s ministry

We can receive Jesus through the apostles that Jesus sends – the covering

Stay under the Anointed One

Whoever is anointed receive from them and stay covered

Colossians 1:18

- ❖ Christ is Head
- ❖ He has inherited all things, overcame death
- ❖ He has pre-eminence

Wives are to submit to their husbands in all things **as to the Lord** – if husbands are acting like the devil wives do not need to submit to them

Until husband becomes more like Christ, then can submit to him

Colossians 3:1-3

- ❖ Our life is hidden in the **Anointed One (Christ) in God**
- ❖ No matter where you are physically you can be hidden in the Anointed One by setting your minds and affections on Him
- ❖ Keep your mind on Him, transcends all problems and sufferings
- ❖ In midst of tribulation you can be kept hidden in the Anointed One, staying under the covering of Messiah

How does this outwork in the ministry at large?

- ❖ anointings in Old T was for
- ❖ Kings, Priests and Prophets
- ❖ E.g. King Hezekiah listened to prophet Isaiah (who was under the Anointing) and was covered by God
- ❖ Israel was covered when led by a judge anointed by God
- ❖ Elijah and King Ahab – Elijah used by God to judge the King as Elijah stood under a higher covering than the king of Israel at the time

Apostles were raised by Jesus the Apostle (**Hebrews 3:1**)

Matthew 10:1-2

- ❖ Jesus sent out apostles with specific instructions and authority to do ministry
- ❖ Apostles have authority of Christ (**Matthew 10:40**)

1 Corinthians 4:14

- Paul as an apostle was a father to the Corinthians

Galatians 4:19

- ❖ Paul had a fathering relationship with churches he founded

Not only to churches but to sons

- ❖ Paul raised sons in the ministry
- ❖ Father/Son relationship is the internal pattern of covering

- ❖ The intrinsic heart of the church is to be these families relationship – **not institutional, organisation**
- ❖ Covering is not by position, it is family, elders are to be fathers
- ❖ Apostles who anoint the elders are fathers
- ❖ Most churches are filled by fatherless people being looked after by paid servants
- ❖ We look for a covering when we are insecure without a father
- ❖ When we have a father, we are secure and have a covering

Is ok to register a ministry with the government

We are called "Revival Ministries Australia"

When we got the building we called it "SHILOH" – meaning this is "His place" – it is a place of discipleship, a family committed to reaching nations in discipleship

Philippians 2:19-22

- ❖ Paul sent Timothy
- ❖ Timothy was like minded with Paul, sincerely caring for the estate of the Philippians
- ❖ Other ministers serving their own purpose
- ❖ Timothy had proven character
- ❖ Served as a son with his father in the gospel

What is the covering?

It is a father/son relationship

Peter and Jude spoke of false teachers – brings a false covering

When receive a father it is a relationship of submission and accountability

Covering comes from Father through the Son

Denominationalism has sold people short

Institutional covering does not stop the devil

Biblical covering is a spiritual reality that comes through submitted relationships of father/son, apostle/elder

Father/Son examples

Moses/Joshua

Elijah/Elisha

Peter/Mark

Paul/Timothy, Titus

Malachi 4:5-6

- ❖ spirit and power of Elijah restores father/son relationships in the Spirit
- ❖ heart of relationship in the kingdom of God is heart of fathers for children of God and children to fathers
- ❖ Elders are to be a good example for others to follow, authority from Christ the head through apostles

Isaiah 32:2-4

Understanding apostolic company

- ❖ not a “local church”
- ❖ but a family committed to the apostolic faith of the Scriptures
- ❖ led by apostle(s)

The Five Fold Ministry Gift

Ephesians 4:4 – There is one body, one Spirit, one hope of your calling, one Lord, one Faith, one baptism, one God and Father

❖ 7 ones of the church we are to come to understand

V7. To each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift

❖ How is Jesus going about building the church?

The house of God is built by **Grace (Zech 4:7)**

❖ Grace is the divine influence working on our hearts to transform us and become like Him to do His will

❖ **1 Peter 4:10-11** – Grace enables us to minister, we are to be good stewards of the grace of God

Christ's Gift is so important for us to receive – to receive the grace

❖ It will cause us to be transformed and to stand (**Rom 5:2**)

❖ We can see the eternal purpose of God

What is the gift of Christ?

❖ it is Christ Himself

❖ we receive grace according to the measure we receive Christ

Ephesians 4:8

❖ the **gift** has become **gifts**

❖ When Jesus ascended He released this gift of Christ (which are gifts) to men

❖ The fact that there are gifts prove that Christ has ascended on high

❖ These gifts carry a lot of authority

V9-10.

❖ Jesus died and went down and was raised from the dead and ascended on high – filling every place with His presence – He released these gifts

Ephesians 4:11

❖ He gave some apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers

❖ **John 1:16** – from the fullness of Christ we have received grace for grace

❖ Christ is the fullness of these 5 ministries

❖ He releases grace to the body, so the body can grow into the fullness of Christ

❖ We need to receive the full measure of these gifts

1. Jesus is the Apostle

Hebrews 3:1 – Jesus is the apostle, sent on behalf of God

Matthew 16:18 – upon this Rock I will build My church (the apostle is the builder of the house of God)

2. Jesus is the Prophet

Deuteronomy 18:15,18 – Yahweh will raise up a Prophet, He will speak all that I command Him

- ❖ Jesus only spoke what the Father gave Him to speak
- ❖ **Matthew 21:11** – this is Jesus the Prophet

3. Jesus is the Evangelist

Matthew 15:24 – I was not sent except to the lost sheep of Israel

- ❖ Jesus as the evangelist was looking for the lost sheep of Israel (**Ez 34**)
- ❖ **Mark 1:38** – that I may preach there also
- ❖ Jesus came preaching the gospel of the kingdom

4. Jesus is the Pastor/Shepherd

John 10:11 – Jesus said 'I am the Good Shepherd'

- ❖ **Psalms 23:1** – the Lord is my shepherd
- ❖ The shepherd restores our souls

5. Jesus is the Teacher

Matthew 23:8 – one is your teacher, the Christ

- ❖ **John 3:2** – Nicodemus recognised Jesus as the teacher because of the signs and wonders

Jesus is the manifestation of the 5 ministry gifts

What are these gifts for?

Ephesians 4:12

a) for the equipping (perfecting) of the saints

Equipping - "katartismos" – a making fit, preparing, training, perfecting, making fully qualified for service

The word was used for setting a bone in surgery.

- gifts given to set the body in order (so the church won't be out of joint)

- ❖ the gifts are given to prepare God's people for the Messiah
- ❖ **Luke 7:30** – not to reject the will of God
- ❖ We need training to become active in the call of God
- ❖ The gifts are given to disciple the church

b) for the work of ministry

- ❖ the gifts are given so that the work of ministry continues

c) for the building up (edifying) of the body of Christ

- ❖ the gifts are not given to rule the body of Christ
- ❖ the body owns the gifts
- ❖ the ministry gifts are a servant to the body
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 3:21-22** – let no one boast in men (remain loyal to the word of God, not a man or denomination)

All things are yours, including those given as ministers to the Body

Ephesians 4:13 – the ministry gifts continue today

The gifts were given by Christ at His ascension

The 5 gifts are functioning:

- **until** we all come to the unity of the faith

All the ministry gifts bring the same faith (the apostles' doctrine, the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints – **Jude 3**)

Psalm 133 – how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity

- the unity releases the anointing (the oil running down)
- **1 John 2:20** – you have an anointing that teaches you all things
- the anointing is the covering of Christ (receiving the ministry gifts that teach us all things concerning Christ)

Ephesians 4:13 – coming to the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ

- ❖ God wants us to come to the full measure

How do these ministries function?

Apostles

- ❖ the ascension gift **apostles** are different from the 12 apostles of the Lamb
- ❖ **Romans 1:5** – we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations
- ❖ The apostolic grace comes to prepare the church for the Great Commission
- ❖ We need to be obedient to the Great Commission
- ❖ Releasing revelation of the mystery – **Ephesians 3:5**
- ❖ **1 Corinthians 12:28** – God has appointed first apostles
- ❖ The apostles relate to the other ministries in the body of Christ
- ❖ The ministry gifts need to be grounded in apostolic doctrine
- ❖ Apostles will experience persecution

Prophets

The prophet - “prophetes” – one who speaks forth or openly, proclaimer of a divine message

- Old T prophets spoke of the kingdom and Messiah to come
- in the New T the prophets tell us where we are heading, the destiny of the church
- apostles and prophets need to work together
- prophets open up the prophetic Scriptures

Revelation 18:20

- ❖ Babylon falls because of the ministry of the apostles and prophets to the church
- ❖ The testimony of Jesus – the spirit of prophecy

As we receive all the ministry gifts, we receive the full measure of the grace of God so that we can come to the full measure of the stature of Christ!

The Charge

Paul's charge to Timothy

1 Timothy 1:1a

- Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ
- it appears there is only one type of apostle after all – simply “apostles of Jesus Christ” – no horizontal or vertical apostles

Why would Paul introduce himself to his own spiritual son as “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ”?

- ❖ When true apostles stand up and confess who they are, it makes principalities and powers tremble

What is an apostle?

- i) “one sent” on a mission
- ii) Sent by another with the authority of the one sending him
- iii) Sent to fulfil the task for which they are being sent – there is a task to be done
- iv) Sent to fully represent and make known the Sender

Jesus told 12 when He first sent them out on mission – **Matthew 10:40** – first apostles were to represent Jesus and make Father known to men

Matthew 28:19-20

- ❖ Go...make disciples of all nations, baptising them into the name...teaching them to observe all things I commanded you...I am with you to the end of the age
- ❖ Apostles were to make disciples thoroughly of all nations, all the way to the end of the age through every generation

How is one an apostle of Jesus Christ?

- ❖ apostles are called and chosen by Jesus Christ
- ❖ **Luke 6:12-13** – Jesus had many disciples, He appointed 12 to be trained as apostles
- ❖ **Acts 1:21-26** – Peter was led by God to replace Judas as 12th apostle – Matthias was chosen by God for the apostleship at that time
- ❖ **Paul and Barnabas** first “ascension gift” apostles appointed – **Acts 13:1-4** – called by Holy Spirit through prophetic word, Holy Spirit through the elders sent them out as apostles (**Acts 14:4,14**)
- ❖ Paul said he was **an apostle of Jesus Christ**
- ❖ Apostles must be able to reveal who Jesus is

- ❖ The Divinity of Jesus has been downplayed, apostles much preach again the **mystery of Godliness – 1 Timothy 3:16 – God was manifested in the flesh...** - this was a common confession in the early church
- ❖ Angel revealed to Joseph that birth of Jesus was fulfilment of prophecy of Isaiah – **Matthew 1:23, Isaiah 7:14**
- ❖ John in his gospel – **"In the beginning was the Word...God was the Word"**
- ❖ **The Word became flesh... (John 1:1,14)**
- ❖ An apostle of Jesus must know who Jesus is and preach the truth of who He is
- ❖ **Matthew 28:18** – Jesus has all authority
- ❖ **Preach the gospel of Jesus the Christ**

What does it mean to call Jesus the Christ?

Luke 2:11 – Jesus the Saviour, who was born in Bethlehem, is **Christ the Lord**

- ❖ Jesus became known as the **Christ** after His baptism and ministry in the Spirit
- ❖ **John 1:41** – we have found the **Messiah/Christ**
- ❖ **John 1:49** – in calling Jesus **King** Nathaniel was recognising Him as Christ/Messiah
- ❖ Apostles need to preach as the early apostles did – **Acts 5:42** – preaching and teaching Jesus **the Christ**
- ❖ Paul was an apostle of Jesus the Christ
- ❖ Apostles are to represent this Jesus the Christ

Philip the evangelist

Acts 8:12 – Philip was brought up by the apostles

- ❖ preached kingdom of God
- ❖ preached name of Jesus the Christ
- ❖ Philip knew who Jesus was, the King, God in flesh

1 Timothy 1:1

- Paul was an apostle by **the command of God**
- not by any desire of his own
- Bible does not tell us to desire to be an apostle
- only become an apostle by a command of God – it is a terrible calling
- Paul had no doubt about his ministry calling
- Paul had no doubt about his appointment as an apostle
- **1 Corinthians 12:28** – apostles are **God's appointments**
- if called to be an apostle must know it is from God
- even today as in Paul's day, there was contention over this ministry
- **1 Timothy 2:7** – Paul was a preacher, an apostle – I am telling the truth in Christ, I am not lying... - some people were questioning Paul's apostleship
- apostles must be sure of their appointment

Today it is incumbent on apostles to declare their apostleship

Apostles' doctrine

1 Timothy 1:3

- "charge some that they **teach no other doctrine**"
- Paul's primary concern as an apostle was over doctrine

v.4 – not to give heed to fables and endless genealogies

"Fables" – stories with minimal reference to truth

"Genealogies" – trying to be someone important by knowing your ancestry –

Galatians 3:29 – this is all you need to know! Are you an heir through the Seed of Abraham? Are you royal blood?

❖ **Acts 2:42** – if we continue in **apostles' doctrine** we will be fulfilling Jesus' commandment (**Matthew 28:19-20**)

1 Timothy 1:6 – many have turned aside to idle talk, not teaching true doctrine

v.7 – they affirm things they do not even understand – beware of "Judaizers", those who claim that if you do not do certain things according to the law you will not be saved

1 Timothy 1:8

- Law is good if used lawfully

v.9-10 - law made for unrighteous, lawless, ungodly not righteous

- many nations now say "sodomy" is "good" – it is an abomination
- law is for fornicators (living in a sexual relationship outside of marriage), sodomites, kidnappers, murderers, liars, perjurers

- all these things are contrary to **sound doctrine**

- sound doctrine is key to the glory

v.11 – this is according to the glorious gospel of the blessed God

- law is not an issue for believers as laws are put in our mind and in our hearts and we fulfil the law by the Spirit who is in us!

- law is "Torah" – the teaching, instruction

2 Timothy 3:16 – All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...

- **apostles' doctrine** is the New Testament application of the instruction of Moses (Torah) and the fulfilment of it, according to **Matthew 5:17** – Jesus did not come to destroy the Torah but to fulfil it, all must be fulfilled, should not break the commandments but teach the commands

- it is no longer to do with outward observance or ceremonial significance but it is to result in **"love from a pure heart, love from a good conscience, and love from a sincere faith"** **1 Timothy 1:5**

Pure heart

❖ **Matthew 5:8** – pure hearts see God, the result of receiving true doctrine, you will see God

❖ **Hebrews 10:22** – draw near with a **true heart**, believing the truth, you will see God (worship in Spirit and in Truth)

❖ in **full assurance of faith** (sincere faith)

❖ having our hearts **sprinkled from an evil conscience** – good conscience is given by allowing the blood to cleanse their hearts, cleansed from condemnation, shame and guilt

the goal of the commandment and instruction is **love**

- ❖ this love will come forth as we have a
 - i) **pure heart**
 - ii) **good conscience**
 - iii) **sincere faith, full assurance of faith**

Law is for unrighteous

Galatians 3:23-25 – Law is tutor to bring us to Christ

- ❖ Law corrects sin
- ❖ Law makes sin look like sin
- ❖ It is a tutor to bring us to Christ
- ❖ We discipline children so that they will come to Christ
- ❖ Law kept us under guard before faith came
- ❖ Law was keeping us for the faith that would be revealed – the law makes us realise we are condemned so that we can be ready for faith to come and deliver us
- ❖ Law was tutor to bring us to Christ that we may be justified by faith

1 Timothy 1:10-11

- sin is contrary to **sound doctrine**

What is sound doctrine?

- ❖ it is according to glorious gospel of the blessed God
- ❖ everything taught by Jesus in the gospels is **the gospel** – it is sound doctrine if it is in accordance with the **gospel** (Jesus told His disciples to keep tithing – **Matthew 23:1,23**)
- ❖ this gospel is **committed to my trust**
- ❖ **gospel is the personal responsibility of apostles and then all believers**
- ❖ apostles today must come to maturity in Christ and take this responsibility seriously to teach the pure Word of God – custodians of the **gospel** – that which is written
- ❖ **the gospel** is also all that was written by the apostles in the epistles
- ❖ **always remain in the written word**
- ❖ our teaching must be according to that which is written

1 Timothy 1:2

- Timothy, **a true son in the faith**
- sons are given **the charge**

1 Corinthians 4:17 – a **beloved and faithful son in the Lord**

- i) **beloved son** – father/son relationship
- ii) **faithful son** – reminds brethren of teaching of father
- iii) **true son in the faith** – Paul knows Timothy will teach the truth, the **gospel**

We need to raise beloved, faithful and true sons in the faith!

1 Timothy 2

- exhortation to prayer
- prayer to be offered for all men
- for kings and all in authority
- this is good...God desires all to be saved and come to knowledge of truth
- prayer for our nations is essential – prayer for governments, leaders, presidents, kings
- church is exhorted to pray for the nation!
- pray that they will get saved, come to the knowledge of the truth
- answers to prayer will be that God will raise and appoint apostles, preachers and teachers

1 Timothy 3

- instruction for young apostle Timothy on appointing deacons, bishops/elders
- mystery of Godliness

1 Timothy 4

- Timothy told that many will listen to doctrines of demons
- Paul gives instruction on how to follow good doctrine carefully and teach others
- **v.13** – read the Scriptures – all teaching must be clearly opening up Scriptures, expository teaching and preaching
- **v.16** – take heed to yourself **and the doctrine** – save yourself and others if continue in sound doctrine

1 Timothy 5

- Paul teaches sound doctrine
- honouring elders
- honour true widows
- paying elders
- treating women properly (**v.1-2**)

1 Timothy 6

- teaching sound doctrine – how to work in workplace adorning the doctrine
- teach the doctrine which accords with Godliness
- **v.11** pursue the right things fleeing love of money
- **v.20-21** – Timothy is to guard what was committed to him – pure doctrine to give to the church