

URGENCY!



...time is running out!

“Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest”. ~John 4:35.

The Lord Jesus Christ gave the Church a Commission, the responsibility and privilege of telling the world the good news about Him, what He has accomplished for humanity and the life He offers to anyone who comes to Him. But it is quite obvious and unfortunate that the Church has majored on the minor and minored on the major. As you read this, it is important you know that for every breath you take, countless number of unsaved souls are undesirably, but sure, sinking into eternal damnation to spend eternity with the devil and all the enemies of God.

Do you still remember the Words of Jesus in Mark 16:15?: ***“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”*** AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING PERSONALLY ABOUT THE MASTERS COMMAND? It is no longer the issue of *“I will think about it”*, it is urgent! The need for the gospel to be communicated to lost humanity is urgent! Here we stand before a dying world gasping for the Gospel of the Kingdom. It's so amazing how everyone claims to have a deep intimacy with God and fellowship with Him every day but still cannot hear the earnest throbbing of His heart for lost humanity. Think of the pains it brings to the Father's heart to see the ones to whom He gave His Son Jesus Christ to die for still going to hell. Think of the pains in the heart of the Lord Jesus Christ, having paid such a price with His own blood, suffering for all to be saved, to see these same ones perishing by the seconds; especially those who have never heard that there is such a thing as eternal life or justification by faith through Jesus Christ. Most people have never even had the fair opportunity to say yes or no to Jesus but are daily finding their way into eternal death against their will. Who will tell them?

THE PEOPLE

As soon as anyone gets saved, He becomes responsible for the salvation of another. No one gets specially qualified for soul winning! It's the work of the Holy Spirit through us. We, the Saints, have been given the Gospel mandate to let everyone in the world hear about what God has done through His Son Jesus Christ for them and if you are not actively involved in this mandate, no matter what your pursuit or career is, you have a mixed up priority in life. God has given every believer in Jesus Christ the Ministry and Word of reconciliation (II Cor. 5:18-19). It's our No.1 job and we have no reason whatsoever not to be actively involved in this mandate. We have a gospel that should be heralded to the world with all urgency, at least one soul at a time. The urgency of the Gospel Mandate cannot be over-emphasized. It is very evident that Jesus is not pleased with our passive approach towards the Great Commission. He is not so concerned about our many Church activities or attendance as He is about the Great Commission He has given us. Nothing

replaces God's earnest desire to have the lost saved for that was the reason He gave up His only begotten Son to carry out His redemptive plan.

We must understand that we are the only hope the world has of hearing the Gospel. You are God's answer to the prayer: ***“Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest.”*** (Matt. 9:38 NKJV). Have your friends and neighbours heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ? God will ask you! The idea of hearing and receiving the Gospel and withholding it from others spells out selfishness which is not consistent with the Divine nature.

THE MESSAGE

God has commissioned the Church with a definite message to herald to the world. Paul declares in Romans 1:16 ***“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ; for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth...”*** The Spirit is saying through Paul here that it is the Gospel of Christ that is God's manifest power at work to save anyone who believes. So what is the Gospel of Christ? What good news did He bring? It is clearly revealed by Jesus Christ Himself in John 10:10. He says ***“The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly”*** So we see that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is: eternal life available to all who would believe and receive! It's time for us to let the world know that it is not Jesus that steals from them – He brings abundance to them, it is not Jesus that kills – He is the life-giver, and it is not Jesus that destroys – He puts lives in order, He heals wounded hearts, He gathers the fragments of broken lives and fix them together producing geniuses out of them! The good news is that Jesus has come to replace eternal death with eternal life for anyone who believes; and whoever believes in and receives Him, no matter the magnitude of his atrocities, will be forgiven and transferred from the domain of death to life, from darkness to light, from the power of Satan unto God (John 5:24, Acts 26:18). Hallelujah! The world needs to hear this! We must help people fall in love with this gracious Father God and be saved!

HIS PRESENCE

No man by his own ability can win the lost into the Kingdom of God. It takes the power and influence of the Holy Spirit for the Word to penetrate into the heart of a sinner and change him. This is where many folks miss it. They never involve the Holy Spirit in their soul winning activities and the result is futile. Jesus knew that we couldn't do it all by ourselves, that was why he promised His presence. He says ***“... and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age”*** (Matt. 28:20). Mark 16:20 says, ***“And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen”*** This portion of the scripture emphasizes the fact that God never called us to work for Him but

to work with Him. It's a family-partnership affair just as it is made clear in II Cor. 6:1, ***“We then, as workers together with him...”*** We see in the Scriptures that the presence of the Holy Spirit is the presence of Jesus in our lives (John 14:16-18). It is therefore God's presence that makes us effective in winning the lost. The Holy Spirit always wants to be involved in every bit of it. He directs us on how to pray for the lost and effectively minister to them the word or message of reconciliation. So it is important to always ask the Holy Spirit to help you witness for Jesus before going out and the result will be awesome. The Holy Spirit is the perfect Strategist. He knows just how to get everyone to hear this glorious message on our lips.

THE PRAYER

No matter how long or short the salvation prayer is, it has to be the Bible way. The Bible way to be saved is revealed in Romans 10:9,10 which says, ***“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*** The salvation prayer involves the individual's confessing with his mouth that Jesus Christ is the Lord of his life AND believing in his heart that God raised Christ from the dead, after which he is saved. Anything outside this is inconsistent with the Word of God. Take note that the prayer must be addressed to the Father in the Name of Jesus!

REVIVAL OR THE HARVEST

God never intended the 'revival' to be a Church vocabulary, but unfortunately it is gradually becoming her daily pursuit. The word 'revival' denotes trying to keep something alive. Only something which already had life needs a revival. It is important for us to know that God never gave us an eternal life that would be needing maintenance or support. God gave us a perfect life. He gave us the same class and quality of life He possesses – eternal life. Revival popped into the Church as a result of our failure to stay and concentrate on our purpose. The purpose of the Church is not just to be having activities upon activities, but to reach out with the Gospel to a dying world. God meant that the Church will stay alive, revived and on fire by staying actively in her place of purpose. It is true that if we choose to stay in the four walls of the Church to continually “protect our salvation” instead of going out to rescue a dying world we ourselves would eventually soon be needing rescue too. It's time to step out! Jesus said ***“lift up your eyes and look on the fields”*** (not into the Church hall). The harvest is ripe out there (John 4:35)!

The world doesn't need a revival, they need harvesting, for they are ripe already! What happens when farm crops are left to over-ripe? There is loss of course. It is very costly to ignore God's edict. Remember, we must all give account of our roles in bring in the harvest. The Lord says in Ezekiel 3:18,19 ***“When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him***

not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul.” You mustn't become a pastor or an evangelist before you're effective for the Lord. But you must reach out in your sphere of influence or contact, wherever the Lord has placed you, for that's the reason you're there! The Saint lacks none of what it takes to get the Harvest into Gods ban. We've got the Holy Spirit, the Anointing, the utterance, the compassion, the faith, the holy fire, etc. so we have no reason to wait anymore. Let's go for it!

ACTION TIME

All over the world, the need for the Gospel is great, timely and urgent. The Gospel is in your hands right now, what are you going to do with it? Are you going to herald it or are you going to hoard it? If we don't go by choice, we might have to go by force (Acts 1:8; 8:1). The Lord is graciously bringing this to our consciousness at such a time as this so that we maximize the moment and make wise use of the short time available. We must act quickly! The more we delay the more complex the task becomes. The Gospel Mandate is our call! Angels don't win souls, the Father wouldn't, neither would the Lord Jesus. It is our job by the help of the Holy Spirit. Our delay in carrying out this divine task means co-operating with the devil, giving him the opportunity to operate and properly utilize extra time to steal, kill and destroy (Rev. 12:12; John 10:10). Never forget that the devil is also contesting for the souls of men, to destroy them. But the Lord Jesus wants us, His body, to take this eternal life to all men everywhere.

We are never promised that all who hear the Gospel would accept the message and receive salvation because it is based on the decisions of men (Mark 16:16). God desires for all to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (1Tim. 2:4). However, Jesus says that all must hear this Gospel of the Kingdom before the end of this age (Matt.24:14). Someone rightly said, *“Success in witnessing is simply sharing Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit and leaving the results to God!* It is our job to share. We leave the results to God. See, if every Christian worldwide decides to preach to at least a soul who has never heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ everyday for one Week, there's no doubt that in a week's time, this gospel would have reached everyone on earth and this would hasten the Lord's return! The coming of Jesus Christ is tied to the spread of this Gospel of the Kingdom: *“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”* (Matt. 24:14).

Remember, on that day when we stand at the feet of the Master, all that would matter is what we have accomplished for His Name on earth nothing else! I ask the Father in the Name of the

Lord Jesus Christ to bath you afresh with an undying passion for the lost and give you the best of strategies on how to win the lost at any cost for Him. Amen!

“Then they said one to another, We do not well: this day is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace: if we tarry till the morning light, some mischief will come upon us: now therefore come, that we may go and tell the king's household.” ~II Kings 7:9.

“... How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!”
~Romans 10:15.

“For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”
~Habakkuk 2:14.

“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.”
~Psalms 68:11.

“And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.”
~Luke 14:23.

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