

Apostles Today

IDCCST® Christian Education

Learn why apostles are necessary for the church today.

KOP Series
Volume 1

IDCCST®
Christian Education

Apostles Today

The Apostles of Jesus

TEACH THE CHURCH

Second 8th Week® Ministries
Bridge of hope to the world

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Introduction

Why are so many Christians looking for ways to go back to the first century church? What do they see there, that they're not seeing or experiencing in their own present "walk of faith"? Christians want to operate as the first century church because they seek to return to the purity of the faith that comes with apostolic government and desire to really know Christ and experience His presence and power in their lives, with the assurance that they are walking with and truly being led of the Spirit.

They have grown weary of carrying the yoke of a stagnant faith and desire to partake of Christ and experience His fullness. We have all heard these messages: "The Lord is challenging the way we have church, challenging us to come into one faith, and to learn about spiritual government." Many have responded to that challenge by simply inventing new ways to have church, new ways to try to touch God and activate Him to move, hoping He will give them the understanding they are seeking and explain their paradoxes of faith and their powerlessness over sin.

Others have dealt with the paradoxes and stagnation of faith by reinventing old faith models, simply trying to fill in the cracks of old crumbling foundations; but when these things did not work, believers remained frustrated and confused, "hitting the wall" as far as their Christian growth is concerned. Unable to achieve divine transformation through Jesus Christ and tired of "unrealized promises" they've been asking, "why is the power of God not the reality of what we are living" as we read in the Bible, *"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God"* (1Cor. 1:18). They are perplexed, asking, where is that power of God "unto us"? How do you transfer the promises of God from the pages of the Bible to reality?

This is why many are leaving the church; they are looking for the empowerment of the Spirit, and they desire to know Jesus Christ and understand and live by His expectations of faith. This is also why many Christians long for the manifestation and operation of apostles today.



Jesus Had in Mind that His Apostles Would Teach the Church

There are those who separate themselves from the institutional church and falsely think that they will study the Bible at home and learn of the Spirit and thus cleanse themselves of those things that defiled their faith; after all, Jesus said that when the Comforter comes, *“he shall teach you all things”* (John 14:26), but by their neglect to finish that verse, they show their lack of understanding: *“he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.”*

Here Jesus was not speaking about a one-on-one private tutorship between the believer and the Spirit, for Peter said. *“no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation”* (2Pet.1:20). No, Jesus was not speaking to individual Christians about private tutorship, but he was speaking to His apostles, beginning with John chapter 13, teaching and instructing them up to and including chapter 17. So, in speaking of the Holy Ghost there in John 14:26, the Comforter, whom the Father would send, he was saying that the Holy Ghost would teach them (the apostles) all things, and bring to their remembrance also all things which he had personally taught them while with them on earth.

Jesus had in mind that His apostles would teach and instruct the church in doctrine. And this is what took place, *“And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers”* (Acts 2:42). A return to the book of Acts is a return to this pattern of Jesus giving one truth to the church through apostles.

Realizing that the church deviated from that pattern, we can understand that when Christians come out from the institutional church, they come out carrying with them the precept of man, doctrines that have centered on man's needs, lusts, and desires, not the truth which Jesus gave to His apostles. It is important to come back to the understanding that the Holy Spirit will only bear witness to truth that proceeds from the headship of Christ as taught by His apostles. Look again at what Jesus said to His apostles about the Spirit in John 15:26: *“But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceeds from the Father, he shall testify of me.”*

The Holy Spirit will not testify or confirm anything that proceeds from the flesh, whether human wisdom and private interpretations of scripture (1Cor.1:20,21), aspirations of faith, or worldly philosophies and inspirations. So, if believers are carrying this false knowledge with them when they separate themselves from the church, they must be cleansed, washed by truth, the truth Jesus gave to His apostles and the truth to which the Spirit bears witness.



While believers can assess failure of the church through their own observation and experiences, they cannot reconstruct their faith. Despite their best efforts to cleanse themselves of false doctrine and transition themselves into truth, Christians soon find that they are right back where they started. Apart from the oversight that Jesus provides through His spiritual government, they merely trade one form of darkness for another, having not the accurate teaching and understanding, which Jesus gave to His apostles, of Himself and His gospel.

Now, God is a compassionate God; He has been a comfort in times of afflictions, and He has answered many prayers. But it is time for the Body of Christ to come together in one faith and one mind, by one and the same Spirit in the truth of Jesus Christ, without division, so that they can grow up into the fullness of Christ (1Cor 1:10).

God is transitioning the church from the stewardship of the precept of man to the stewardship of Jesus' truth and from the stewardship of faith paradoxes to the stewardship of the reality of Christ. This is the apostolic pattern.

The apostles calling is not just a definition, it is a function

As stated, the primary function of the apostle is to teach the one true doctrine of Christ in its entirety, thus setting the foundation of truth within the heart of each believer. This is why apostles are called stewards of the mystery of Christ.

Apostles are stewards of the mystery of Christ

Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. (1Cor.4:1)

Apostles set the foundation of truth in the heart through instruction of doctrine

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation [of truth within your heart], and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. ¹¹For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. (1Cor.3:10,11)

Apostles set truth in order for faith to be acceptable to God. We are going to use rail road tracks as an illustration. Your faith is the train and truth is the rails. God designed faith to follow the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Just as the tracks are "set in order" for the train, so also Jesus set in order His knowledge (by His apostles who laid the tracks) for your faith to follow. Your faith



can't go anywhere unless the rails are first set. Faith then goes in the direction that was laid out by God.

Without Apostolic Governance this stewardship is lost to the church and Christians do not know how to walk and to please God. Evidence of this is seen in how holiness is falsely placed in the flesh and how believers have a hard time putting Christianity in action.

Apostles teach the church how to walk and to please God

Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us [apostles] how ye ought to walk and to please God [the doctrine and tools of the second covenant], so ye would abound more and more [increase of grace and growth]. (1Thes.4:1)

So then, when apostles steward the mysteries of Christ they are setting the foundation of truth within the heart so believers know how to walk and please God.

There are those who think that if they discover the definition of an apostle they can discover the reality of spiritual government and walk in the apostolic by simply applying the precept of scripture and place themselves in the roll of fulfilling the scripture. But one must have the calling to experience the reality; the Spirit works with the calling, not apart from it. The precept of scripture does not create reality, the Spirit does.

The historical facts about apostles have an intellectual and emotional appeal, but cannot create the reality. Much like when watching the movie "The Ten Commandments"; it gives you a sense of participation with Moses and draws you into a state of involvement when in actuality, nothing is happening at all. Another good example of this is seen in Civil War reenactments. Knowledge about the Civil War is true, and one can act out certain parts of history, but that engagement does not translate into reality; it merely draws upon the imagination. Well, church became such an event with believers trying to reenact the Bible and trying to reenact spiritual government.

We understand that reading a book about grapes does not produce a vineyard, nor a bottle of wine. Yet people often memorize the fruit of the Spirit thinking they will experience that reality, only to realize that such is not the case. So too, memorizing the verses in Ephesians chapter 4 that speak about apostles and spiritual government does not bring the functionality of the calling to the church.



Satan knows that the soul has to function with knowledge, so he promotes knowledge that people can comprehend intellectually and emotionally and promises the operation and actuation of knowledge apart from Jesus' covenant and apart from Jesus' government, truth, and Spirit. The engagement is a simulation of faith, but not the reality of faith.

Jesus Gave Himself for the Church

Jesus gave Himself for the church; Jesus shed His blood upon the cross; Titus 2:14: "Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works." How does Jesus purify to Himself a people who are zealous to serve Him? We know that Jesus redeemed us to God by the blood of His cross and that all who believe in Him are saved. Revelation 1:5 reads, "Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood."

Now, you may be wondering, "OK, Well, if Jesus shed His blood for our redemption, why then do we need apostles? The church began with the apostles' doctrine as we read in Acts 2:42. It was the apostles that gave the knowledge of salvation for faith; Titus 2:4: "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth." Sinners need knowledge to be saved, and believers need knowledge to live unto God and grow in His grace. This knowledge is holy because it reflects Jesus Christ perfectly.

Jesus is the Head of the Church

Is.9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

Spiritual government sits upon Jesus' shoulders, which means that the oversight of the church is Jesus' responsibility. His plan has always been to counsel the heart in faith by first setting His truth as the foundation or pillar in the heart, and to accomplish this through His apostles. By this due order Christians receive the knowledge of the one truth, which is Christ, learn how to function in their priesthood, how to walk and please God according to Christ's covenant, and continue in Jesus' spiritual covering. This is seen by their increase in the grace of God and how the soul cease struggling against the flesh.



By the same token, when the church deviated from this divine order and received doctrine from those who were not called as apostles, believers lost Jesus' headship over the church and His spiritual covering.

Isaiah 30: 1

“Woe to the rebellious children, saith the Lord, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin.”

A Time of Darkness for the Church

The departure from Jesus' headship and His covering catapulted the church into a time of darkness that is both seen and experienced most typically in the dysfunctional priesthood of the believer, how one labors with the flesh to produce the power and fruits of the Spirit and how faith remains under the influence of Satan's illusion. This labor with an impaired faith is woven into the very fabric of modern Christianity, captivating the hearts of millions.

Thousands of Christian ideals and principles are pumped into the church that are built upon concepts and ideas that are born out of the departure of the church from the headship of Jesus Christ and the continued experience of missing His spiritual covering.

Language is used to describe a set of circumstances under which the soul labors. When we look at the language of modern Christianity we observe the Gospel of the Flesh and how the soul labors to return to Christ yet is stuck in the proverbial rut that loops believers back to their fallen nature.

Let's look at a few coined phrases that are typical of today's Christianity and observe how the language is used to describe the circumstances of the soul removed from Jesus' spiritual covering and walking according to the Gospel of the flesh:

1. **Self-Discovery:** learn the true purpose of God for your life. Focus is on uncovering, unmasking, unveiling God's secret plan for you:
 - proven action steps to help you realize your uniqueness
 - God wants to reveal a better you
 - Deepen your awareness of God's special gifts for you
 - Discover how to put God first to open the door for His best



2. **Self-Empowerment:** learn how to release, enable, and empower what God has envisioned for you. Focus is on personal revival, restoration, revitalization, and renewal:
 - Regain your feminine heart, beauty, and force
 - Regain your standing before God as a man
 - Liberate yourself from negative thinking
 - Don't let your past determine your future
 - Letting go—letting God—breaking free
 - Faith artillery: Making the gaits of hell tremble
 - The power of faith filled words

3. **Self-Motivated:** learn how God changes things through actuation. Focus is on breaking new ground, reclaiming, rebuilding, and reconditioning
 - Leaving no stone unturned—giving it all to God
 - Exploring topics that touch you every day: honesty, integrity, Christian ethics
 - Practical guidelines and strategies to navigate life's changing journey
 - Multiplying your capacity to love and serve others

4. **Self-Validation:** learn to prove God's love as your own. Focus in on affirmation, confirmation, and reciprocation in-kind.
 - Polishing your self-image
 - Building your confidence and self esteem
 - Gaining a biblical perspective: harmony and happiness in relationships
 - Claiming your rights as a child of God

The Gospel of the Flesh is preached and accepted as the status quo because it helps believers deal with conflict by putting a recognizable face to their personal pain; it puts them within reach of the moral code; it puts believers in touch with their imagination and worked flattery in the heart; it motivates believers who previously had difficulty connecting to God and makes them feel as if they have a chance at succeeding in winning their private war against sin.

This helps to explain why faith is assigned to these kinds of goals and why believers mold their aspirations with them. But God did not assign faith to this knowledge and neither does He validate this framework for faith. The unction of the Holy Ghost will not bear witness to Christ by these things and the soul will not be empowered, but rather brought back into the bondage of the flesh as each effort of faith with this knowledge simply defines and magnifies the fallen nature of man.



A Return to True Apostolic Governance is a Return to Truth

It is of utmost importance that the Body of Christ return to true Apostolic Governance and come unto the knowledge of the truth, for truth prepares the heart to serve and worship God.

We all know John 4:23 and 24, that God is looking for them that will worship Him in spirit and in truth. We also now know that the Spirit will only testify of the truth (Jesus Christ). Therefore, if truth is absent from us, the Spirit will also be absent, having nothing to testify to; for the Spirit will not quicken what proceeds from man because it profits nothing (carries no substance of the life and righteousness of Christ) to the soul. The Spirit will quicken faith and give understanding only through the truth (Jn.6:63), which is spiritually discerned (1Cor 2:14), and is why we must receive the Word of grace through the apostles' doctrine (Eph 3:2-4).

We cannot serve God with truth that is defiled for then faith is defiled and we are not worthy of Christ, as Jesus said, "Thou hast a few names even in Sardis which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy" (Rev.3:4).

To understand this better let's look at the words of the prophet Haggai:

Haggai 2:12-14

¹²If one bear holy flesh in the skirt of his garment, and with his skirt do touch bread, or pottage, or wine, or oil, or any meat, shall it be holy? And the priests answered and said, No.

¹³Then said Haggai, If one that is unclean by a dead body touch any of these, shall it be unclean? And the priests answered and said, It shall be unclean.

¹⁴Then answered Haggai, and said, So is this people, and so is this nation before me, saith the Lord; and so is every work of their hands; and that which they offer there is unclean.

The Word of God is holy and Jesus' shed blood for the forgiveness of sins is holy, but we cannot apply these to human aspiration and carnal tools of faith to make them holy. Equally important, when one embraces truth that is not from the headship of Christ, his heart takes



confidence in the Gospel of the Flesh and every endeavor of faith is unclean, all the works of faith are unclean, and all he offers to God is unclean.

Returning to Apostolic Governance and truth that proceeds from the apostles office means that a cleansing has to take place. The soul that has been indoctrinated by the false teachings of men, must be cleansed by truth, for truth purges the soul (1Cor 5:7,8). Faith that is acceptable to God comes by truth (Rom.10:17), by both hearing and obeying (Jas.1:22).

How can believers obey the truth and be purified, if they have not received the cleansing of the truth (1Pet 1:22)? This is why God has restored the office and calling of apostles, those selected, ordained, called, and sent by God to preach the truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ (1Cor 1:17), to open the eyes of believers that they might be sanctified in Christ (Acts 26:18) through obedience to His truth (Heb 5:9; 13:17) and build the kingdom of God upon the foundation of His truth as wise master builders.

Jesus Set the Example

Jesus demonstrated by example the pattern of spiritual government and our need for separation and cleansing by truth under His Apostolic Governance as He washed the feet of His apostles (John 15:1-17). Jesus was not setting an example of self-humility, but one of submission to His government for cleansing.

As the apostles submitted to Christ's authority to wash their feet, so must believers also submit to His authority through Apostolic Governance for doctrinal cleansing. Jesus was setting a pattern and spiritual tradition through this example, saying, As I have done unto you, so I give authority to you (my apostles) to go and do likewise and cleanse my church from unclean knowledge by providing them with the sanctified truth of Jesus Christ. By this Jesus was speaking specifically of how the heart is spiritually prepared with truth to walk in God's commandments, and also of how God uses truth for cleansing.

When the church left her first love, believers also left their first spiritual works and by the precept of man initiated many carnal traditions, rites, and ceremonies. The physical foot washing ceremony is one of those carnal traditions. Thinking that God instituted a religious rite in foot washing by which believers were to demonstrate humility, many tried to manifest humility by reenacting this scene.



But Jesus was not giving a lesson in humility. Rather, He was showing how He is the contact point for cleansing. As Jesus said, "Now are you clean through the words which I have spoken unto you," (Jn.15:3). He also said, "Sanctify them through your truth; your word is truth,"

(Jn.17:17), and "That he might sanctify and cleanse it (the Body) with the washing of water by the word" (Eph.5:26).

The apostles would do as Jesus did, prepare the heart of the believer in truth to walk in God's commandments. Apostles function in the church to separate believers unto the truth by which they may be cleansed. Without the cleansing of truth Christians are not prepared to partake of Christ. As Jesus said to Peter, "If I wash thee not, thou hast no part with me" (Jn.15:8).

Through the example of foot washing Jesus was establishing that He is the head of the church; "The servant is not greater than his lord; neither is he that is sent greater than he that sent him" (Jn.13:16). No apostle can project a truth that is greater than Christ. This is the apostolic pattern that the church fell away from. By the precept of man the servant has tried to make himself greater than the Master. We have seen preachers and teachers using scripture to support their own aspirations and principles, causing believers to err from the truth.

Please keep in mind that Jesus did not set the pattern of apostolic governance for the purpose of exalting one individual above another. Rather, the believer in need of washing submits himself to the one doing the washing (apostle), not to the individual, but to Jesus Christ through the office of spiritual government, according to truth. We can see this also demonstrated through the stewardship of God's grace; we are all subject one to another as each believer stewards the grace he or she has received for growth from God. And again, as we obey this command, our submission is not to the individual, but rather to Christ, who issued the grace. Thus, we are all subject to the grace of God that is ministered through each vessel (1Cor 12:13,14).

Jesus is again establishing apostolic order for His church and is again calling and confirming His own covenant prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers to work together with His apostles. When the Body is restored in truth, the true gospel will be preached to the world, and Christ will return for both a spotless church and the harvest of souls.

Jesus gave another example of the apostolic pattern in chapter 14 of the book of Matthew when He fed the multitudes in the wilderness. He broke the bread and gave it (first) to His apostles, who He then instructed to give to the people (Mt.14:19). Jesus said, "I am the bread of life: he



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that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst” (Jn.6:35). So through this event we can see how Jesus was establishing His order of government in the Body of Christ, selecting His apostles to be the distributors of that bread of life (truth). By Jesus’ second example we understand how truth feeds the soul as well as cleanses the soul.

Apostle Paul taught about the apostolic pattern and wrote, “And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues” (1Cor.12:28). When people think about “being first” in carnal terms of self-importance they rival, striving against the inequity they feel within their own hearts. However, when thinking from God’s perspective about His divine order for spiritual government, believers can work with the Spirit, enabling God to put an end to the hostility whereby peace reigns in the soul.

Apostles, called to that office of government, have been given the revelation knowledge of God. As Paul affirmed, “If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me [as an apostle] to you-ward: ³How that by revelation he made known unto me [apostle] the mystery [of Christ]; (as I wrote afore in few words, ⁴Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)” (Eph 3:2-4).

Jesus Cleanses through His truth and His Spirit

God uses both truth and Spirit to sanctify faith: “But we are bound to give thanks always to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth” (2Thes.2:13). God uses truth to cleanse like soap and also uses the Spirit to cleanse as water. We use both soap and water to wash our hands and God uses both truth and Spirit for the continual cleansing, washing, and purging of the soul. Jesus established an apostolic order for this to take place. The Holy Spirit sanctifies our faith when truth proceeds from the headship of Christ through the apostle’s office, that our faith might be made rich in the fellowship of God in the fullness of Christ.

When the Holy Spirit sanctifies your faith you are walking in righteousness, daily enjoying the fullness of the blessing of Christ. However, when severed from the headship of Christ and His sanctification, Christianity becomes a struggle with the conscience on account of the lack of power in one’s faith. This struggle is seen in how believers try to simulate the gifts of the Spirit apart from His power and emulate great men of God without the calling. These also operate in the supernatural realm and spiritual realm by imitation.



Doctrinal cleansing: Removing leaven from truth

To sanctify your faith by truth and Spirit it is first necessary for believers to go through doctrinal cleansing. Jesus is now cleansing His house. That means He is cleansing the church from unclean knowledge. Jesus made mention of this when teaching His apostles about the “leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees.” The “leaven” was their (false) doctrine.

Mt.16:6,11,12

⁶Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

¹¹How is it that ye do not understand that I spake it not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

¹²Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Apostles remove leaven from Christ’s truth by laying the original (unleavened) foundation of truth within the heart of each believer, truth that is not mixed (leavened) with error.

Spiritual cleansing: Removing the fruits of iniquity from the soul

As apostles wash and cleanse the church, removing from faith knowledge (leaven) that defiled faith and reset the original foundation of truth in the heart, the Spirit of God then begins His one-on-one spiritual cleansing, and tutorship in the heart of each believer for fellowship and growth. This is the “washing of regeneration” (God’s Intelligent Design for Christ-Centered Spiritual Transformation) and renewing (of the mind) by the Holy Ghost.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. (Titus 3:5).

And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. (1Cor.6:11).



This “washing” by the Holy Spirit is for the healing of the soul. While in the kingdom of darkness the soul gained much experience with sin that was harmful to the soul. Apostle Paul identified these fruits of iniquity as: “Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,

idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like” (Gal.5:19-21). The Spirit of God works to heal the soul from this bruising by removing the soul from the knowledge, tools, and power of the kingdom of darkness and forming the virtues of Christ within by the knowledge, tools, and power of God’s kingdom.

For each believer to daily partake of this transformative experience they must be separated, doctrinally cleansed, and prepared to serve God in righteousness.

A Return to True Apostolic Governance is a Return to the Priesthood of Jesus Christ

By laying the foundation of truth within the heart Christians are prepared to serve God, as priests, at the altar of Christ.

You also as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an *holy priesthood*, to offer up *spiritual sacrifices*, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. (1Pet.2:5)

But you are a chosen generation, a royal *priesthood*, an holy nation, a peculiar people, that you should *show forth the praises of Him* who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. (1Pet.2:9)

God Provided an example through Moses

Moses represented spiritual government in the First Covenant. Moses was an individual selected by God to preserve knowledge and sanctify the people. This is why the Lord spoke to Moses to *cleanse* the Levites. God’s purpose in cleansing the Levites was to *prepare them to serve Him as priests*:



Num.8:5-7: "And the Lord spoke unto Moses, saying, 'Take the Levites from among the children of Israel, and cleanse them.' 7Thus shall you do unto them, to cleanse them: Sprinkle water of purifying upon them, and let them shave all their flesh, and let them wash their clothes, and so make themselves clean."

After they were cleansed by spiritual government (Moses), the Levites functioned in their priesthood, serving God by the pattern, which God showed Moses; Heb.8:5: "Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount."

Separation for Cleansing

Moses was a type and shadow of Jesus Christ and by this example we understand the need for *separation* and *cleansing* by God's pattern through a governmental head for *service* to God. Apostles (as Moses) are individuals selected by God to preserve the knowledge of Christ and sanctify the people for their priestly service to God at the altar of Jesus Christ.

All believers are called "priests" because they do priestly service to the Lord through the spiritual sacrifices of their faith (1Pet.2:5; 1Pet.2:9). Just as the Levites needed to first be cleansed by Moses before they could function in their priesthood, so must believers also be first prepared in truth before they can function in their priesthood to serve God through Jesus Christ. Moses was the knowledge steward of the Old Covenant; apostles are the knowledge stewards of the New Covenant.

Truth cleanses: Jesus is returning the church to the purity of the faith. Moses used water to cleanse the Levite priests, but Jesus uses truth to cleanse believers called to be priests of the second covenant. As He said, "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you" (Jn.15:3).

Truth is a form of separation: Moses washed the Levites as a form of "separation" as we read in Lev.8:14: "Thus shalt thou separate the Levites from among the children of Israel: and the Levites shall be mine." Separation is always for the purpose of function. Moses separated the Levites for service unto God, in order to instruct them about how they were to function as priests to the Lord. Jesus also commanded His apostles to instruct the church saying, "Teach



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them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Mt.28:20). Jesus separates us unto Himself by His government, His truth, and His Spirit.

Truth prepares the heart to serve God: Moses washed the Levites to “prepare” them to function as priests. So, too, does the washing of truth prepare the heart to serve God at the altar of Christ. By truth we are prepared to walk in righteousness; Eph.6:15: “And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace.” We see then how truth is a form of cleansing to remove the traditions of man, how by instruction of truth the soul is separated unto the gospel of Jesus Christ, and how truth prepares the heart to serve God.

Disambiguation

Although many today claim to be returning the church to the true pattern of the book of Acts through what is call the “5-Fold Ministry,” this faith model is not true Apostolic Governance. Let’s examine some key differences:

Faith Model #1: Transitioning the Church into Apostolic Governance	
One doctrine of Christ?	Yes. Apostles teach the other callings and the body of Christ is brought into one faith. All follow the same one blueprint of truth. One truth, which is Jesus Christ. Not many truths. Liberating the church from the false journey of “seeking truth.” <i>Acts 2:42</i>
Accountability in Truth?	Yes. Accountability is in Jesus Christ so accountability is in truth, liberating the church from false accountability standards and trying to perfect faith in the flesh. Faith is measured against Jesus Christ. <i>Phil.3:9</i>
The Priesthood of Jesus Christ?	Yes. The priesthood of the of Jesus Christ is restored. All believers function in the same priesthood. <i>1Pet.2:5</i>
The Covenant of Jesus Christ?	Yes. The terms of the covenant are set in Jesus Christ, His knowledge, His Priesthood, and the spiritual tools of His covenant. <i>Heb.8:6-10</i>

Figure 1



Faith Model #2: Transitioning the Church into the 5-Fold	
One doctrine of Christ?	No. Each still holds to independent truths. The Body is still on the journey towards one whole truth. Apostles do not have one framework of truth so cannot teach one doctrine. The Body remains in bondage on the false journey towards truth. <i>2Tim.3:7</i>
Accountability in Truth?	No. Accountability is still in the individual, which keeps the church subject to the flesh. Faith is measured against loss, pain, and sin. <i>Rom.10:3</i>
The Priesthood of Jesus Christ?	No. The priesthood of the flesh still dominates faith as believers try to serve God with those things that God has not sanctified in Christ, and therefore defile the soul. <i>Phil.3:3</i>
The Covenant of Jesus Christ?	No. The terms of the covenant are set within self and mixed with many diverse standards that speak to the flesh about many promises. <i>2Pet.2:19</i>

Figure 2

Here we again see the importance of Apostolic Governance to set the original foundation of truth within the heart of each believer. By this truth the covenant terms are known, believed, and abided in, and removed from the flesh to the Spirit. Let's take a moment to disambiguate that:

Fleshly Covenant

The covenant of the flesh is reflected in the terms that bind believers to a system to which they are responsible to each other in an effort to please God. The heart and mind is challenged with everything that keeps people accountable to the system, keeps it running, and reflects its integrity—this is the yoke that believers are asked to shoulder. Accountability is set within the system for the obtainment of Gods' blessings.

God empowers faith when it is joined to those things He has sanctified in Christ. Faith disjoined from the pattern (record and blueprint) of Jesus Christ is disjoined from the witness



of the Holy Spirit. Much like a train derailing. No grace is issued, no comfort of the Holy Ghost, no edification, exhortation, nor comfort, and no spiritual transformation is taking place.

The covenant of the flesh follows the “anointing of man”: “Anointed speakers,” “anointed writers,” “anointed for a healing ministry,” “anointed prophet/teacher” etc., are all examples of the word “anointing” being redefined to support a gospel that is removed from the Headship of Jesus Christ. In this context, the strengths, talents and giftings of the human signature combined with the extrapolation of principles from Bible characters and events are mistakenly viewed as God’s empowerment, God’s will, or God’s sanctified operation.

Spiritual Covenant

Jesus’ second covenant is reflected in the terms that bind believers to God by the work of the Spirit. Believers fulfill their responsibility to please God and minister to one another in Christ’s system of truth to which each is accountable; they are bound together at the altar of Christ, by their priesthood labor of faith, and by the work of the Spirit. Each uphold the same integrity of Christ’s righteousness.

The tools of Christ’s covenant are sprinkled with His blood and therefore sanctified for us to use. The Spirit enters into our faith as we engage God with these tools, thus pleasing Him. Jesus mediates these terms of the covenant and we experience His reciprocation whereby we experience Him healing our soul and birthing His virtues within the inner man. Thus do we experience the new man, which fruit is also pleasing to God.

The spiritual covenant also retains the integrity of the anointing of Christ as we read in 1 Jn.2:27, “But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is not lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.”

The anointing is the preparation of truth in the heart of the believer through the instruction received by the apostles’ office. Through this “preparation in truth,” we are “taught” all things concerning the pattern of Christ. With this foundation of truth we have the necessary knowledge and tools we need to build faith in God.



As we daily keep the commandments of Jesus Christ through our priesthood duties, we continue to draw from the anointing of truth and the Spirit also does the same, He draws from the foundation of truth that is built within the heart to continue to “teach us,” not another pattern, but to increase our understanding of the one pattern of Christ.

The anointing is profitable only as we abide in the truth of the gospel and is given for the purpose of discernment, learning, and guidance. The anointing will not bear witness to the rhythm of the flesh (it will not lie against truth or against Christ to confirm the human nature, human lust, or human strength,) rather it will only bear witness to the true purpose and plan of God.

Discernment

Now, let’s look at the difference between true apostles and false apostles: True apostles have the complete foundation of truth to set in the hearts of believers. They are not waiting for bits and pieces of truth to come together, while false apostles believe that truth is in part and progressive. False apostles lack the total vision of the pattern of Jesus Christ and consequently, they cannot give what they do not possess.

A false apostle will daub the wall with untempered mortar as we read in Ezek.13:10: “Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and there was no peace; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others daubed it with untempered mortar.” Concrete is structural masonry material made by mixing gravel or broken stone with sand, cement, and water, which is then allowed to harden into a solid mass. Building the Body of Christ with untempered mortar is symbolic in meaning of the misrepresentation or removal of vital elements from the gospel of Jesus Christ. As a result, truth is no longer structurally sound. While the words of a false apostle may sound as if he is in support of God, his words are mixed with indoctrination, which does not carry the grace and truth of God. So, although he may be truly sincere, he is false in purpose, and without the foundation of truth, he cannot contribute what he does not have. This causes faith to crumble.

Now let’s look at another difference between true prophets and false prophets: Balaam is a good example of a false prophet who spoke some truth, but prophesied outside of the camp of the Lord. Just because one may prophesy, it is not an indication of conformity to the spiritual government of God. False prophets today may be aware of what God is doing through Jesus Christ, just as Balaam was aware of what God was doing through Moses. But



K O P S E R I E S
Learn to walk the simple covenant faith Jesus provided by His death and resurrection.

Balaam was unwilling to conform to Moses, which kept him in the camp of Balak. We can also see these “Balaam” prophets today; prophesying something that may be true about the coming judgment of the world, or something that may be true about the condition of the church, does not make them true prophets of God.

A true prophet of God confirms and conforms to these three things:

- 1. Spiritual government:** Christ rules His house through stewards He has set over His house, thereby providing believers with nourishment, care, and refuge. Jesus Christ the Apostle and High Priest of our profession (Heb.3:1); the government of God is upon His shoulders (Is.9:6), meaning that He is our contact point for faith and provides truth through His apostles so believers know how to join themselves to Him.
- 2. Truth:** Jesus Christ is the foundation upon which we build our faith. Apostles are the master builders who set the foundation of truth in the heart; as Paul said, “According to the grace of God which is given unto me [apostle], as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon” (1Cor.3:10). Jesus is the blueprint of truth. As Moses received the “pattern” by which to build the First Covenant tabernacle and tools, so do apostles receive from Jesus Christ the “pattern” of truth to educate believers how to build their faith with the tools of the Second Covenant. This pattern of truth establishes the record of Christ for our faith.
- 3. Spirit:** The Spirit of God will only sanctify our faith in connection with the truth of Christ. Our faith must be joined to His government for truth to be made living by His Spirit. This is why Paul said, “You all are partakers of my grace” (Phil.1:6).

God is restoring the Body of Christ to the apostolic pattern, and the Body will grow unto a holy temple of the Lord, each believer being joined to God and to one another through the measure of grace that God provides.

We are joined to Christ through His government.
We are joined to Christ through His truth.
We are joined to Christ through His Spirit.

Jesus is our the advocate, bringing unity and forgiveness, fulfilling that which He has promised: "There shall be a unity that is not feigned, and a oneness that is not deceitful."



Covenant Faith: Three Simple Steps to Making a Decision To Follow Christ

Everyone comes to a point in their life where they want to know more about God. Some people say they want to get closer to God. Some say they sense something missing in their faith. Others say they are desperately trying to fill a void in their life. However you say it, God has been ministering to you and calling you to Him for a long time.

You may have tried different religions or churches, looking for God. Or maybe you tried to find God in nature. But no matter what you tried, you always came back to the same place of emptiness, feeling there should be something more to life.



No matter how much life or religion has disappointed you, God was there time and again, encouraging you not to give up. He was there telling you that He would preserve you and help you. There is a Psalm that says, “Hear my voice, O God, in my prayer: preserve my life from fear of the enemy,” Psalm 64:1. And another favorite is, “Preserve me, O God: for in thee do I put my trust,” Psalm 16:1.

So, here you are. All those moments of intervention on God’s part (His grace) has brought you to this point where your faith is about to embark on the final journey home.

Covenant Faith in Jesus Christ is that journey. It is vital that you understand what happened when Jesus shed His blood, and what His death and resurrection means to God. God wants to save, heal, and deliver you. God wants to remove you from Satan’s kingdom of darkness where you were spiritually





imprisoned by his lies. God invites you to have a personal relationship with Him in His kingdom, where He will accept you as His child and free you of the hold Satan has on you. God's invitation is to free you to Him.

Covenant Faith is a simple faith to walk. You'll learn what it means to become a Christian, and how it is possible to please God and live the kind of life He wants you to live every day. You'll learn how easy it is to have a personal relationship with God as you walk in your spiritual priesthood. The truth of Jesus Christ will be broken down for you in ways you never thought possible. God will begin to answer many questions that you had about Him and the purpose of your existence.

Let's now go through a few steps that will guide you to make a faith decision to follow Jesus Christ in the new way of His covenant.

Step One: Understand Where You Are Spiritually and How You Got There

For most, life's journey is not an easy one. It is much like being on a ship, drifting through thick fog; you feel lost and uncertain of your future. Every time the waves threatened to capsize your ship you cried out, "God, where are you?! I can't see through this fog, and the waves are too high for me! Help me!"

This cry the soul makes for God is desperately repeated thousands of times every day. The Psalmist said, "Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation," Psalm 27:9.



What the Bible Says About Man's Condition



Man's separation from God is a direct result of Adam having accepted Satan's promises. Satan gave Adam knowledge for his mind to work with that was a direct contradiction to the things God had told Adam. God told Adam not to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, and Satan said, "Yes, but. . .if you eat of this tree you will get what you want."

Satan offered Adam knowledge (promise) that worked with what Adam wanted and by that knowledge, Satan taught Adam how to work around what God had said. In this way Satan took captive Adam's mind, and this is why all Adamites today are prisoners to the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.

This is what God said: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die," Genesis 2:17. God breaks sin down for us: Sin is the kingdom of Satan that Adam joined himself to by reaching for Satan's promise. There is no life in Satan's kingdom, only death.

Nothing about sin has changed since the garden. Satan continues to promise liberty, but his promise is a bondage to our self image, which brings uncertainty, works doubt in the heart, and causes man to live in fear.

Knowing these things makes the choice for life easy. Choose life by choosing to enter into God's kingdom by coming into covenant with Him.

Step Two: Recognize the Voice of God Calling You

Did you know: Everyone has heard the voice of God calling them out of Satan's kingdom many times. This call is the most wonderful and sweet thing imaginable. It is like a call home, a longing to be with God, a knowing that you were created for something other than what you are now experiencing.



God's call to you is special. But it's only when you stop and listen that you can hear Him more clearly. You may be wondering, If God has been calling me all my life. why has it been so difficult to find him? The reason for this difficulty is that Satan has been there too.

Every time you heard God calling you, Satan was there hanging around, listening, just like he did in the garden when God spoke to Adam. Satan designed many spiritual paths hoping you would choose one and get lost, looking for God's purpose in the wrong place.

This is why some think God's call is a call to spirituality and begin to search into everything spiritual, while others think it's a call to find themselves and begin a journey of self discovery.

It's hard to find God's true spiritual path of the covenant when Satan volunteers to be our path finder. It's like taking a trip to a faraway place. You're trying to find your way to the tourist center when this man walks up to you and tries to sell you an all-inclusive package to visit the wonderful and exotic places that only he knows about.

Everything sounds adventurous and exciting, and you trust this guy because he appears to know what he is talking about. But you haven't seen the posters around town warning tourists not to trust themselves to this murderer and thief.



In the same way, when people hear the call of God, Satan is there to send them on another journey far away from God. How do you know that is true? Because you come back to the same struggle, the same questions, the same emptiness, and the same disappointments. Does this describe your condition today?

God's Call Into Covenant With Him



A call into covenant is a call into Christ for the salvation of our souls. The Bible says that God created man in His image and likeness: “And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness,” Genesis 1:26. When Adam accepted Satan’s knowledge, he lost the likeness of God and gained Satan’s mindset.

Just as a father would be disappointed in a son who follows another path, because the father no longer sees in his son an image of himself, so God, in the same way, is disappointed with man. When he looks at man’s soul he does not see a likeness of Himself. What does he see? He sees the likeness of Satan. This is the likeness man gained after Adam’s fall: “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God,” Romans 3:23.

Jesus knows this to be true. This is why he referred to Satan as the “father” of the sinner (John 8:44). All sinners shall have their portion in the lake of fire because that is Satan’s destiny. Nothing of Satan can be allowed into God’s kingdom.

To change this, God provided man with a way back to Him. God gave man a chance to regain the likeness of God. God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the sins of the world, thereby offering forgiveness by a covenant of blood.

John 3:16

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”

Hebrews 13:20-21

“Now the God of *peace*, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting *covenant*, make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.”



2 Corinthians 3:18

“But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same *image* from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.”

God is calling to you to believe the testimony of Jesus Christ, that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior. He is the one who was prophesied to make reconciliation for the sins of the world, to blot out your transgressions, and to join you back to God through Himself. Jesus shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify your faith, that your faith may be pleasing to God.

Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish your communion with Him by this knowledge, that God might change you into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.

You must believe this report and be baptized with the Holy Spirit, evidenced by speaking in tongues. It is by this engrafting of the Holy Spirit in you that you gain His likeness.

Step Three: Make the Decision to Come Into Covenant With God

Jesus said, “him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out,” John 6:37. God makes it easy for you to come to Christ that God might establish His testimony in you. All you need to do is respond to His grace and accept His invitation. If you believe that Jesus Christ died for your sins, and if you desire God’s forgiveness of sins, I invite you to respond to His grace by praying this prayer right now.

PRAYER

Almighty God, I humbly come before your throne of grace. I believe the testimony of Jesus Christ; that He is the Messiah, the Savior, that He is the one who was prophesied to come to seal our faith and make us complete in Him, and that it is His sacrifice that blots out our transgressions. I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, that He died to make reconciliation for the sins of the world to join me back to You through Himself.

I believe that Jesus Christ shed His blood to provide the terms or grounds of the Second Covenant to sanctify my faith, that my faith may be pleasing to You. I believe that Jesus rose again from the dead to establish a new priesthood in Himself, a living priesthood of knowledge to establish my communion with You by this knowledge that I might be changed into His image by the power of the Holy Ghost.



I ask that You forgive me for walking contrary to your covenant for I ignorantly worshiped what I did not understand. It is You that put a difference between truth and error, darkness and light, and I choose to leave the kingdom of sin and enter into your kingdom.

I am tired of living by Satan's lies, and I desire to walk on the true path of faith in Jesus Christ whereby I can regain your likeness. I accept your knowledge of faith and ask that You baptize me in the Holy Spirit and assist me to pray in tongues.

If you have prayed this prayer with faith in your heart, then God has forgiven you of your sins and declared you righteous. He will now seal your faith with the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and you will begin to speak in tongues that you may begin a relationship with Him.



God's 4-Step Program

To convert you to Christ God is bringing you through 4 steps of His own to claim you as His child.

1. The first step is *grace*: Grace is His voice that you are hearing right now, calling you. That is God's part, to provide you grace that you may believe in Jesus. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
2. The second step is *faith*: That is your part. God's invitation to come into covenant is made effective upon grace entering into your heart. You need to yield to the grace of God and accept it. Your confession of faith means that you believe the testimony of Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 2:8-9*
3. The third step is *righteousness*: Upon seeing your heart of faith yielding to His grace God declares you righteous; you have met the standard God placed in His Son for faith to reflect Him, and you are now ready for the final step to come into covenant with God. *Romans 4:6,9,12*
4. The fourth step is the *seal of the Spirit*: The seal of the Spirit is the baptism of the Spirit evidenced by tongues. God needs to bring your faith into the house of Jesus Christ where He can properly care for you and nurture you. *Romans 4:11; Ephesians 1:13*



To learn more about these vital 4 steps of covenant faith watch the video, Second Covenant Faith. Learn how God first introduced these steps to our father Abraham, and why the Spirit draws our attention to these same steps in the book of Romans. Learn why God planned for you to take these same 4 steps to come into covenant with Him through Jesus Christ.



Which Way Now?

When God baptizes you with the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ will then be in you, and God's covenant sealed unto you. God designed the baptism of the Holy Spirit for covenant contact. Covenant is the door that is open to you in Christ for many wonderful things to now take place, which could not take place if you remained outside of covenant. It is through covenant contact that we experience these things:

- A. God tests our faith
- B. God establishes relationship
- C. God receives fruit
- D. We gain trust
- E. We are brought into God's care
- F. We are preserved in His framework of truth
- G. We experience the circumcision of the heart

Let's look at little further to see God's spiritual provision for you. When God baptizes you with the Holy Ghost (witnessed by tongues) these things are taking place:

1. God separated you from the world unto Himself. You are now in covenant with God. Hebrews 8:6: "But now hath he (Jesus) obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises."

2. You are now born again. When God places His Spirit into you, He is causing a spiritual rebirth. You are born of the Spirit. John 3:6-7: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again." We can understand that what you learn now is about how to co-labor with the Spirit that the Christ-likeness might be manifested in you.

3. You are now a child of God. When God places His Spirit into you, He is adopting you into His family. Romans 8:15: "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father."

Galatians 4:5: "To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."



Ephesians 1:5: “Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.” We can understand that what you learn now is about how to walk as a son of God, how God’s nurtures a relationship with you.

4. God gives you an eternal inheritance. When God places His Spirit into you, it is an eternal bond. Your faith has eternal rewards. Ephesians 1:13,14: “In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.” We can understand that what you learn now is about how to keep your eyes on the hope that God placed before you.

5. You are baptized into the Body of Christ (to function in the priesthood).

1 Corinthians 12:13: “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.” We can understand that what you learn now is about how to minister to God, serve Him, and your brethren in the fellowship of His love and Word. This is done through your priesthood.

Now that you have seen what God provided for you by sealing your faith with the baptism of the Holy Spirit, you need to be equipped with knowledge to know how to grow in the life of Christ. Arm yourself with knowledge and with the spiritual tools of Jesus’ covenant to keep yourself in the will of God, to keep yourself growing in His grace, increasing in knowledge, and abounding in love.



About Second 8th Week Ministries

Now is the time of restoration spoken of in Hosea 6:1-3. Second 8th Week® Ministries is a global outreach ministry dedicated to fulfilling God's vision for the church and the world in this time of restoration by providing the true bridge of hope in the covenant of Jesus Christ.

Vision for Revival

God's vision for revival is the complete restoration of the true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and the return of the church to His covenant knowledge. There is no other truth than that which God provided through Jesus Christ. There is no other Saviour, but Jesus. God is calling all Christians to embrace the original truth and covenant for which Jesus shed His blood.

Revival is a call to the church to come to order. Revival rarely follows man's agenda, as God moves in unexpected ways and goes to the very foundation to root out and to pull down those things of man that crept into the church. Revival always starts with a shaking. Lately, God has been revealing that He is shaking pulpits, shaking churches, and shaking those who sit in the pews. Shaking is good. It is the answer to many, many prayers to God to do a work in hearts.

Many Christian leaders recognize this shaking, and they are saying, "I find in myself this desperation, this sense that something is not right, but I don't know what it is. . .this dissatisfaction with my current spiritual status. There is this vague indefinable something that has lost the clarity, the crispness of oneness with Jesus." ~Barbara J. Yoder

Source: <http://www.charismamag.com/index.php/prophetic-insight/30434-what-is-this-revival-were-looking-for#ixzz1GmmAwyp9>

As we have just read, when God sends revival He first prepares hearts for repentance. It is clear, that as God reveals hearts, He is defining His perspective of revival. Revival is a call to change.

Knowing they have compromised faith, many, as Ms. Yoder, are saying, "I am coming to the place where I sense some state of compromise, of coming into agreement with so much—not just in the church, but in me—that is not really born of God." Does this describe your condition? Are you dissatisfied with your current spiritual state?



When God says that He is shaking pulpits, He is saying that He wants to unsettle the church, to shake the tight grip it has on the tradition of man and the wisdom of this world. As God begins to shake the pulpit, the confidence of the people begins to shake. Everywhere the shaking is taking place, believers are heard to say that they experience an inner sense that something is not right. God wants the church to understand that their focus is no longer on Jesus, but the things of this world.

God's vision of revival is to bring the church back to the true fountain of living waters. God's vision of revival means bringing the church back to our first love, the true covenant knowledge and priesthood of Jesus Christ, where faith pleases Him.

Just as God brings a repentant sinner to a point of admission by grace, concerning the state of his soul, so God also is bringing the church to a point of admission by grace, concerning the state of their souls.

Just as the state of the sinner is the result of years of embracing Satan's promises, so it is with those God is shaking in the current Christian culture. The condition of vagueness of faith is the result of many years of following after Satan's promises instead of God's covenant promises in Christ. This is what God is bringing to the attention of the church.

God's vision for revival is the restoration of the full and uncompromised covenant knowledge of Jesus Christ, a restoration of His priesthood, a restoration of His government, and a restoration of His spiritual tools. This is the jubilee of the church. By God's grace and the work of the Spirit we can minister this word to hungry hearts, providing ourselves as ready vessels of Christ to act as the bridge of hope to the world.

Vision

by Peter Bolduc

Second 8th Week Ministries

While reflecting on the countless thousands of man-made doctrines, which infect modern Christendom, the Lord gave me a vision of an extremely high, thick stone wall that went on beyond the horizon in both directions.

The wall was going across a field of rolling hills. My perspective was an aerial view, about 200 feet above the wall, looking out to the horizon. On the left side of the wall were endless roads and paths of various widths. Each dead-ended into the wall.



In what appeared to be at the middle of the wall was a very small, very narrow path that led up to the wall and passed through a narrow gate and continued on to the horizon on the other side of the wall.

Reflection: Being created by God, each Adamite has an internal desire to know and have a relationship with God. Man, left to his own understanding, attempts to fellowship with God in many different ways. But there is only one path that leads to God, and that path is the covenant, which Christ came to establish in Himself.

“Blessed are they who respond to God’s grace calling them into Christ’s covenant, for they have chosen the single path, which He has sanctified to transition the soul from death unto life. Great shall their reward be.”

What is the Second 8th Week?



The Second 8th Week is man’s appointment on God’s calendar of events. Watch the 2-Part video:

<http://www.s8wministries.org>

The Second 8th Week is a revelation that God gave to Enoch about the end time revival and restoration of the church. God promises to visit His church to restore her to the purity of the true gospel of Jesus Christ. There are 5 things to watch for as the Second 8th Week unfolds:

1. Beginning of Sorrows
2. Jubilee of the Priesthood
3. Gathering of Israel
4. Separation of Wheat and tares
5. Restoration of the Church
6. Day of Visitation
7. Hour of Temptation



- Learn why God gave this time line to the prophet Enoch.
- What does the Bible say about Enoch?
- What does the Bible say about the church of the 6th week?
- Why is the 8th Week split in half?

Because God appointed the Second 8th Week as a time of restoration, it is also a time of temptation for the church. God is testing hearts and challenging the current Christian culture to change. Whom will you serve? The Jesus of tradition? Or the Jesus of covenant? The Jesus of your imagination? Or the Jesus that died for your sins?

The Founders of Second 8th Week Ministries

Second 8th Week Ministries was born in the heart of God. Before there were human vessels to carry out God's plan there was a desire in God's heart that the true saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and Word of His grace to restored to His people; to open the blind eyes, to bring out the prisoners from the prison, and them that sit in darkness out of the prison house (Isaiah 42:7).

Just as a fire begins with an ember, God's work began with Eric vonAnderseck and his wife, Maria. God used these two embers to light the fire of His glory all over the world.

Eric answered the apostolic call of God upon his life in 1977 and Maria was soon after confirmed into the government of God as a teacher. God raised up a leader in Apostle Eric to be an equipped of His government. Today, the 5 callings of God's spiritual government are restored and the true Body of Christ is emerging.



Apostle Eric (top left) and Teacher Maria (bottom left) and representatives of the growing, global network of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers of the Second 8th Week®.

www.s8wministries.org



There are many apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers God has called to join Apostle Eric and Teacher Maria to complete His work. Together, they are the Apostles Today Network of the Second 8th Week.

Bridge of Hope

Together, the Apostolic Stewardship of the Second 8th Week is God's bridge of hope. There is a lot of hurt in the world today because of those who said they are of God, but spoiled the faith of the people. God declares, "Many pastors have destroyed My vineyard, they have trodden My portion under foot, they have made My pleasant portion a wilderness" (Jeremiah 12:10).

A young man in his mid 20's recently asked, "Why is it that I feel dead? I feel dead in myself. I have no feelings of life in me." The problem is, false knowledge will not produce the substance of life in you. So, the knowledge of the world this young man was using was actually numbing his emotions. We can be sure that being of a young age he found a lot of things to pour his emotions into, but it left him feeling empty inside and dead towards God.

The knowledge of this world is like a corpse—it is dead. There is no substance in the knowledge of the world that we can use to reciprocate to God, whereas in the knowledge of God, the substance is there, and it reciprocates. The knowledge of God produces faith, and faith is a reciprocator—it responds. A corpse does not respond.

Satan promises that his knowledge will bring life and that you will feel full and complete and whole and abounding in hope, but it can only deliver temporal fulfillment. The soul knows its Maker and will never be satisfied with anything less than God Himself.

Never forget: The knowledge of this world cannot produce the substance of Christ—it cannot produce Christ. The knowledge of this world cannot leave any substance in the heart for faith. And this is why the heart feels empty and void of life. This is why many people ask, "Why is it that I feel dead in myself? I have no feelings of life within me."

On the other hand, the knowledge that God gives will produce substance because it was designed that way. By His divine power we reciprocate His likeness. This is what the soul craves.

God raised up a team of men and women to bring healing and restoration. There is now a clear path to this knowledge. We see the excitement growing: As the knowledge of the mystery of Christ is restored to hearts and minds, each Christian becomes a source of life for others. We are witnessing the miracle of life taking place.



“I experienced a spark of life, which I have not experienced in 17 years since confessing Jesus as my Savior.” ~Lynn (Bible School graduate, BA)

“When there are many voices. . .there’s not a settling, there’s not a foundation. . .you read a book from this one or that one about faith—there’s no true knowledge of the thing [faith].”
~Francis (Bible School graduate, BA, Masters)

Free Online Courses



*Emile Annandale and Apostle Paul Odendaal
Apostles Today Apostolic Ministerial Team*

It’s true that nothing can satisfy your longing for God, but Jesus Christ; for God planned to engage with you in fellowship with the knowledge of Christ.

The courses, videos, audio files, charts, and illustrations, are all designed to help you learn how to know God in the fulness of Jesus Christ, to serve Him with perfect faith, and grow in the likeness of Christ.

In times past, when the church filled herself at the table of the world, she thought she was full, but her belly was empty. Satan was offering the church substance (knowledge) that did not give life to the soul. Christians thought they knew God by what they saw—a miracle here, a healing there, outbursts of emotions, testimonies of God’s intervention—they did not know the dangerous place of compromise, which they were in, until God began giving them dreams and visions to prepare them to make their way back to covenant faith.

You will find God’s building blocks of faith easy to learn. From the 12 elements of the gospel to the 9 tools of Jesus’ covenant, to the altar of your priesthood, you will learn amazing things about covenant faith that will fill your heart.

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