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The Glorious Church #2

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Jesus is coming for a glorious church of which we are part of, but we must return to our first love, setting our priorities in order. The Jews, Gentiles and the church are the three classes who make up the glorious church. Many believers do not realize that Jesus is coming for a glorious church; the concept of the church is that it is weak, but the scriptures tell us that Jesus is coming for a church that is preaching the gospel of the kingdom, with signs and miracles that is powerful and doing the works of Jesus.

Matt 4:23-24 "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. 24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he healed them." KJV

Matt 9:35-36 "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. 36 But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd." KJV

We are in the kingdom; the bible teaches us that we have been translated from darkness to into the kingdom of God. Part of the teaching of the gospel of the kingdom of God is, healing and deliverance. Many do not believe that healing and deliverance is for us today, but it is. In order for us to have faith regarding this, we must be convinced that it is God's plan and will for us to be partakers of the kingdom. We have to see with the eyes of our spirit, in order to reach out and take it.

Matt 9:35-36 "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news (the Gospel) of the kingdom and curing all kinds of disease and every weakness *and* infirmity. 36 When He saw the throngs, He was moved with pity *and* sympathy for them, because they were bewildered (harassed and distressed and dejected and helpless), like sheep without a shepherd" AMP

The message or the gospel of the kingdom that the church must bring to the church and the people outside of the church is that Jesus will make a difference in their lives. That His plan or purpose is to release kingdom living into our lives and we must be ready to do that also in order to minister to others we come in contact with.

When we were born again, we were imparted with the God kind of faith; we have that measure of faith.

Rom 12:3 "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself

more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." KJV

Jude 3 "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." KJV

Jude is telling us that we must contend for the faith that has been delivered to the saints.

Contend means a struggle or striving force, effort that is put out.

The book of Ephesians gives us a look at the glorious church.

The book of Acts gives examples or principles of the glorious church over a time period of 40 years of the history of the early church. It shares mistakes and victories of the leaders of the early church and gives hope that God hasn't changed, tells of the former and the latter rain that is mentioned in Joel. That there will a time of restoration for all the years of the dark ages, the false doctrines and all that has been stolen from the church.

We are going to see as the church becomes glorious, a restoration of believers, of miracles and healings that have not been in the church. A time of people becoming born again.

The following scriptures show how the early church ministered to all kinds of people and how the people responded to them.

Acts 4: 13 "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus." KJV

Peter and John were plugged into the power source and shared with all what they had, using the name of Jesus. Boldness released confidence in them. The gospel of the kingdom is powerful and the people heard the preaching of the gospel, allowing them to have faith. Signs and wonders drew the people.

The church of today must have signs and wonders in order for the unbeliever to be drawn to it. It cannot be a weak or lukewarm church. The gospel of the kingdom must be preached. A church is a place for people to be helped; it is a place for people to be equipped in order to do the ministry.

Acts 5:12-16 "And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch. 13 And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them. 14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.) 15 Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them. 16 There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one." KJV

Example given of the world wide ministry of T.L. Osborne, in his early ministry he was unhappy because of the response of the people, but as he sought the Lord regarding his ministry, he began to realize that without the signs and wonders that God wanted to demonstrate, he would not see results. Later, after spending time with the Lord, as he began to pray for the people, believing God for the signs and miracles, the people began to change.

Revival broke out, millions were saved and healed.

Paul was plugged into the power source and preached the gospel of the kingdom, he also witnessed the power at work in the lives of people, many special miracles happened with his ministry. As Paul preached, he saw the people receiving faith for healing, they saw hope; faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.

Acts 14:8-10 "And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked: 9 The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, 10 Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked." KJV

Acts 19:11-12 "And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: 12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them." KJV

Being in the presence of Jesus or having the gospel of the kingdom in our lives will enable us to have boldness and confidence. In the gospel of the kingdom is everything that we will ever have need of, lost or saved. God made all available to us through Jesus.

Jesus isn't coming back for the church until the church has experienced the power of the gospel of the kingdom like it has never had before. This earth will see a demonstration of the power of God in the earth before He comes back. He will be kept in the heavens until all that the prophets have spoken is fulfilled and that the gospel of the kingdom must be preached to all the earth.

Matt 24:14 "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." KJV

Acts 3:21 " Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began." KJV

We are to contend for this kind of faith, spending time with Jesus, staying plugged into the power. We have been born for this hour, abiding in Him, prepared spiritually for what lies ahead. Our priorities must be brought into line with Him; there is an urgency of the hour. Jesus is our power source, our ability, our strength, our wisdom.

Mark 16:16-20 "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen." KJV

We have a tendency to try and follow the signs, we are not to follow the signs, but the signs are to be following us. People being saved, being healed and delivered. There will demons trying to deceive and lie to people, but there is deliverance available to all wanting to be delivered and helped.

We have been prepared for such a time that we are now living in, but we need to return to our first love, we must stay connected to the power or we will have no power. Help us to realize how big and great our Lord Jesus is and that we have been born for this season of our lives!