

**THE
APOSTOLIC
VISION**

Written by Nicholas Jackson

Revival Ministries Australia
an apostolic ministry to the nations

Our mandate:

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

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**** Note ****

Where the New King James Version writes the name of God as "LORD" I have replaced it with "Yahweh". The word "LORD" is not a translation of the Hebrew Scriptures but is following a tradition of men to only refer to God as "LORD" rather than translate His revealed name. A better translation would be "Yahweh" or "Yehovah". I have chosen to use "Yahweh".

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INTRODUCTION

WRITE THE VISION

We are in days of the restoration of God's glory, refreshing and revival. Peter spoke of these days before the coming of the Lord as ***“times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord” Acts 3:19.*** Days of revival are to prepare us for the coming of Jesus, even seeing the ***“restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began” v.21.***

No matter what is happening in the world and no matter what governments are in place, the vision and mandate of God never changes. Jesus lived in days of oppression, under the rule of an iron-fisted Roman Empire that dominated the Jewish people and crushed any attempts at insurrection severely. But in the midst of that environment, Jesus was free. He walked freely. As the Son, He did the will of the Father without hindrance (**John 5:19**). Sons of God are coming forth in the nations to walk as Jesus walked (**1 Jn.2:6**), being led by His Spirit (**Rom.8:14**) and governed by His Word! Sons are free!

Write the Vision

We are to be a people who are clear, focused, purposeful and intentional in doing the will of God in our generation! **Habakkuk** lived in a time where wickedness was rampant and violence, plundering, strife and contention were all around (**Hab.1:2-3**). It was a time when it seemed that the wicked got away with everything and justice was not administered (**Hab.1:4**). Habakkuk had serious questions about all this, but he waited for God to answer him and knew He would bring correction when He did answer (**Hab.2:1**). God said:

1. **Write the vision (Habakkuk 2:2)** – there is something about writing down the vision. The vision is God's eternal purpose that He is outworking in the earth. This is the apostolic vision!

2. **Make it plain on tablets – that he may run who reads it (Habakkuk 2:2).** God wants you to run. The apostolic vision, when it is clearly laid out, releases energy in you to fulfil His purpose.
3. **Though it tarries, wait for it, because it will surely come, it will not tarry (Habakkuk 2:3).** We may want everything to happen very quickly. We need patience and endurance in the vision. We are to wait for it. However, just as on the Day of Pentecost – they tarried and waited for ten days, but then **suddenly** the Holy Spirit came (**Acts 2:2**). We need to be patient and eagerly waiting for the “**suddenly**” time of God.

This apostolic vision is the hope of the gospel. It is God’s eternal purpose accomplished!

It is time to return to apostolic Christianity. In doing so, we need to have a clear vision – we need the apostolic vision – all things in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, the Psalms being fulfilled in Christ Jesus and through those who are in Him! ***“For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us” (2 Cor.1:20).***

The apostolic vision is costly. When you receive apostolic revelation of the Scriptures, you will not fit into the “church” system of denominations, traditions, church dogmas or religious Christianity anymore. You will ***“come back seeing” (Jn.9:7)***, your ***“hearts will burn within you” (Lk.24:32)***, because you will be partaking in the ***“fellowship of the mystery” (Eph.3:9)***, ***“Christ dwelling in your hearts through faith” (Eph.3:17)*** being ***“filled with all the fullness of God” (Eph.3:19).***

THE APOSTOLIC VISION

1. To fill the earth with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh

The Apostolic Vision is to see the ***“earth filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh as the waters cover the sea”*** **Habakkuk 2:14**. The promise is that the **EARTH** will be **FILLED** with the knowledge of the glory. God’s plan is outworked in the **earth!** God also told Moses, ***“but truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of Yahweh”*** **Numbers 14:21**. We have a mandate, an apostolic vision – to be part of filling the earth with the knowledge of God’s glory. The word ***‘filled’*** means: *to be filled, to fill up, to be full, to fulfill, filling something to the brim, thoroughly saturated* [Word Wealth in New Spirit Filled Life Bible - Jeremiah 23:24]. The earth is to be ***thoroughly saturated*** with the glory of Yahweh, as revealed in Jesus, the Word made flesh, who is full of ***grace and truth*** (**John 1:14**).

The vision for Mankind from Creation

When God made man in His own image and likeness (**Gen.1:26-27**), He then told Adam and Eve to ***“be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion”*** **Genesis 1:28**. This is the vision! It has never changed! The earth is to be filled with sons of God. Sons are those people who are in the image and likeness of God, having been conformed to the image of His Son (**Rom.8:29**). We were saved and redeemed to become sons (**Gal.4:4-5**). Jesus, through His death and resurrection, is now bringing ***“many sons to glory”*** (**Heb.2:10**), so that the earth may be ***“filled with His glory. Amen and amen”*** **Psalm 72:19**. The glory will manifest in the earth through sons of God coming to maturity in the earth!

2. Christ fills all things through His church

In Ephesians 1:22-23 we see that the One who is **“Head over all things”** has been given to us, the church, **“which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all”**. The church is the body of the Messiah. This is not simply a religious term for the church: it is a description of what the church actually is! It is the very body of Christ. It is the place where Christ dwells by His Spirit. The body is the **fullness of Him, who fills all in all**.

Filling all things

The presence of Christ is to fill all things, in every place, through His body the Church. We, as the body of Christ, are the presence of Him in the earth – the body of Him filling **the all in all**. We are the extension of Christ on the earth! The apostolic vision is that every corner of God’s creation is to be filled with the Presence of Jesus through the members of the body manifesting His presence. This is to be outworked in their homes, families, workplaces, cities, villages and towns, making the most of every interaction to bring people into the Presence of the Messiah Jesus.

Enforcing the victory

This happens through the church **“preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ...to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord”** Ephesians 3:8-11. The apostolic vision is for the church to enforce the victory that has already been accomplished by Christ Jesus who **“having disarmed principalities and powers, made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it (the cross)”** Colossians 2:15. The presence of every member of the body, wherever they are, makes a big difference!

The Church is not the building, or the denomination, or the institution!
We are the body of Him, carrying His presence wherever we go.

3. It is a people filled with all the fullness of God

Paul prays for us in **Ephesians 3:18-19** that we ***“may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height – to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God!*”**

The word **fullness** means: *full number, full complement, full measure, copiousness, plenitude, that which has been completed* [Word Wealth in New Spirit Filled Life Bible - Ephesians 3:19]. We are to be filled with the complete and full measure of God! We are to be filled with the copiousness of God. This is a prayer of apostle Paul's to be answered on the earth. We can have a faith filled expectation for God's fullness to manifest in our lives through the experiential knowledge of the love of God in the midst of the saints!

Christ, the fullness of God, in us

In **Colossians 2:9-10** it is written, ***“For in Him (Christ) dwells all the fulness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power”***. The fullness of God fills us, as Christ, who is the fullness of the Godhead bodily, manifests in us, ***“the hope of glory”*** **Colossians 1:27**. We are filled with all the fullness of God by having Christ dwelling in us!

4. The Doctrine is to fill everywhere and prevail

It did not take too long for those early apostles to cause a stir in the city of Jerusalem. They had a strong accusation made against them, ***“Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine”*** **Acts 5:28**. May this accusation also be made of us: that we have

filled our cities, nations, towns and neighbourhoods with the **“apostles’ doctrine” Acts 2:42.**

The Doctrine

Doctrine is so very important. Doctrine is **teaching**. Doctrine shapes what we believe and therefore shapes how we will behave. God is calling His church back to the pure doctrine of the Word of God as it is written. What we believe must be the Scripture, not church dogmas, doctrines, traditions or confessions. Let the Bible speak and let revelation come. Uphold the Bible, the Scriptures, as the sole authority for faith and practice.

The **apostles’ doctrine (Acts 2:42)** is the teaching, instruction and word that was given to the apostles by the Lord Jesus when He commanded them to **“teach them to observe all things I commanded you” Matthew 28:20.** The **apostles’ doctrine** is the New Testament, which reveals the fulfilment of the law and the prophets (the Old Testament) in Christ Jesus (**Matthew 5:17, Luke 24:27**). This is what we are to do, fill every place with this doctrine. **“Daily in the temple and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching, Jesus the Christ” Acts 5:42.** This doctrine turns the world upside down (**Acts 17:6-7**).

The Word governs

After Paul had spoken the Word and reasoned with disciples for two years in Ephesus, the result was, **“So the word of the Lord grew mightily and prevailed” Acts 19:20.** During those two years of discipleship, the whole Provincial Region of Asia **“heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks” Acts 19:10.** Everyone had heard the Word!

When it says that the **“word grew mightily”**, the word **‘mightily’** is an interesting word. It is the Greek word **‘kratos’** which means: *dominion, strength, manifested power. The word especially signifies exerted strength, power shown effectively in a reigning authority* [Word Wealth in New Spirit Filled Life Bible – 1 Timothy 6:16]. This is

a governmental word. The Word of the Lord Jesus became the dominant doctrine; it was governing the Roman province of Asia. It had dominion and the reigning authority in that region! The doctrine of Christ captures the heart; it is good doctrine; this is the true doctrine we are to live by and it is to fill everywhere and be the dominant, reigning, governmental force, influencing the hearts of all people in every place! He who ***“abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and Son”*** 2 John 9. There is a witness of God where His doctrine is received and adhered to.

5. Nations become obedient to the faith through grace and apostleship

Paul writes in **Romans 1:5** ***“we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations”***. God’s plan through the gospel is to bring nations to obedience of the faith. The earth needs obedient disciples. The purpose of the gospel is not “saving people to go to heaven”. God’s plan is to teach people to obey heaven while they are on the earth. He wants obedience to the faith! It is through **grace** that this is achieved. **Grace** is the enabling power and ability of God to do the task. **Apostleship** is the commission and delegated authority of Christ to do the task.

Through Christ we have received both the **grace** and the **apostleship** to bring nations to obedience to the faith! Jesus released that **apostleship** when He said, ***“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go, therefore...”*** Matthew 28:18-19a. He delegated His awesome authority and commissioned the apostles and the church down the ages to make disciples of all nations – this is bringing the nations to obedience to the faith. We have the authority, the **apostleship** and He promised the **grace**, ***“and lo, I am with you always to the end of the age.”*** Matthew 28:20b. His Presence with us is the enabling power we need to complete this task!

6. The kingdom of God is to fill the earth

The Dream

In Daniel chapter 2 we read of Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the great statue made of various metals. Then it is written that ***"the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth"*** Daniel 2:35. The interpretation of the dream was that the various metals represented kingdoms that would come on the earth until ***"the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever"*** Daniel 2:44.

The Kingdom is increasing

This is God's eternal purpose! This is the apostolic vision! The ***"Stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone"*** Psalm 118:22; Matthew 21:42-43. That Stone is Jesus the Messiah, the Anointed King! That Stone has come and now ***"living stones are being built up a spiritual house"*** on that Stone (1 Peter 2:4-5). The Stone is becoming a mountain to fill the whole earth! ***"Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the Throne of David and over His kingdom"*** Isaiah 9:7. The Mountain is growing! The government is increasing! The kingdom is taking over! ***"The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!"*** Revelation 11:15.

A Victorious people

Apostle Paul writes of Christ that ***"He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet"*** 1 Corinthians 15:25. Jesus the Messiah is reigning right now. He is waiting for something! He is ***"waiting till His enemies are made His footstool"*** Hebrews 10:13. Jesus personally is head over all things and all things are under His

feet (**Ephesians 1:22**). Jesus is waiting for all things to be under the feet of His body, the church! He is waiting for a church to be walking in victory over all His enemies. The body of Messiah is to manifest His kingdom rule and victory. When the church walks into this maturity it will then come to pass, ***“Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all!”*** 1 Corinthians 15:28. The kingdom of God will fill the earth!

7. Bringing all believers to perfection in Christ

Let us go on to perfection

The apostolic vision is to lay the foundations with the goal to ***“let us go on to perfection”*** Hebrews 6:1. God only gives the permit if the foundations mentioned in **Hebrews 6:1-2** are laid and functioning in the life of the believer. Paul said as a minister it was his work to ***“present every man perfect in Christ Jesus”*** Colossians 1:28b. The way to bring the saints to perfection is ***“Him [Christ] we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom”*** Colossians 1:28a.

The goal is perfection. The goal is maturity in Christ Jesus. We are to ***“press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus”*** Philippians 3:14. We are to stand ***“perfect and complete in all the will of God”*** Colossians 4:12. We as ministers are to ***“labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you [the saints]”*** Galatians 4:19. The apostolic vision is to bring every believer to perfection/maturity in Christ Jesus!

8. To bring the church to a perfect corporate Man

A mature church functioning in Christ’s fullness

Jesus has been restoring to His church the knowledge of the five ministry gifts He gave when He ascended (**Eph.4:8-11**). These gifts

of apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers were given for the ***“equipping of the saints, for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ”*** Ephesians 4:11-12. These gifts were never taken away. It is the apostolic vision for these gifts to be restored and functioning ***“till we all come to the unity of the faith, to the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”*** Ephesians 4:13.

This is the apostolic work of Christ in the earth! A perfect, mature, corporate body that is manifesting the ***measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ***. This body is ***“joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love”*** Ephesians 4:16. A mature body, with every member contributing and doing their part, building each other up in the *agape*, self-sacrificial love of God! This is the apostolic vision!

9. A Perfect Glorious Bride Church

A Bride for the Son

Paul as an apostle knew that it was the apostolic work to prepare God’s people as a bride for Jesus. ***“For I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ”*** 2 Corinthians 11:2. It is a wonderful vision to lay hold of. Jesus wants a Bride Church.

Through the ministry of the Word

Through the ministries He has given He is ***“sanctifying and cleansing her [the church] with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish”*** Ephesians 5:26-27. Finally the apostle John caught a glimpse of her in all her glory, ***“Then I, John, saw the holy***

city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband” Revelation 21:2. The Lamb’s wife “had made herself ready” Revelation 19:7b. The apostolic vision is to see this glorious Bride presented to Christ her husband, adorned and ready as a chaste virgin unto Him. She is to be pure in doctrine, in unity of the faith that was “once for all delivered to the saints” Jude 3!

10. A House built for God to indwell

A dwelling place for God in the earth!

The apostolic work is to build the house of God. God, from the beginning of creation, has continually revealed His desire to live with mankind on the earth. Paul wrote to the **Ephesian** church that we are the ***“household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit”*** Ephesians 2:19-22.

The worldwide Temple is growing

This is a worldwide temple that is growing! It has a foundation (1 **Cor.3:11**). The apostles and prophets are to lay that foundation in every generation! It has a cornerstone! The house is built according to the pattern that is laid out in the Scriptures just as Moses built the Tabernacle ***“according to the pattern”*** Hebrews 8:5. It is a dwelling place of God in the Spirit! God dwells in His church, which is His house, on the earth! ***“The house of God, which is the church of the living God”*** 1 Timothy 3:15. Jesus the Apostle is a ***“Son over His own house, whose house we are”*** Hebrews 3:1,6. We are the house that Jesus is building!

The Tabernacle of God is with men

The apostle Paul wrote ***“For you [the church] are the temple of the living God. As God has said, “I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God and they shall be My people” 2 Corinthians 6:16.*** Finally, when the Temple, the church, the City, is complete, the Voice from heaven will be heard, ***“Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God” Revelation 21:3.*** The apostolic vision is to see this house completed so that God can tabernacle and abide in and with men on the earth forever!

Write the vision!

Make it plain on tablets!

That he may run who reads it!

Run with the apostolic vision!

JESUS THE APOSTLE

Considering the Apostle

In **Hebrews 3:1** we are exhorted to **“consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus...”**. We are to grow in our understanding of the apostolic work of Jesus the Messiah. It is **“through Him”** that we have **“received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name”** (**Rom:1:5**).

Very few people in the Christian world have really considered Jesus as the Apostle of God and yet this is vital for us to receive from Him grace and apostleship. The word **“apostle”** is the Greek Word **“apostolos”** which means **“one sent forth”** and the New Spirit Filled Life Bible gives the definition as **“one commissioned for a particular task or role”** [Word Wealth in **1Cor.12:28**]. Jesus is the One who was sent forth and commissioned by God for a particular task and role. The task was to build the House of God and the role was to represent the Father.

The same Commission

We have received the same commission! The word **“apostleship”** actually can be translated as **“commission”**. Through Christ we have received grace and a commission! The commission is to bring nations to obedience to the faith for His name! How do we do this? It is by being set apart to build the House of God and represent the Father.

Representing the Father

The apostolic revelation – receiving the Sent One

It is as we receive the One who is sent that we receive the One who sent Him. Jesus said, **“This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent”** (**Jn.6:29**). Our work is to believe in Jesus the One Sent, that is, the Apostle. Jesus said to His apostles,

“He who receives you receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me” (Matt.10:40).

This mystery is being outworked

When we are commissioned and sent, having received grace and apostleship, the people who receive us will have their eyes opened to the reality of Jesus coming to them in the one who was sent to them.

This mystery being outworked is not for a select few that are called apostles. Jesus wants to manifest in every saint who is called by His name. However, God is restoring true apostles of Jesus Christ to the church today so that the church can partake of this grace and apostleship again, releasing all the saints to be commissioned to represent Him [to be His witnesses **Acts 1:8**] and be a part of the building of His house.

Representing the Word

It is only as we speak the Word! ***“For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure” (Jn.3:34).*** The apostle John had a revelation that the Word of God is God (**Jn1:1**) and that this Word became flesh! (**Jn1:14**) As we represent the Word of God faithfully, we are representing Him and He will manifest!

Opening the Scriptures – revealing Jesus

We need the Scriptures opened to us if we are to see Jesus. **Luke** tells the story of two disciples who were part of the company that followed Jesus (**Lu.24:22**). They had known Jesus and walked with Jesus but to them Jesus had become dead – he had hung on the Cross. Jesus, alive from the dead, ***“drew near and went with them. But their eyes were restrained, so that they did not know Him” (Lu.24:15b-16).***

Jesus asked them why they were sad and they explained that they thought Jesus was going to be the mighty Redeemer (Lu.24:21). They were talking to Jesus, who was alive, and who was there with them, as if He was dead. They had heard of His resurrection (Lu.24:23-24), but they were ***“foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!”*** (Lu.24:25).

Notice that Jesus did not say to them that He was Jesus, but ***“beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself”*** (Lu.24:27). Then as Jesus broke bread with them in the house ***“their eyes were opened and they knew Him”*** (Lu.24:30-31).

It is through the Scriptures being opened to us that our eyes are opened to see Jesus! This is the ***“apostles’ doctrine”*** (Acts2:42), expounding to the disciples in all the Scriptures the things concerning Jesus! Many in the church have a limited understanding of who Jesus really is. It is time for our eyes to open!

Speaking the Doctrine of the One who sends us

Jesus said, ***“My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me”*** (Jn7:16). While the Greek word for ***“sent”*** in this verse is not ***“apostello”*** it is still conveying the same idea that Jesus was not speaking His own message but was making known the doctrine of the One who sent Him. He says, ***“If anyone wills to do His will, he shall know concerning the doctrine, whether it is from God or whether I speak on My own authority”*** (Jn7:17). We only have authority to the degree that we represent accurately the Word of God.

Manifesting His Glory

“He who speaks from himself seeks his own glory; but He who seeks the glory of the One who sent Him is true, and no unrighteousness is in Him” (Jn7:18). When we represent the Word of God we will manifest the glory of the One who sent us with the word.

If we speak our own message people may marvel at us and think we are wonderful but if we speak the words of the One who sends and commissions us, they will see Jesus who is **“the brightness of His glory”** (Heb1:3).

The apostle John said that when the Word became flesh **“we beheld His glory”** (Jn.1:14). The glory is revealed as the Word of God is manifest in the flesh of anybody who seeks to speak His Word!

Jesus the Apostle – fulfilling God’s purpose

The night before Jesus went to the Cross He gave a report to the Father of the work that He had done and He said, **“I have finished the work which You gave Me to do”** (Jn17:4). What was the work He was talking of? Jesus had not yet died for the sins of the world and yet He is speaking of a **“finished work”**.

When Jesus gives this account of His work to the Father, He mentions being sent apostolically [**apostello**] six times. The work, He is talking of, is the apostolic work that He was commissioned and authorised to do. It was the work of raising up eleven out of twelve disciples to be sent and commissioned just as Jesus was (Jn.17:18). We would do well to heed the pattern that He gave us.

The apostolic work is in the earth

There is work to do in the earth! We have a purpose to fulfil in the earth. Many people have only heard the gospel that gives a ticket to go to heaven when we die. Jesus said, **“I have glorified You on the earth”** (Jn.17:4). God is already glorified in heaven but His plan has always been that **“all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Yahweh”** (Num.14:21).

Jesus came to reveal the glory of the Eternal One in the earth, in flesh. To call Jesus the Son of God is to know that He is God, incarnate in a man. Jesus as the Apostle came to embody and reveal the Father in the earth! Knowing Jesus as the Sent One is the key to us receiving the revelation of what it means to call Him the Son of God.

Appreciating the name

Jesus said, ***“I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world”*** (Jn.17:6). Jesus also said, ***“I have come in My Father’s name”*** (Jn.5:43) and ***“the works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me*** (Jn.10:25). To come in another’s name is to fully represent that person.

The third commandment that God gave to us through Moses was, ***“You shall not take the name of the Yahweh your God in vain”*** (Ex.20:7). The Hebrew word for *“take”* is *“nasa”* and it literally means *“to lift”* and is translated over one hundred times as *“bear”* and thirty times as *“carry”*. Jesus fulfilled this command as He carried and manifested the name of the Father! Jesus manifested His name which means He carried the name with all that the name implies.

Manifesting the name

In manifesting the name of the Father, Jesus was manifesting the whole person of God.

The word for *“name”* in Greek is *“onoma”* and the New Spirit Filled Life Bible defines this word by saying *‘In general, the word signifies the name or term by which a person or thing is called. However, it was quite common both in Hebrew and Hellenistic Greek to use ‘onoma’ for all that the name implies, such as rank or authority, character, reputation, representative. Occasionally ‘onoma’ is synonomous for an individual, a person’* [Word Wealth in John12:13].

Jesus, as the Apostle, fully displayed the rank, authority, character and reputation of the Father and His name has now become synonomous [the same as] with the person of the Father! There is no distinction between Him and the Father; ***“I and My Father are one”*** (Jn.10:30).

His name shall be one

Zechariah prophesied of a time when ***“the Yahweh shall be king over all the earth. In that day it shall be – ‘Yahweh is one,’ and His name one”*** (Zech.14:9). Jesus said, ***“All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth”*** (Matt.28:18). If Jesus has authority over all the earth then that makes Him the King over all the earth and the fulfilment of Zechariah’s prophecy!

Immediately after declaring His authority to the disciples He then tells them to ***“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing [immersing] them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit...”*** (Matt.28:19). What name manifests the Father? What name manifests, reveals, explains and is synonymous with the person of God? It is **JESUS!** Zechariah said that in that day when Yahweh is revealed as King, His name would be one!

After sharing in a teaching session on this subject of Jesus manifesting the name of the Father, a pastor of a denominational church felt convicted that he must truly be immersed in the name of Jesus. He testified that he felt like he had not been “clothed with Christ” (**Gal.3:27 NIV**), he wanted to put on Christ! After being baptised he was so excited and declared that he now had put Jesus on, having been immersed in the name. He now knew the Person, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit!

Apostles are to bear the name

When the Lord Jesus appeared to Saul he told a certain disciple named Ananias to tell him, ***“Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles...For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake”*** (Acts9:15-16). What name was Saul to bear?

When Saul was on the road and was struck by the light from heaven, his response was, ***“Who are you, Lord?”*** (Acts9:5a). He called the One who struck him with the light **“Lord”**. To say **“Lord”**

meant that Saul knew he was talking to God but he was confessing that he did not know who He was. He did not know His name.

Many people call on “**God**” without knowing who He is. Saul was asking God who He was. “***Then the Lord said, ‘I am Jesus...’***” (**Acts9:5b**). Now God was revealed to Saul in the name, the person of Jesus!

Just as Jesus carried and manifested the name of the Father so apostles need to carry and manifest the name of Jesus, making known the revelation of ‘rock’ foundation, that is, who Jesus is (**Matt.16:16-18**).

Apostles can never come in the name of a denomination or group but only in the name and person of Jesus the Messiah who is the full expression of God!

**When we receive Jesus the Apostle,
we receive the Father who sent Him!**

APOSTOLIC COMPANY

For a number of years now we have been led of the Lord to call ourselves and those who relate with us, an **Apostolic Company**. There is no human organisational structure to this, nor is it a new denomination. It simply describes those who walk together in committed relationships having all received from Jesus Christ ***“grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name”*** (Rom.1:5).

Jesus had a company of disciples

When Jesus had risen from the dead He found two disciples, not of the twelve, walking on the road to Emmaus. When he asked them to explain what had been happening they said, ***“Yes, and certain women of our company...”*** astonished them when they had given the report that Jesus’ body was not in the tomb (Lu.24:22). The brethren who related with and followed Jesus saw themselves as a company - they were the ones who kept company with Jesus.

Being in Company with Jesus the Apostle

Apostolic Company begins when we receive a revelation of Jesus ***“the Apostle...of our confession”*** (Heb.3:1). By receiving Jesus as the Apostle, we begin to see the reality of the Father in Jesus and that as His children, He wants to train us and form us to be His own special people in the earth, growing us up to be a company of sons. The company of disciples was not a group of people that only related with each other by being a part of the same synagogue meeting every Sabbath. Jesus became their Father and taught them daily how to live in His ways. Jesus the Apostle and His brethren are the apostolic company.

We are for signs and wonders

We are meant to be such a company of **brethren** as is said in **Hebrews 2:11, 13b, “For both He who sanctifies and those who**

are being sanctified are all of one, for which reason He is not ashamed to call us brethren...Here am I and the children whom God has given Me.” The brethren of Jesus are one with Him and are His children. They are continually being ***sanctified*** and set apart to His will.

Verse 13b is a quote from **Isaiah** where he prophesies, ***“Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples...Here am I and the children whom Yahweh has given Me! We are for signs and wonders in Israel”*** (Is.8:16, 18). The “law” means the “instruction” or the “teaching”. The disciples who have Jesus as their Father are the ones in whom the teaching and instruction is ***sealed***. Disciples are made by ***“teaching them to observe all that I [Jesus] commanded you”*** (Mt.28:20). The real signs and wonders that we should be looking for are companies of brethren arising in the earth, in every nation, who are committed disciples and brethren of Jesus, the apostolic Father, and who have the teaching, ***“the apostles’ doctrine”*** (Acts2:42), sealed in their hearts and outworked in their lives.

The Army of the Yahweh

God delivered us from the world to be an army that could inherit the promises of God in Christ (**2Cor.1:20**)! When God delivered the children of Israel from Egypt it says in **Exodus 6:26**, ***“These are the same Aaron and Moses to whom the Yahweh said, ‘Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies.”*** Again in **chapter 7:4** it says, ***“But Pharaoh will not heed you, so that I may lay My hand on Egypt and bring My armies My people, the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgements.”***

God’s army is His people. However, the generation of the children of Israel who came out of Egypt did not see themselves as such and did not inherit the land that God had chosen to give them. They were undisciplined and not willing to heed their Father’s voice

and be trained. Much of the church today is even unaware that God has an inheritance for them in the earth and are therefore also undisciplined in applying themselves to be trained in the ways of God. The word “discipleship” shares the same root as the word “discipline”. The Word of God is to discipline us.

David’s Army – an example of apostolic company

David arising

As David rose up as a mighty warrior in Israel under the leadership of Saul, it became obvious to all that God was with David and that he was the anointed (the Messiah) of God. Saul’s kingdom was to be ripped away from him because his heart was not to wholly follow the LORD. Saul was more worried about the circumstances around him than the Word of God, ***“When I saw the people scattered from me...and that the Philistines gathered together...Therefore I felt compelled, offered a burnt offering. And Samuel said to Saul, ‘You have done foolishly. You have not kept the commandment of Yahweh your God...now your kingdom shall not continue. Yahweh has sought for Himself a man after His own heart...”*** (1Sam.13:11-14).

Saul’s kingdom typifies today the Church that still wants to do things their way and are not willing to fully submit to Jesus. They are God’s people but they are more afraid of the people ***scattering*** than in trusting God’s Word. God is looking for a company of disciples who will have His heart for the nations, to be ***obedient to the faith***.

When the people began to sing of David, ***“Saul was afraid of David, because Yahweh was with him, but had departed from Saul”*** (1Sam18:12). David however continued to ***“behave more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed”*** (1Sam.18:30).

A company gathers around the Anointed One

David had to eventually escape persecution from the church of his day, ***“David therefore departed from there and escaped to the cave of Adullam. So when his brothers and all his father’s house heard, they went down there to him. And everyone who was in distress, everyone who was in debt, and everyone who was discontented gathered to him. So he became captain over them. And there were about four hundred men with him”*** (1Sam22:1-2).

This is the forming of apostolic company. David here typifies Jesus the Apostle and the apostles that Jesus is raising in these days. God is raising apostles again to lead the Church back to complete obedience to the Word Himself. Notice the ones who came out of Saul’s kingdom:

i. everyone who was in distress

Many in the church today are distressed. Distress happens when there is not a good shepherd to lead. Jesus said of the people of His day, ***“when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary [harassed] and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd”*** (Matt.9:36). Jesus’ answer was to raise up more workers for the harvest. This means to train and send apostles and disciples into the harvest. God is raising apostolic companies to be places where those in distress can find reality in Christ and be a people who are sent into God’s harvest.

ii. everyone who was in debt

Religious church systems keep brethren in debt – they are not released to go out and live for the kingdom. We are not to be indebted to the “church” as an institution. The Church is meant to be a place of freedom. Only slaves are indebted but ***“if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed”*** (Jn8:36). In apostolic company there are no debts ***“except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law”*** (Rom.13:8). In apostolic company

we are called to build each other up for the purpose of all finding their gifts and full expression as a contributing member of the Body of Christ. ***“We are all sons of God through faith in Jesus Christ” (Gal.3:26)***. There is no hierarchy but orderly submission into the Body that releases all the Body to grow ***“with the increase that is from God” (Col.2:19b)***.

iii. everyone who was discontented

Many today are finding apostolic companies because they are looking for more in their walk with God. Saul’s kingdom was only going so far yet God was wanting to take His people further. He needed someone like David who would be after His heart and willing to change, be corrected and inquire of the Lord for direction.

To walk in apostolic company is a commitment to keep growing and be willing to change and press on. It is a people who are not content to stay in the status quo but will be after all God’s purposes. David was a man who ***“served his own generation by the will of God” (Acts13:36a)***. The people who came to him wanted more.

The apostle Paul wanted to ***“press on, that I may hold of that for which Christ Jesus laid hold of me...” (Phil.3:12b)***. He then said, ***“Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind...” (Phil.3:15a)***. The mature mind is to not be contented with remaining the same. The mature mind is the one who is willing to press on in company with brethren who are also of this mind.

This is the sort of people that formed the army led by David under the guidance of the LORD. These men learned to live in community, learned to wait for the Word of the LORD and allowed themselves to be trained and taught by their apostolic father, David. It was to these men that God finally gave the kingdom.

The Apostolic Company in the book of Acts

One heart, one mind

“All who believed were together, and had all things in common...continuing daily with one accord in the temple and breaking bread from house to house...the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved” (Acts2:44,46a,47b). These disciples were ***“continuing steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine” (Acts2:42a)*** and therefore the life of Messiah Jesus was filling all of them and teaching them how to love one another.

This was a sign and a wonder to all Israel and the Lord was able to add to them daily as they welcomed the new believers into the midst of daily fellowship with Jesus. The reality of Jesus in the midst is to be tangible. They were one just as Jesus promised in **John17:20-21**. As long as they kept receiving the word of the apostles they remained one and the Lord added others into this fellowship of oneness which is ***“fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ” (1Jn.1:3).***

Apostolic order in the company brings multiplication

When trouble arose over the questions of widows the apostles did not try to take matters into their own hands but gave wise leadership calling on the whole Body to be involved in the solution, ***“Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business” (Acts6:3).*** The apostles knew their role in the company was to facilitate growth, not to rule over the brethren for the sake of their own glory. The apostolic company agrees with God’s order in the church, ***“And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers...” (1Cor.12:28).***

The apostles knew that their role in the company was **“to give ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word” (Acts6:4)**. All the brethren were pleased and chose seven men and the apostles were able to ordain them by the laying on of hands with the agreement of all the church. The result was further revival, **“Then the word of God spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many priests were obedient to the faith” (Acts6:7)**. Notice that the result was not “church growth” as such. It was multiplication of **disciples** and **obedience to the faith**. This is the result of **“grace and apostleship” (Rom.1:5)**.

The emergence of apostolic companies: people coming out of “Saul’s kingdom” to be together in **“serving their generation by the will of God”**. These companies are committed, submitted and accountable in real Christ-centred relationships. They are active in doing the will of God and being obedient to the apostolic commission. When we are of one heart and mind to do this together the **“world will know that You [Father] have sent Me [Jesus], and have loved them as You have loved Me” (Jn.17:23b)**.

You may not be an educated or worldly trained person but as you join with other brethren in true apostolic company, being in company with Jesus the Apostle, people will marvel, **“and realize that you have been with Jesus” (Acts4:13)**.

Apostolic Company is simply disciples of Jesus relating together, wanting to follow all He commanded, believing the Bible as it is written and desiring to see the Word outworked in our lives corporately.

There are no restrictions to obeying Jesus and there are no boundaries.

As companies arise all around the earth, being led by apostles in apostolic order, there will be multiplication of disciples.

There will be sending communities with grace and apostleship being released to the Body to bring nations to obedience to the faith.

It is time for ministers and believers everywhere to step out of the old wineskin we have called “church” and step into the new, being members of His Body, receiving apostles and walking as brethren in Jesus the Apostle’s company!

WASHED IN THE APOSTOLIC – Part 1

a revelation of the Son of God – John 9

Jesus saw a man blind from birth

In **John 9:1** the apostle John writes, ***“Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth.”*** This man was a Jew; he was one of the people of God, in the “church” of his day. Later in this account the Jewish religious leaders, the Pharisees, take this man to question him, which shows that he was a part of their religious grouping.

This man was in the family of God but he had a problem – he was blind and had been blind from **birth!** It is possible to be born again and part of the church, part of God’s family and still be blind – blind to the will and purpose of God. All over the church world there are born again believers who have born again into a church denomination or system that does not allow the fresh revelation of God’s word to change them. They get stuck in a place of religion that is rigid and incompatible with the flow of revelation that comes from God’s throne to His people.

We need our eyes **opened! Jesus noticed this man!**

The disciples look for the solution

In **verse 2**, it says, ***“And His disciples asked Him, saying, ‘Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?’”*** Many of us today are looking for the reason why we are a certain way, why we have some problems – maybe our great grandfather did something wrong and we are paying the consequences for his sin. The disciples, like us, were looking for the root cause of the problem and by doing so it affected their ability to be in tune with God. They were missing God’s plan and heart.

Jesus' answer

In verse 3, ***“Jesus answered, ‘Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him’”*** (v.3). Jesus' response was simple. He is not complicated. He said to His disciples to stop looking for the problem and realize that God wanted him healed! God wanted him restored! He wanted His works to be revealed in his life! Jesus did not come to be a spectator and observe the problems in the world – He came to save us, deliver us and restore to us our sight! May we get this heart in us! May we walk with God in such a way that we see how He wants to outwork His plan in our every day life.

Working the works of the One who sends us

“I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work” (v.4). Jesus said that He must work the works of Him who **sent** Him. The word for **“sent”** in this verse is the Greek word **“pempo”** which means *to dispatch or to send*. There is another Greek word for **“sent”** mentioned in the Scriptures which is the Greek word **“apostello”**. This is where the english word **“apostle”** comes from. Sometimes these words are used almost interchangeably; however, the word **“apostello”** suggests a more authoritative commissioning. **“Apostello”** is a sending with the authority of the Sender, to represent the Sender!

Jesus said, ***“But I have a greater witness than John’s; for the works which the Father has given me to finish – the very works that I do – bear witness of Me, that the Father has sent Me”*** (Jn.5:36). The word for **sent** in this verse is the word **“apostello”**. Jesus, as the apostle, the **Sent One**, was **sent** to do a work by the Father. There are many believers all over the world who are trying to go and do the work of God without being **sent**. We need to be **sent**. When we are **sent**, we are in the will of God and we have authority to do the works of God in the sphere in which we are sent.

Jesus sent His apostles

In **Matthew 10** Jesus sent His apostles to do some work in the cities of Israel. The Scripture says, ***“These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them saying, ‘Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go, rather to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give”*** (v.5-8). The apostles were sent to work the works of God and they had authority to do it in the sphere that Jesus gave them. If they had gone anywhere else to try to do what Jesus had said, they would have had no authority to do it, and probably would have ended up like the seven sons of Sceva in **Acts 19:13-16**.

We need to know the One who sends us!

When we go in the authority of the Christ who sends us, we have His authority to do what He has told us to do. There are many lawless Christians in the world who will not submit themselves to be sent. They want to work for the Lord but they want to do it their way. Jesus said, ***“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!’”*** (Matt.7:21-23).

Jesus said that He must **work the works of Him who sent Him!** We need to do the same: look for what our Father is doing and do the same (**Jn.5:19**). God wants the blind to see! He wants His children to grow up in revelation knowledge of the Son of God (**Eph.4:13**).

The Light of the World

“As long as I am in the world, I am the Light of the world” (Jn.9:5). Jesus saw a blind man and His answer was, ***I am the Light of the world!*** Jesus is the Light we need. ***“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form, and void, and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, ‘Let there be Light’; and there was light”*** (Gen.1:1-3). Into the darkness of this world God released Light; He sent Light! It was shapeless, empty and dark and the first thing God did was release Light! This light was not natural, as the sun, moon and stars were created on the fourth day (**Gen.1:17-19**). This light was supernatural light: revelation! It was wisdom, understanding and knowledge released into the world to reveal how to build, how to establish and how to fill (**Prov.24:3-4**). After the light was given, the creation took shape and came into alignment with God’s purpose!

The Light has come

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend [extinguish, snuff out] it” (Jn.1:1-5). The Word is Light. It is life and darkness cannot extinguish it. The light is the revelation of Jesus. Jesus saw this man, one of His own, and he was blind; blind to the things of God, blind to His purpose, greatness and love. Jesus said that, ***“As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.”*** It was time to reveal the light to this blind brother and see him restored! Into his darkness, the Light had come!

Anointed but still blind

“When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay” (Jn.9:6). After being born again, which includes baptism into the Body (**1Cor.12:13**), we need to be anointed with the Holy Spirit. We need to have the baptism in the Spirit to release power for us to witness (**Acts.1:8**). However, the anointing, even though it releases power, gifts and ability to function, does not release the full revelation that we need. Remember those people who were doing all the works but they were lawless. This man was now anointed but he still was not able to **see!** Jesus wants to open our sight.

The Pentecostal experience is not the ultimate. It is necessary for us foundationally: we must be ***“endued with power from on high”*** to effectively fulfill the mission of Jesus (**Luke 24:49**). However, the Pentecostal experience does not necessarily open our eyes to God’s eternal purpose. We have power and gifts available, however, even after this man was anointed he was still walking around in a dark world. The Pentecostal church for the most part is still walking in the dark, albeit, with some miraculous things taking place. It is time, however, to see the fullness of God revealed! It is time to enter our inheritance! To move from Pentecost into the fulfilment of all God’s purposes!

Go wash in the pool of Siloam

“And He said to him, ‘Go, wash in the pool of Siloam’ (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing” (Jn.9:7). After Jesus anointed this man, He told Him to go wash in the Pool of ***“Siloam (which is translated, Sent)”***. The Word for **sent** is the Greek word ***apostello***. The pool of ***“apostello”*** is the pool of the apostolic! It was only after he washed in this pool that ***“he came back seeing!”*** Hallelujah! We are in the days of the apostolic

restoration – coming back to the apostolic foundation that Jesus laid in the church and there is great revelation!

Some people may say that this is being pedantic to major on the use of this word, “**sent**”. However, there are only four times in John’s writing that he tells us the translation of words from Hebrew to Greek. He translates “**Rabbi**” to be “**Teacher**” (Jn.1:38); He translates the word “**Messiah**” to be “**Christ**” (Jn.1:41, 4:25); he translates “**Cephas**” to be “**A Stone**” (Jn.1:42); and then he translates “**Siloam**” to be “**Sent**”. Obviously the Holy Spirit thought it was important for us to know – we need to take heed because there is a revelation for us. My testimony is that when I encountered a true apostle, the deeper wisdom and mysteries of God’s word began to open and I began to flow in the “***Spirit of wisdom and revelation***” **Ephesians 1:17. When we receive the ones sent, the apostles sent by Jesus, our eyes open to receive the Scriptures by revelation and understanding!**

We need to wash in the apostolic pool

We need to wash in the Pool of “**Sent!**” It will change you; you will have recovery of sight! No longer blinded! You will come to the revelation of the mystery, “***which has been hidden from ages and generations, but now has been revealed to His saints***” (Col.1:26). There is an apostolic pool that we can wash in. It is Jesus, ***sanctifying and cleansing her [the church] with the washing of water by the word that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish***” (Eph.5:26-27). It is by the word of the Lord that we are washed! Jesus said, “**Go wash in the Pool of Siloam (which is translated, sent).**”

Jesus wants us to be apostolic; a people who are **sent**. A people whose eyes have opened to God’s eternal purpose, who can receive the Word without man’s traditions and dogmas attached to it! A people

who long for the pure word of God! We need to receive the ***“knowledge of the mystery of Christ, which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets”*** Ephesians 3:4-5. We need to receive His holy apostles and prophets to lead the church back into the truth!

The apostolic revelation – setting the Body in order

After washing in this pool, he was healed and restored. Coming into the apostolic revelation brings order into us. In **Ephesians 4:12** Paul writes that Jesus has given the five-fold ministry gift in order to, ***“equip [perfect] the saints, to do the work of the ministry and to build up the Body of Christ.”*** The word **“equip”** in the classical Greek language meant: *to set a broken bone during surgery. It means a “making fit, preparing, training, perfecting, making fully qualified for service”* [Word Wealth in New Spirit Filled Life Bible – Ephesians 4:12].

The apostolic ministry as the primary ministry amongst the five comes to set the broken bones of the Body in order so that the Body can function! Jesus restored this man to sight so that He could function again. Washing in the apostolic revelation will help you see how God is building His house, which is His church, which is His Body, ***“the fullness of Him who fills all in all”*** (Eph.1:23).

Having a testimony

Now this man had a testimony of Jesus in his life. ***“Therefore the neighbours and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, ‘Is this not he who sat and begged’”*** (Jn.9:8). They knew this man as a beggar. But suddenly he was not begging anymore. There are many beggars in the churches today. They are up on every altar call to “get more anointing”, to “be healed”. It is not wrong to go up on altar calls but when it becomes your habit and your means of relating to God there is a major problem. These people have

not been taught how to walk with Jesus and so they are always looking for a man to pray for them. This is not good. It is the word that heals and restores (**Ps.107:20**) – not men with power. We need to come out of being beggars, be discipled and get a testimony of Jesus in our life.

Those who recognized this man were amazed. Suddenly he could see clearly for himself. He was learning to walk by the **Light of the World**, Jesus. He had a new confidence and authority that was not there before – he had washed in the Pool of **the apostolic!**

Interrogation begins

“So they said to him, ‘How were your eyes opened?’” (**Jn.9:10**) When we come into a revelation of the apostolic then we will be changed and our denominational friends will want to know what has happened. **How do you see the revelation of God’s word now? Why are you so excited about the Bible? Why do you say that you can see God’s plan now?** They will want to know because suddenly you are not fitting into their mould anymore. You are outside of the denominational categories now and they see a freedom in you that they want to know about.

Opportunity to speak of the name!

“He answered and said, ‘A Man called JESUS made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to the Pool of Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed, and I received sight’” (**Jn.9:11**). His testimony was not of his church programs and how good the speaker was on the weekend. He testified of a Man named **Jesus!** He now began to bear the name of **Jesus!** Washing in the apostolic is coming out of religion, denomination, institution and into a testimony of Jesus! Being called by His name – identifying with Him!

Bearing the name of Jesus

The apostle Paul bore the name of Jesus

After Paul received a revelation of Jesus, Jesus told Ananias, ***“a certain disciple”***, about Paul, that ***“he is a chosen vessel of Mine, to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel”*** (Acts9:15). People who are apostolic, who have washed in the pool of Sent, are able to see and will bear the name of Jesus. The church does not belong to men! The church is not called by the name of your denomination! The church in the Scriptures is called by the name of Jesus! Jesus said, ***“I have come in My Father’s name and you do not receive Me: if another comes in his own name, him you will receive”*** (Jn.5:43). We need to identify with Jesus and not have mistaken loyalties to men and organizations!

Representing the One who sends us

Jesus represented the One who **sent** Him! He raised apostles to represent Him also! Jesus said, ***“He who receives you receives Me, and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me”*** Matthew 10:40. Jesus fully represented the Father and we are to fully represent Jesus, our apostolic Father (Heb.2:13). Go wash in the Pool of **Sent!** Bear the name of Jesus. Be sent by Jesus and by the apostles that He sends. If you receive the apostles that He sends, you receive Him! Hallelujah! This is the revelation of the apostolic!

You will be persecuted

“They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes” (Jn.9:13-14). The Pharisees were religious leaders of the Jewish nation. They were the “church” leaders and one of their programs got messed up by Jesus. Jesus had a habit of doing wonderful things on the Sabbath. This really made the Pharisees angry because it kept distracting the people in their “church” meetings. The Pharisees had no revelation of the Sabbath. They were bound by

religion, duty and man-made traditions that kept them from seeing that Jesus was bringing the fulfillment of all the Sabbath pointed to.

Entering the Rest

The Sabbath was about entering into God's rest! The fulfillment of the Sabbath is entering the eternal rest of God, entering into the fullness of God's promises and being at rest in Him. The writer to the **Hebrews** says, ***"There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself ceased from his works as God did from His"*** (Heb.4:9-10). Jesus was bringing people into this inheritance. On the Sabbath day Jesus did many miracles that brought people out of bondage and into rest. He was fulfilling the Sabbath if they had eyes to see. But religious understandings and traditions blind us to the truth and liberty of the living Word! Washing in the apostolic pool will lead us into God's rest!

Jesus the Prophet

Now this man was brought before the religious leaders to be interrogated as to his healing. When the move of God happens there will always be those who do not understand and they will fight God because it does not happen the way that they thought it should – according to their program. **But this became an opportunity for this man to testify of Jesus!** When the Pharisees debated about who they thought Jesus was, thinking He must be a sinner for doing the healing on the Sabbath, they asked the man who was formerly blind what he had to say about Jesus. His response was, ***"He is a prophet"*** (Jn.9:17). That was a good revelation and it was correct but God wanted to open his eyes further! Jesus is much more than a prophet!

WASHED IN THE APOSTOLIC – Part 2 a revelation of the Son of God – John 9

An experience is greater than a system

Do not be surprised when you have your eyes opened to the reality of God – by the Light of the world – that those in religious authority will stand against you and question you. ***“But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues...But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you will speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak”*** (Matt.10:17, 19).

A genuine experience is greater than a system! After asking the man’s parents to verify his blindness from birth they again asked the man, ***“Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner.” He answered and said, ‘Whether He is a sinner I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.’***” Once you catch the revelation you cannot help but testify. You cannot help but speak the truth! The apostles told the religious leaders, ***“For we cannot but speak the things we have seen and heard”*** Acts 4:20. God is real! When He opens your eyes it is done – there is no turning back or denying it! God is raising true witnesses in the earth who have been washed in the apostolic pool and have been genuinely touched by the true God!

You will be thrown out

After the Pharisees heard him testify he asked them if they wanted to be his disciples (v.27). They began to speak of being disciples of a dead man – ***“we are Moses’ disciples”*** (v.28). How often do we like to set up a tradition after a man. There are many denominations now that have been formed around men of God in the past. Most of these men were great, but their greatness was not in them – it was in the One who worked through them. Jesus had said

previously, ***“Do not think that I shall accuse you to the Father; there is one who accuses you – Moses, in whom you trust. For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me” (Jn.5:45-46).*** There was no salvation in Moses but there was salvation in the One that Moses pointed to! Do not follow men – follow the One who gave the men their authority!

Be faithful

The Pharisees argued that Jesus was not of God because they did not know where He was from. The man who was formerly blind said, ***“Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.’ They answered and said to him, ‘You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?’ And they cast him out” (Jn.9:32-34).*** When we cannot handle revelation sometimes it makes us insecure and we want to throw it away. That is what these men did to this formerly blind man: they commanded him “Out of the church!” He was no longer part of Jewish worship; he was excommunicated from the system. Hallelujah! This is actually a good place to be! He handled the testing, the tribulation. He did not recant on what he had experienced. He had proven faithful and this is pleasing to God.

Come out from among them

Many who have come into the apostolic revelation have experienced the same things by denominations and church organizations. Many say, ***“But we do not know where they are from. We keep the tradition of John Wesley or Martin Luther or whoever.*** It is time to come out of the bondages and entanglements of religion. ***“Out of Egypt I called My Son!” (Hos.11:1).*** Out of confusion, which chains and binds us to thinking within a context that does not allow fresh revelation of the Scriptures. This man was now called out of the world and God had something to show Him!

A revelation of Jesus, the Son of God

A sign of maturity

One of the signs that the church is coming to maturity is that **“we all come...to the knowledge of the Son of God”** (Eph.4:13). This man had an experience with Jesus; he had received his sight and now was no longer bound to the religious system of the day. This caused him persecution and excommunication but he stood the test. He never denied the reality of what had happened but he remained faithful to testify of the truth.

Jesus hears

“Jesus heard that they had cast him out” (Jn.9:35a). You need to know that when they persecute you, insult you and throw you out, Jesus hears about it! Jesus was following the proceedings – seeing how this man would fare through the test. Jesus recognizes us and nothing escapes Him. We are to remain faithful and Jesus will hear about it!

Jesus finds us

“When He had found him...” Jn.9:35b. Jesus will come and find you. When you receive apostolic revelation, you no longer fit in the system; you may be cast out; but this should comfort you. The first thing that happens is that Jesus comes and finds you! You get to meet Jesus! You meet Him **“outside the camp, bearing His reproach”** (Heb.13:13). He comes to you and draws alongside you because He wants you to receive revelation of who He is. This man, like the religious Jews of the day, had a certain view of who they thought the Messiah would be. But Jesus does not fit into categories and man’s definitions. **He is! He is what He is and He will be what He will be!** He comes by revelation!

Do you believe in the Son of God?

When Jesus found this man He asked him, ***“Do you believe in the Son of God?”*** (Jn.9:35). What an awesome question! It would be good to allow Jesus to ask us this question. If you answer with revelation you will be blessed forever. If your eyes are opened to the full reality of this question, you will be completely changed! **Do you believe in the Son of God?** Why did Jesus ask this question? What is so important about the ***“Son of God”***?

Son of David, Son of God

“What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is He?” They said to Him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How then does David in the Spirit call Him ‘Lord’, saying, “Yahweh said to my Lord, sit at My right hand, Till I make your enemies your footstool”? If David then calls Him, ‘Lord’, how is He his son?” And no one was able to answer Him a word...” (Matt.22:42-45). People knew the Christ would be the Son of David. But the religious leaders did not want to confess the Divine Nature of this Son of David. Not only was the Messiah to be the Son of David but the Scriptures had declared, ***“I [Yahweh] will be His Father and He will be My Son”*** 2 Samuel 7:14a, Hebrews 1:5b. Who is this Jesus? Whose Son is He?

“Dangerous” revelation

This is the contention. Worldwide it is a problem in the church that many do not understand who He is. When Saul [later Paul] got the revelation of Jesus on the road and was subsequently filled with the Spirit and baptized it says that, ***“Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. Then all who heard were amazed...”*** (Acts9:20-21). Saul got a revelation that changed him. He thought he knew God but when confronted with God, he said, ***“Who are you, Lord?” Then the Lord said, “I AM JESUS...”*** (Acts9:5). He got the revelation of the Son of God!

The Son equal with the Father

“Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God” (Jn.5:18). This is the mystery. It is: ***“the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ...” (Col.2:2).*** What is the mystery? It is that: ***“I and My Father are One” (Jn.10:30).*** It is the mystery of Godliness, that ***“God was manifested in the flesh...” (1Tim.3:16).*** Being the Son of God does not mean that God had a baby; it means that God became a man!

The Son of God is God in the flesh!

Jesus said to the man, ***“Do you believe in the Son of God?”*** Jesus was asking if he believed that God would become a man. He was asking if this man believed that God could show up and reveal Himself fully in a man. He was asking him if he believed that God was in the earth!

Jesus is God revealed

“He answered and said, ‘Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?’ And Jesus said to him, ‘You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you’” (Jn.9:36-37). Ho! What an answer! The man believed but wanted clarification. Jesus gave it to him. **You have both seen Him and He is talking with you!** This man’s eyes were not just opened naturally – they were opened spiritually to see the Son of God! He now had revelation of the Son of God!

He worshipped Him

“Then he said, ‘Lord, I believe!’ And he worshipped Him” (Jn.9:38). **HE WORSHIPPED HIM!** You do not worship a man! You only worship God! When Jesus was being tempted by the devil in the wilderness, the devil tried to get Him to worship him, but Jesus quoted from **Deuteronomy 6:13, “Away with you Satan! For it is written,**

‘You shall worship Yahweh your God, and Him only shall you serve’” (Matt.4:10). This man got the revelation! Jesus is God!

Seeing beyond the veil

This man saw beyond the veil! The writer to the **Hebrews** said we now ***“Have boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh”*** (Heb.10:19-20). This man saw past the human exterior, past the flesh and outward appearance; he saw past the form of a man and he saw that ***“God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself...”*** (2Cor.5:19). This man saw God and he worshipped Him. How did he see God – He saw God in Christ! He saw God in Jesus! He saw the Father in the Son (**John 14:9**). **He saw the Son of God!**

All the fullness

There is no revelation of God outside of Jesus. Jesus is the revelation of God! ***“In Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power”*** (Col.2:9-10). This man was made complete at the revelation of the Son of God! He saw the fullness of God in Jesus!

It is time for us to enter in behind the veil. ***“Therefore, from now on, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know Him thus no longer”*** (2Cor.5:16). Behind the veil is the glory! The glory is the Son! He is the ***“brightness of His glory, the express image of His person”*** Hebrews 1:3.

It is time to see Jesus as He is!

- not as a religious teaching we follow
- nor as a set of facts we believe

- but as the true and living God who became flesh!
- He is the Son of God – God revealed in human form!
- It is time to look past the flesh of Jesus and see beyond the veil,
- to get the revelation of God in Christ!
- ***“To worship Him in the beauty of holiness***
- ***To behold the beauty of Yahweh [the LORD] and to inquire in His temple”*** (Ps.29:2, 27:4b).

Peter said that he was an ***eyewitness of His majesty. For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: ‘This is My Beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased’***” (2Pet.1:16-17).

When we wash in the apostolic pool, we come out of dead religious works to have ***“the eyes of your understanding enlightened”*** (Eph.1:18).

“Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?” 1 John 5:5. When we enter into this revelation we become victorious, even being ***“filled with all the fullness of God”*** (Eph.3:19).

We are being made ***“complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power”*** (Col.2:10). Authority flows from the one who knows and believes in the name of the only Son of God (1Jn.5:13).

***“And we know that the Son of God has come
and has given us an understanding,
that we may know Him who is true;
and we are in Him who is true,
in his Son Jesus Christ.
THIS IS THE TRUE GOD AND ETERNAL LIFE”
1Jn.5:20***

May we be blind no longer! It is time to be washed in the Pool of
Siloam, the Apostolic Pool!

TEACHING AND MATERIAL

We are available to teach and minister in conferences, seminars, training schools and church fellowships. We bring an apostolic grace to equip the saints, serve the Body and build up the Body of Christ according to Ephesians 4:11-12.

There have also been numerous *apostolic training schools* established in many nations which use training manuals, books, booklets and material we, as Revival Ministries Australia, have been graced to produce. The vision of the schools comes from **Acts 19:9-10** where the apostle Paul *“for two years, reasoned daily in the school of Tyrannus”* with the disciples causing the whole region to hear the Word of the Lord Jesus.

We offer four Discipleship Courses as well as Courses for apostolic leaders. We do this online as well as on the ground where there is a school near you.

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