

The Expanding Role of the Holy Spirit

Revelation chapter one, verse one, “The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John”. This is declaring that it is the revelation of Christ. Verse nine, “I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.” What do you and think? “companion in tribulation and in the Kingdom”. Most people want to be a brother in the Kingdom where there is no tribulation. Some of you have been experiencing tribulation for some time and many of you understand both tribulation and the Kingdom, but you do not understand patience. That is another thing that we need to pray about for you and for me.

What I want to talk about it the “expanding role of the Holy Spirit”. Here in the very beginning and I believe that the book of Revelation is a picture of coming to a revelation of Christ. Yes, it has all sorts of other stuff that you might find in there, but as I believe in all books and this one particularly starts off and says, “It is the revelation of Christ.” Someone could said, “Well all this end time stuff is going to happen and you didn’t live in that end time so this book is worthless to you.” Well, then God is writing worthless books that only apply to one generation. Or it may be that all books have spiritual truth and principles that reveal Christ and can be very valuable to every generation of all time. I believe that is the case of all books and that in all books you can search for Christ and see Jesus.

Finding the Benefits of the Holy Spirit

You know and I know that the work of the Holy Spirit is to reveal Christ, but most of us did not know that initially. Probably the vast majority of people that are filled with the Holy Spirit, were filled with the Holy Spirit on some church service somewhere. It is not true of everybody, but it is true of many people. They got in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, which is what we read. And frankly, many Christians are pretty much only in the Spirit on the Lord’s day – Sunday. That is when you get in the Spirit and then the rest of the week you get in the flesh. The value of the Spirit is very valuable because you get to be with God in the Spirit at least once a week. If you have never been with God in the Spirit, once a week is better than never. Basically what I am saying is that those of us who were unsaved and got saved and filled with the Spirit or we were in denominational churches and then got filled with the Spirit, we found the benefit of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. We found the benefits being something on the inside of us, we found the benefits of joy that we could not have known. We found benefits of all sorts of stuff that were not available before. This is particularly true of people who were denominational, because they find power and giftings. But mainly they find a new step in their walk and in their life with God. Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is a precious thing and it is important for all people to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and to know what that really means and to grow in that. But it does not take long to proceed forth and begin to find out that there is

more to being baptized in the Holy Spirit than just making individuals feel better. And you begin to realize that as the Spirit begins to move in relationship to the Church and to the Churches.

“The Holy Spirit is Highly Involved in the Churches”

We find this in verse eleven, “I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, and which thou seeest send to the churches which are in Asia and to Ephesus and Pergymum and Thyatira, Sardus and Philadelphia and to Laodicea.” And so quickly you begin to progress to realize that the Holy Spirit is not just a personal friend of yours, meant to make you feel good and feel happy and content in your spiritual walk. You begin to find out that He is highly involved in the Churches. Notice that this message is to the seven churches and we understand that the word “seven” means completion. So that in the bible when it uses seven, it means that is a complete number. If you are talking to the seven churches, you are talking to the complete church. You are talking to all churches. And again if it was just to those seven churches, we should not be reading other people’s mail. Those are letters to these people. However we understand that this is the seven churches and therefore represents all churches and there are things in here for all of us.

The process begins with the messenger beginning to explain to each of these churches that we just read here in verse eleven, particular things. Some of them are things that are off and in fact the majority of these letters are describing things that are off. In fact one of the most common words used here is “repent”. Interestingly enough the word “repent” isn’t always related to blatant sin, but sometimes getting out of wack with the tree of life. The word here is to repent and turn to those first things. “Repent and return to your first love” is one of them. It is not just about sin, but it is words to the churches. And you begin to see that in chapter two, verse three and four “And hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name’s sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love”. He is bringing up stuff and He is saying, “You’ve got patience and this and that, but I have something against you here and I am going to bring it up to you.” The Lord is good like that, amen? Verse five, “Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent. But this thou hast, that thou hatest the deeds of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches”.

There is the work of the Holy Spirit and we can not deny it. It is through messengers to deliver to churches and to church people the message: that God sees things that we don’t see. Maybe because we have left something or we have gotten off or dull, or something. So God actually will send messengers to speak to us and to begin to deliver to us what we are doing good on and what we are not doing too good on. This has sort of proceeded into giving of words and it has almost come to the point now that it is like a man is up there giving you a word, when actually it says here, “what the Spirit is saying to the churches.” And each church has a specific emphasis and thing and it is not the same as someone else.

We Are Not Just the Church on Sundays

I had a really unusual dream last night. I won't tell the dream, but it was very unusual and it related to this very subject of giving of words and of a distorted progression that has begun to happen within the churches, where men are utilizing the word of God to have their own way, and they are utilizing means and devices to bring people into "tow" to make people honor the man of God who is delivering the "word" for you specifically. There are churches called prophetic churches where people don't really open the bible except to give the word. In other words, it is not the living word of God, it is not the eternal word of God, it is not the logos of God, it is a specific Ramah for you, a specific word for you and that is all you ever get is a word for you. If you really begin to comprehend, and this is later, (in these early stages you don't comprehend), you might think it is about you or about your church. You see at first it is about you and about God making you happy and comfortable and peaceful. You feel more like the Spirit is with you and leading you, you feel like a more dedicated Christian, or more in tune with God on a daily basis. And then it begins to expand out to ministry to the church. You begin to operate in gifts and people begin to operate in gifts. And then it is the Spirit moving in the church. And that has become so prevalent that a lot of times that individual movement of the Spirit in our lives, does not happen until we come to the church, which is never what God meant because we are the church. We are not the church on Sunday, we are the church, the habitation of God. And that is the way it is meant to be, but a lot of that has been lost in a religious order that is being established.

Faithful Unto Death and the Crown of Life

I will preface this early on, my preface today is not against the church system and let's pull it down and this sort of thing. My message is to lift up Jesus. So if I say that there are problems, well there are. There are problems everywhere. We have plenty of problems here. But there is a growing religion about Jesus instead of the life of Christ filling us and us living as vehicles. Whether that be a house, or a temple, or a vessel, or a branch or all of those things representing we, individually and collectively are the vehicle of Christ. That is pretty much unknown to these believers in the early stages of the progression. It is more about coming somewhere and experiencing something from the Holy Spirit. And so as you go all the way through these scriptures, look down at verse ten, "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." You thought going into prison for ten days was tough, but He says, "be thou faithful unto death and you'll get a crown of life." There is death and life, faithful unto death and the crown of life, always and forever. But they do not understand that at this early stage. They understand that the Spirit is saying something to the church and it really doesn't relate to death, burial and resurrection. It does not relate to the eternal realities of Christ, of the Lamb, of the cross, it relates to Christianity and "we are going to suffer and get thrown into jail for Jesus." That is the mentality. At this stage I guess that is ok, what other mentality can you have? "We're Christians and

we are for God and because we stand up for God somebody is going to persecute us. Whoopee!”

Verse eleven, “He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;” I am not reading the last part because I am trying to emphasize that the Spirit of God is at work in the churches. Do you agree? The Spirit of God is at work in the churches so that you could actually hear of a church here in town where incredible things are happening, more than this place. They are giving words and power is going on and people being slain in the Spirit. “Slain in the Spirit” gets a whole new light when you think of it in view of the cross, but none the less, the excitement. You come in and there is a buzz and something exciting is going to happen in the service. And somebody is going to get prayed for and healed and something is going to happen here and there. And all of this stuff, which interestingly enough we had several words here this morning. We had a word of knowledge, prophecies and I praise the Lord for it. I don’t ever want to discourage that. I believe that if God wants to move that way then let God move that way, because He is God. There is nothing wrong with that, it is just that there is an ever expanding role of the Holy Spirit that is supposed to be at work in our lives so that we see the big picture and not just being earth people saved, going to a building and the excitement of the week is what happens on Sunday morning. That is the point.

His Purpose Is Ever Towards Jesus

I would say you could know about this other church over here with all of this stuff going on and exciting things happening and you could feel bad that nothing is happening here. Or you could feel jealous and maybe like you want to leave go over to that church because there is really good stuff going on. Or you could ask yourself the question, “How can that be of God? If the truth is preaching Christ, if the truth is having Christ revealed in us, how can be moving so powerfully over there?” I’ll tell you how He can’t is the expanding role of the Holy Spirit and it is a role and a dealing that He is ever doing in our lives and in their lives. And you can relate this back some years ago, however many years you go back to it, when you were in that exciting church and what if somebody was out here saying, “You big sissy, what are you doing?” If somebody was looking down their nose at you and you would say, “Look I don’t know what you know, but this is real and I thank God for His work in my life by the Spirit.” Does anybody understand that? We need to honor the work of the Spirit. I can tell you His purpose is ever towards Jesus even though people may misread it, even though people may use it for their own satisfaction, or their own flesh, the Holy Spirit is pure and if those people have a sincere heart at the right time, at the right place, the role of the Holy Spirit will move to a whole other level.

The Vitality of the Branch is the Life Within

It is interesting one way He does this, and it is a shock to the Christian world, is He gets you in revivals, He gets you in exciting things, He gives you gifts of the Spirit. And all of these things are exciting you and then eventually after a period of time, two years, five years, ten years, He cuts it all off. And all of the sudden it is not going on anymore and you start wondering what is wrong with you. When that is actually God, but we think that

it is the devil or we are in sin or we are drying up. And in one sense you are because a vine is not kept alive by the Spirit bouncing on it. A branch can be sticking out and have the Spirit bouncing on him, and he is moving, but if he is brittle you better not bounce too much. And I think that is why a lot of people just sit down and shut up, because they are kind of brittle and they are afraid they are going to break off or something. The vitality of the branch is the life within which is the vine life within. But how are we going to know that? We are dancing and feeling great, and you are not going to know that. You are going to think that this is the greatest thing that has ever happened in my life and I hope that this goes on forever. Interestingly enough even in the beginning chapters of Revelation of multitudes around the throne, you see them shouting and saying, "Glory to the Lamb". But it is almost different than you see at this stage where it is dancing and everything. A lot of the dancing is outward, it is not so much dancing around the throne, it is those that are enjoying what is up there, but it is not centered there. And that is for you to judge, it may not be the case for every individual, but I have found that is the case many times. So you have a whole different spirit of this thing as we proceed in the book of Revelation.

"The question is, is there a heart to hear what the Spirit says to the Churches?"

In chapter two, verse sixteen, "Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth." As we keep proceeding here there are different things wrong with different people. Or different things wrong with different churches. You can be assured that there is stuff wrong here. Surely you don't think that this is perfection! Surely! No, there is lots of stuff wrong. The question is not are there things wrong, the question is will we proceed in the Spirit until we have come to what the Holy Spirit desires for us to come to. Will we hear what the Spirit is saying and in this case right here, it is specific things, it is specific wrongs, there is stuff messed up. There is stuff messed up in your life, there is stuff messed up in my life and then you put us all together and there is stuff messed up in our group. We need Jesus! But the good thing is that we want Jesus! We are willing to hear what the Spirit has to say to the church. Is that good news? That is real good news. It starts getting bad when the Spirit starts to say it and we do not even hear it. We hear thunder. There is stuff here, or in any church you can think of, any body, but the question is; is there a heart for the Lord? Is there a heart to hear what the Spirit says to the churches? Is there a desire to keep putting off? Because you will never keep going until you go this way. There are phases you go through and you have to transition through the phases that happen and if you don't you kind of get left behind.

God Never Leaves His Purpose

Chapter two, verse twenty-seven to twenty-nine "And he shall rule them with a rod of iron; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father. And I will give him the morning star. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Interestingly he keeps saying what the Spirit says to the churches, not to the "church". Because there is still a bigger picture. And He is keeping us open. We may not be open, we may not see that as anything, but there is always an

expanding view of the Holy Spirit. He is God, we are just people trying to figure our way, bumping our heads, walking around like we're in darkness. All things are with purpose here. God never leaves His purpose, He may have to take us around a longer way to get His purpose. Like He couldn't lead Israel directly into the Promised Land in the eleven days journey it would have taken, forty years later He did. But He wants us in! He wants us in Christ, and He wants Christ in us and this is His goal. He is patient. God is awful patient, well actually you are awful, He is patient! But anyway, He really is. Because He just does not give up! You give Him a lot of reasons to give up, but He doesn't. Because probably He keeps picking at you because He sees something in you that is and will respond to Him. So He just keeps at you. That is why you are not just off living happily ever after in some carnal existence. You are living miserably ever after until you get into the fullness of what He's got for you! That is the deal. Happily ever after is not a term from the scriptures, but "fulfillment, filled full", is a term in the scriptures and happily ever after does not necessarily involve fulfillment. That could be two different things. You can be happy with a car, and a house, basic this and that and still be real empty on the inside. You can have all the things you ever wanted. You could make a list and pull it out and see that everything you ever wanted came true. So then you feel like, "Well why do I have this empty place inside? Maybe if I don't focus on that I'll be ok. But every once in awhile, I feel like I'm not fulfilled. I'm happy, but I'm not fulfilled. And to some of you that may feel foreign because you don't have anything on that list, but that's the grace of God too.

"God understands our kicking and fighting, but He never gives up on us"

Verse five, of chapter three, "He that overcometh, the same shall be clothed in white raiment; and I will not blot out his name out of the book of life, but I will confess his name before my Father, and before his angels. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." Now you know that it is saying a lot more stuff, I am just reading the end here. We are getting words here, we are getting specifics here, we are getting God moving here, we are getting God putting His finger on stuff that nobody else could put his finger on, we are being dealt with. Amen? We are being dealt with here. This is God saying, "Here is this, and there is that". And this is not necessarily a bad thing. It is meant in His heart to bring us on and further and more into fulfillment, it is not a bad thing. It is only a bad thing if when we hear it, we go, "Oh, I knew that was a problem in my life. I swept it under the carpet so that I would not have to look at it and now that you brought it out you are making me have to look at it, so I am miserable." That is not because it is a bad thing, that is because you have not yet seen. And I understand this, you have not yet seen the fullness, the fulfillment, the purpose of God, so of course you are going to fight it. Because you think you are being brought into something that robs you of everything, instead of bringing you into what is fulfillment. God understands that, He understands our kicking and fighting, but He never gives up on us. He never gives up!

We will go to verse twenty, of chapter three, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as

I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.” Those are mighty powerful words right there, but those words are not understood by these churches. This overcoming stuff is not understood by the churches because it involves something beyond what they are in at this stage, it involves something beyond of what they are experiencing by the presence of the Holy Spirit. For example Jesus is saying to the churches, “Behold I stand at the door and knock.” He is not talking to sinners, He is not talking to foreign nations, He is not talking about heathens, He is talking to His churches that are supposed to be His body but they are trying to be churches. Churches all over the place, “Well, this ought to bring glory to God to have churches.” Not necessarily. So Jesus is saying, “Let me come in to the inside of you.” They do not understand that. That is why the churches make up that this is Jesus talking to sinners, which is not the context and is wrong, but that is why we make that up. Because we say, “Jesus is in me.” But when He says that He means something different than just let Jesus come into your heart somehow and ok. “Now at least He is in there and because I’ve got the “magic stone”, Jesus, inside of me.” Because He does not have much more play in our life than being a magic stone that lights up when needed or something, instead of Him being the LIFE of the temple. “To Him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne...”. So here He is beginning to describe the throne, here He is beginning to describe not salvation, not problems in the earth, not this and that, in fact He is starting to describe something that is not in the earth at all, in that sense. Does it manifest in the earth? Yes, but is it in the earth, no. He is beginning to describe the throne and He is wanting you in Him, therefore with Him. That is what He says. Because you are positioned with Him in the throne is not a “with” as much as it is an “in”.

Imagine Jesus saying, “He that hath an ear let Him hear” and realizing nobody is getting it. For example, John chapter ten, Jesus said, “My sheep hear my voice. They know my voice and they follow me.” Is everybody familiar with that? Did you ever look at the next verse? It says, “And they understood not what He said.” Would that discourage you a little bit? “Therefore I have no sheep”. That is not true because His basis was working off of another thing, but you will find continually He says stuff and they do not understand it. Jesus is always saying stuff and they don’t get it. And the reason for that is because He is ever through His Spirit trying to bring us out of something and into something, out of our old understanding, out of our view. Because when we see something, when we see it with our mind instead of our Spirit, we apply it to something. We apply it to what we know. He is trying to show us stuff we don’t know. So how can we take everything He says about what we don’t know and apply it to something that we do know when He is trying to show it to us to make us know, because we are totally devoid of that understanding at this point! The answer is that we hear it with our physical ears instead of, “He that hath ears...” Jesus is saying, “He that hath ears...” and we look around, well everybody has ears, but He was not talking about our physical ears. He was saying in the Spirit. Can you hear by the Spirit, can you hear what the Spirit is saying? But what we do is we listen with our own ears. There was a time Jesus said to the disciples, “Don’t you understand?” Because He is knowing that they do not understand. Moses did the same thing. “Do you understand?” And they said, “Yes, we do understand.” And He said, “Oh, that you did understand.” The problem is not that we are dumb, the problem is not that we are rebellious in that sense. The deepest problem is that we are assuming that we know

somewhat of what He is saying because we are hearing with these ears and applying it to something else that matches up. You see, if it went into our ears and had no match ups anywhere, it would probably shake us and then we would really seek the Spirit, "What is the Spirit saying?"

I remember one time I had a specific word from the Lord for someone. And I thought, "this could be applied to His present circumstances based on this and this, but I am getting from the Lord that this does not apply to that". And I gave him the word and his response was, "I have no clue what this means and I am going to seek the Lord to find out what His view is." That is noble, that was the right thing to say to please the Pastor! So He is describing, "That you would sit with me in my throne, just as I am sat down with my Father in His throne." He is not saying that you will somehow sit with me on a throne, or that you would get a Kingdom. He is saying, "Do it as I have with my Father." That could be something eternal, that could be something we don't have a clue what that means. The very next verse is chapter four, verse one. Now everything is about to change, up to this point there has been one dealing. There has been one view, one perspective.

The Holy Spirit Always Lifts Up What Is Eternal - Jesus

Now all of the sudden we are going to begin to comprehend the Lord on a different level and we are going to do it because there is an expanded role of what begins to take place of the Holy Spirit. We begin to relate to the Holy Spirit differently. We begin to hear His voice differently, we begin to know Him by His movements. He is like the wind and you can't see Him, you can't touch Him, but the bible says it is like the wind and you know that there is a wind because you see trees moving. You begin to know these movements that lift up Christ in a different way, that always lift up what is eternal, what always point to Christ instead of us.

Everything up to this point has been our problems, and our growths, and our good things that we have done. And all of the sudden there is an expanded role of the Holy Spirit that is describing Jesus outside of us, instead of based on us. It is good, chapter four, verse one, after all of these words to the churches, after all of this dealing, there is a new movement. "After this, I looked and a door was opened in heaven." Now the movement is not going to be on the earth, now the dealing is not going to be that the Holy Spirit is in the earth. Do you remember where he said, "I saw Jesus in the midst of the seven candlesticks". That means that the seven candlesticks represent the seven churches, and it says that. Now we are not seeing Jesus walking in the midst of the churches and talking to them and rebuking them and encouraging them. No, all of the sudden everything has changed. A door has opened in heaven and we are not seeing Him in the earth at all. We are being caught up above and we are seeing the Lamb in a whole different light now. He is still the Lamb, He is still the Holy Spirit, but it has taken on a whole new view of things. "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter. And immediately I was in the spirit". This is different than being in the Spirit on the Lord's day. This is not the Lord's day. The only day that this is, is Him who is the day, the day dawn, the day star that is beginning to rise in His heart. And He is beginning to see not

this day, where you wake up in the morning and you look out the window and the sun is coming up and there are birds singing and you say, “Oh it’s going to be a new day.” No, this is where everything else is darkness, and He is the day. He is the light that begins to dawn in your heart. And it is a heavenly sun, it is a heavenly light, it is not of the earth or based on the earth.

Chapter four, verse two, “ And immediately I was in the spirit: and, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.” A lot of us are wanting to be seated with Jesus on the throne and when we say that, what that means is that we can master devils or we can walk through poison ivy or whatever, something weird. Something that we can tromp and romp over, but we are still thinking of the earth and we are still thinking in terms of power instead of something of eternity. What is the explanation of this? There is a door open in heaven and seeing into things there? I can’t tell you, not that I couldn’t mouth it, the truth is I cannot communicate it, and if I do I’ll use terms that you are familiar with and you are going to just assume that you know and apply it to what you know. First the door was open, he did not just shoot through it, He said, “Come up here. The Spirit is saying come.” But the first thing that the Spirit is saying is, “Come up HERE. Don’t just stay down there and let me talk to you and you just apply it to everything you know and you try to get better and you work on yourself.” It is like in earth, you hear this voice and it says of Jesus, “I am Alpha and Omega.” But in heaven you see that He is all and in all. You see that He is Alpha and Omega and everything else bows down to it. Everything honors it totally. It doesn’t talk about honoring it, we talk about honoring it and go and do something else that dishonors Him. That is not condemnation, that is just a fact. That is because we are in the earth. That is because we are of the earth, because we are still dwelling here trying to comprehend here. But thank God for the Holy Spirit who is never ceasing to bring Christ into greater glory in understanding.

“The Centrality of Christ is Absolutely Imperative”

He can not be brought into any greater glory, He is raised up far above principalities and powers and might and dominions and every name that is named whether it be in this world or that which is to come. We say those words, but He does not have that kind of dominion in us until we are from above. The Spirit of God has to say and you have to hear it, “Come up when the Spirit’s work in the earth, and the Spirit trying to do something in the heavenlies, in the reality that will take us far out of what we understand, far out of what we have up to this point, far out of information and good teaching about Alpha and Omega, into a reality that will totally convince you. The twenty-four elders are falling down, the four living creatures are falling down and saying, “Holy, Holy, Holy. He is it.” He is truly in the center. We say that He is in the center of our life. He is in the center when we are aware of it and we put Him there. In heavenly places there is nothing outside of Him that can exist. Therefore the centrality of Christ is absolutely imperative less everything else wilt and die like a million branches broke off a tree. All the fruit, all glory, all the color, all the branches wither within a short time. He is central. But I am not talking heaven someday, I am talking about in the reality that He was meant to be known by His family, by His children, by His own. We are supposed to be His own, not He is

supposed to be ours. I love that, “I am my Beloved and He is mine.” But there is a progression that happens there in Song of Solomon too.

In verse two, “And, behold, a throne was set in heaven, and one sat on the throne.”. One sat on the throne, not two. But He just said, “He that hath an ear let Him hear what the Spirit is saying to the churches.” What are saying to the churches? All we’re getting is, “You have this problem and that problem and if you would straighten all those problems out, you would hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.” The problems in the church are symptoms of a greater problem. The greater problem is that we have not really heard what the Spirit wants to say to the church, not about their problems, but about Christ in fullness and in resurrection. We have not seen, we have not heard the Spirit of God, seven times He said, “Hear what the Spirit is saying”. Until finally there is a door open in heaven, and we hear that voice, “Come up here.” There is no need talking about, “The Spirit and the Bride say come.” Because that is a different thing. There is no need talking about that until you have come away. Until you have come up on Amana, until you have heard it so deeply and shook to the foundation of your earth churches and you are ready. And God knows the timing so He opens that door in heaven and you begin to hear that voice. You hear the voice of the Spirit.

“It is Going to Take the Spirit of God to Explain Him”

Verse three, “And he that sat was to look upon like a jasper and a sardine stone: and there was a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like unto an emerald..” Five, “And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and there were seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.” So here we are getting a view of Jesus that is not the Jesus of Nazareth. We are getting a view of Jesus and He is not wearing sandals and a beard, and long hair. We are getting a view of Him that is sort of flashy! It is going to take the Spirit of God to explain Him. There is a continuing, expanding role of the Holy Spirit that will eventually galvanize the things that we are seeing, look as of Sardus stone, rainbow round about the throne, in sight like an emerald. The Spirit of God will begin to formulate and form this down until we begin to comprehend this Lamb on the throne in the proper light. But right now we have to make a break with the Jesus standing in the midst of the churches with His robe on and Jesus is here...and that is what we mean when we say, “Jesus is here. He is here with His robe on, the man of Galilee is alive and He is with us.” No, the Spirit of God is making Jesus psychedelic. It is not normal. The whole point is He is drawing you out of all that you have ever known and all that you have ever understood, but He has to do it with ways and means and things that are going to completely break your old understanding of Him so that you are open to the Holy Spirit in His new role.

You are seeing all of this lightning and thunder and rainbows, but it looks like an emerald. But it is like a sardus stone which is not an emerald. Let’s compare some of those things. Let’s try and get a rainbow that looks like thunder and lightning, or a sardus stone that looks like an emerald, but the rainbow looks like an emerald. There is no way to understand, this is going to take the Spirit on a whole new level. We are always trying to shape up the earth, we are always trying to fix up the earth. We believe in it. We

believe in the power of the Spirit of God to fix our earth. And yet the Spirit of God wants to open a door in heavenly places to get us out of there.

The Bride of the Lamb

Turn with me to chapter twenty-one, in the book of Revelation. Here we begin to get a whole other picture of the Lamb on the throne. Verse nine, “And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb’s wife.” And He begins to describe the Bride of the Lamb which we are. If you read all this you are going to have to have a new explanation of you and not just Him. Because this thing is all different. He might be Sardus, but you are Jasper. What is this? Streets of gold and gates of pearl, but that is not where we are going, that is us! What is all of this? What is this picture? This picture is the formulating of one who has the Lamb on the throne, not a Sardus stone, not a rainbow, it has all been reduced down to the Lamb on the throne and a river that is coming out of the Lamb, that is coming out of the throne, that is coming out of the Bride that is going to the nations. You begin to see a whole different change at work here. Verse twenty-two, “And I saw no temple therein: for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are the temple of it.” 22:17, “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely”. In the end the Spirit and the Bride are working together. The Spirit is not working on her, they are working together and they are saying come and they are saying, “let them that heareth say come.” They are talking to you as Bride. If you hear them say, “Come”. What is that? Come to what? Come to the revival service, come to the new building? This is talking about something so far above all of that. You begin to comprehend that.

“Come into the Bride”

Go back to verse twenty-one again, “nations of them shall walk in the light of it and the Kings of the earth do bring their glory and honor to it.” Walk in the light of what? Enter into what? Come into what? This is the nations of them that are saved, are coming into the Bride. And the Spirit and the Bride are saying to the nations that are saved, the saved people from all over the world, they have a message, “Come into the Bride. Bring your glory into this and be swallowed up in here. The Lamb is the light, the Lamb is the temple, the Lamb is everything. Come enter into this. Come find this.” It says that to all the saved people, and now you are not dealing with just churches, you are not even just dealing with people around a throne, worshipping about that throne, a bunch of nations and every kindred tongue; it has all been swallowed up of that which is Bride, of that which is joined to Him. It as all been swallowed up and now there is nothing left, but Spirit, Bride and Lamb. And they are all one. The Spirit and the Bride are saying, “And let Him who hears what the Spirit says, say Come to the nations that are saved.” Not go to them and say, “Repent” or “shape up” or “get better” or “do this”. But come into what you were meant to be a part of from the very first – oneness with Jesus Christ. One heart, one spirit, one Father, one body, one baptism, enter into the oneness of the thing and not the doctrine of it. “Hear what the Spirit says...”.

Conclusion

So we see that the Holy Spirit, the faithful servant to lift up Jesus alone, is always moving, is always working. Yes, He will touch you and bless you. Yes, He will give a word to the church. But if you let Him have His full way, you will eventually be so one with Him, joined with Him, that you will be at work with Him. And what is your message? Not to the heathen, your message begins to be to the church, to the saved ones. “Drop it all, enter into this, be swallowed up of the Lamb. Be a habitation of the Lamb. Be a habitation where His throne is set in you. And His rivers, the water of life that flows out of the throne freely, will flow out of you to the nations.”