

# Teaching them To Observe All things



Revival Ministries Australia

**TEACHING THEM  
TO OBSERVE  
ALL THINGS**

# REVIVAL MINISTRIES AUSTRALIA

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© **Paul Galligan, Nick Jackson [lesson 2] and Rhoda Jackson [lessons 1 & 7]**  
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Revival Ministries Australia, PO Box. 2718, TOOWOOMBA Q.4350, Ph. +617 46130633  
Location address: SHILOH Centre, 19 Russell St. Toowoomba, AUSTRALIA

Email: [rma@revivalministries.org.au](mailto:rma@revivalministries.org.au)

Website: [www.revivalministries.org.au](http://www.revivalministries.org.au)

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# RECEIVED UP IN GLORY

*"For without controversy great is the mystery of godliness:  
God was manifested in the flesh  
God was justified in the Spirit  
Seen by angels  
Preached among the nations [Gentiles]  
Believed on in the world  
Received up in glory" 1 Timothy 3:16*

This great mystery is outlined for us in the context of **verse 15**, which says, *"that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."* This great mystery is presented in six powerful statements, revealing to us 'who Jesus is'. He is God *"manifested in the flesh"*; He is Immanuel, *"God with us"* (Matt.1:23b).

In this study we want to come to a greater understanding of Jesus being *"received up into glory."* What does it mean to say that God [Jesus] was received up into glory?

## JESUS WAS RECEIVED UP IN GLORY

### He was received up into heaven

After Jesus had told His disciples to go into all the world and preach the gospel, He was received up into heaven, and He sat down at the right hand of God. *"So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God"* Mark 16:19. Jesus being received into heaven and sitting at the right hand of God equals being received up into glory. The glory is described by two key things: heaven is glorious, and there is a throne in heaven.

### Carried up into heaven

In Luke's account the Scripture says, *"While He blessed them, He was parted from them and carried up into heaven. And they worshiped Him"* Luke 24:51-52a. Remember this is the resurrected Jesus who had been appearing to His disciples for forty days after the resurrection: *"He presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs ... speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God"* Acts 1:3.

### A cloud received Him

There came a time when Jesus was to be taken up (Acts 1:2), and this actually happened *"Now when He had spoken these things, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight"* Acts 1:9. The disciples unashamedly worshiped Jesus after He had been carried up into heaven, *"And they worshiped Him"* (Lu.24:52). This is confirming the mystery of godliness: that *"God was manifested in the flesh"*. Jesus as God was worthy of worship, and only God can be worshiped (Matt.4:10).

### The cloud of glory

As Jesus *"went up"*, the disciples were looking steadfastly toward heaven (Acts 1:10). Then *"two men stood by them in white apparel, who also said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven'"* (Acts 1:11).

Clearly to be taken up into heaven is to be received into glory. The glory refers to the heavenly realm (Eph 1:20). Jesus was taken up [received] into that heavenly realm. *"A cloud received Him out of their sight"* (v.9b). This is not the only time that a cloud is associated with the glory.

In Exodus 40:34 when the Tabernacle had been completed, *"Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle."*

On the Mount of Transfiguration *"a bright cloud overshadowed them [the three disciples]; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud"* (Matt.17:5). In that experience Jesus *"was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light"* (v.2). Peter says of that occasion that he saw *"the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ"* and that he was an eyewitness *"of His majesty"* (2Peter 1:16).

## WHAT IS HEAVEN?

- **It is God's throne:** *"Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool"* (Isa.66:1). John saw *"a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne"* (Rev.4:2). John had to be *"in the Spirit"* to be able to see into heaven (v.2).
- **Jesus sat down at the right hand of God.** Jesus said, *"Hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting of the right hand of the Power and coming on the clouds of heaven"* (Matt.26:64). **The Power** is a reference to the Almighty God. **The right hand** is the place of all authority. Jesus said even before He ascended, *"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth"* (Matt.28:18).
- **It is the realm of the Spirit of God - where God lives.** When the apostle John looked and behold a door set in heaven, he says, *'immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne'*. Heaven, the throne of God is in the Spirit. Jesus told us in John 4:24 that *"God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and in truth."* Paul said that the kingdom of God is *"righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit"* (Rom.14:17).
- **Heaven is where the Father dwells.** Jesus said, *"I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God"* John 20:17.

## JESUS WAS RAISED AND SEATED

Paul tells us in Ephesians that Christ was *"raised from the dead and seated at His right hand in the heavenlies"* (Eph.1:20). This is a governmental position: *"far above all principality and power and might and dominion"* (v.21).

Christ was raised from the dead by the power of God and seated at the right hand in the heavenly places. God *"put all things under His feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the church"* (Eph.1:22).

## Pentecost is the proof that Jesus has ascended into the glory

Peter says of Jesus *"being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear"* Acts 2:33. As the ascended Lord, who is called the Lord of glory (1 Cor 2:8), Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit which God had promised, even in the Old Testament. The Holy Spirit could only be poured out in the

believers when Jesus had been **glorified** (**John 7:39**). When we receive the Holy Spirit, we carry the witness and that is the proof in us that Jesus has ascended to Glory.

### **I am ascending to My Father**

Jesus told Mary *"I am ascending to My Father"* (**Jn.20:17**). Jesus knew He was to ascend. He identifies that His Father is our Father, that His God is our God. Jesus was inviting Mary to come into the *"fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ"* (**1 John 1:3**). Jesus invites all of us to come into this fellowship and relationship with God. This is very important: we only know who God is through Jesus. Jesus reveals the Father to us.

Jesus declared in **John 10:30** *"I and My Father are one"*. Jesus declared in **John 14:6** *"No one comes to the Father except through Me."* The only begotten Son, *"who is in the bosom of the Father"* (**Jn.1:18**), He has declared the Father to us. Jesus came from the Father; Jesus declared the Father to us; Jesus returned to the Father and is now seated on the Father's throne (**Rev 3:21**).

Jesus completed the work the Father gave Him to do on the earth as the Apostle of God (**Jn.17:4-19**). Jesus acknowledged that He was with the Father before the world was and that He shared in the glory with the Father (**Jn.17:5**).

### **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR US?**

The gospel is to bring us into the glory of God; the gospel is to bring us into this place of oneness with God.

#### **That they may be one**

Because Jesus and the Father are one, and because Jesus has ascended to the Father, now the believing ones can become one with Him: *"That they all may be one as you Father, in Me, and I in you; that they may also be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me"* **Jn.17:21**. Then Jesus said that He had given the glory, that the Father gave Him, to the disciples. The glory would make the disciples one in the Father and the Son (**Jn.17:22**).

This is the only way that the world can finally know who Jesus is: **by the glory of God revealed in the Son and the glory of the Son, which is the glory of the Father, revealed in the church!** Great is the mystery of godliness. Jesus was received up in glory so that we can partake of His glory and have the *"hope of glory"* formed in us (**Colossians 1:27**).

#### **We are to sit with Jesus on the throne**

Jesus promised the overcomers in the church of Laodicea that *"to him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne"* (**Rev.3:21**). Jesus makes it clear that there is only one throne: it is the Father's throne, but Jesus has been given that throne, and our destiny is to sit with Jesus on that throne. How awesome is that!

We have been raised *"up together and made to sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus"* (**Eph.2:6**). This is our placement in Christ if we have received Jesus and have been baptised into Christ, then He makes us to sit in the heavenly places in Him.

We need to be in this place with Jesus if we are to fulfil the commission and make disciples of all nations (**Matt.28:18-20**).

#### **We are to be with Him where He is**

Jesus prayed in **John 17:24**, *"Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am"*. Jesus was praying this for all those who would believe in Him through the apostles' word (v 20.). **John 17** is in the context of Jesus being in the Father and Father being in Jesus (v 23.).

Jesus being received up in glory is being received up to the Father and He invites us to **be with Him where He is**. Jesus has prepared a place for you in the Father's House (**John 14:2**). This is a place in the Father. God says, **"I shall be a Father to you and you shall be my sons and daughters"** (**2 Cor 6:17-18**).

The mystery of godliness is in the context of knowing how to conduct ourselves in the house of God, **"which is the church of the living God"** (**1 Tim.3:15**). The church of the living God is the Father's House. When Jesus was received up in glory, He said He would **"receive us to Himself that where I am you may be also"** (**John 14:3**). We are in the Father's house!

### **We are to behold His glory**

The desire of Jesus for His disciples is for them to be one with Him so that **"they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world"** (**Jn.17:24**). This would lead to them being filled with the love of God (v.26).

When Jesus became a man, **"the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth"** (**Jn.1:14**). It is only in Jesus that we can see the glory of God. The Scripture says that God **"who commanded light to shine out of darkness has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"** **2Cor.4:6**.

### **We shall appear with Him in glory**

**"When Christ our life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory"** **Colossians 3:4**. We are to live our lives in preparation for His appearing (please read **Titus 2:11-14**). **"Looking for the ... glorious appearing of our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ"** (v.13).

We are to **"seek those things which are above where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God"** (**Col 3:1**). We are to **"set our minds on things above, not on things on the earth"** (**Col 3:2**). We are to live a life which is **"hidden with Christ in God"** (**Col 3:3**).

### **Our bodies will be changed**

Our mortal bodies will be changed when we are **"caught up together with them [the dead in Christ] in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air"** when He comes (**1Thess.4:17**).

**1 Corinthians 15** tells us that when the Lord comes there is going to be amazing changes and **"we shall be changed in the twinkling of an eye, and the dead will be raised incorruptible"** (**1Cor.15:52**). Both the living and the dead in Christ will receive resurrection bodies which are glorious bodies like unto His body. **"We shall bear the image of the heavenly man"** (**1Cor.15:49**).

### **We receive a glorious body**

When Jesus Christ appears from heaven, He will **"transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself"** (**Phil.3:20-21**).

- **Jesus was received up in glory**
- **When we come into Christ, we are raised up to be seated with Jesus in the heavenly places - far above every other authority and power.**
- **We are positioned in Christ and empowered to do His work**
- **The work is making disciples**

**Christ is our life**

**When He appears, we will appear with Him in glory**

**We are invited to be with Him where He is now!**

# DISCIPLESHIP REVIVAL

## The Great Awakening

In these days of apostolic restoration and reformation of the church, there is a great awakening occurring among the people of God worldwide. The Spirit is saying to the churches to “awake to discipleship”. It is time for a generation to awaken to the great need of true discipleship and the great desire of Jesus to make and have disciples! The great revival of our generation is a revival of discipleship!

## The call of Jesus in the gospel

Jesus came to call disciples. Jesus came to call people willing to be learners, willing to be instructed in a new lifestyle and willing to imitate Him. Jesus wants us to ***“learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly of heart, and you will find rest for your souls”*** **Matthew 11:29**. The call to be a disciple is a call to learn from Jesus. The gospel is the call of discipleship to learn the ways of the kingdom by sticking like glue to the King.

## Repent

When Jesus began His ministry, He preached ***“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand”*** **Matthew 4:17**. The revival for each one of us begins with the call to repent, to be willing to change. We need to be willing to change our minds, change our ways and change our attitudes in order to learn how to live in the kingdom of heaven. Discipleship is learning how to live in the kingdom of heaven while we are on earth. We must be willing to change!

## The call into discipleship

After preaching of the need to repent then Jesus proceeded to call a few people out ***“And Jesus...saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men”*** **Matthew 4:18-19**. It is possible and even probable that Simon and Andrew were hoping for this call. They had been a part of the revival happening at the Jordan River through John the Baptist (**John 1:35-42**) and Andrew had heard John declare Jesus to be the ***“Lamb of God”*** (**Jn.1:36**). They knew of Jesus. They knew what John had spoken of Jesus. Their hearts were yearning for the Messiah. Their hearts were prepared for discipleship.

## The invitation

Today, something is happening in God’s people that is preparing them for discipleship. People want to get out of the religious system and from being trapped in “church”. There is a yearning to follow the Messiah. There is a yearning to be more heavily involved in the kingdom and in the work of Jesus. There is a desire to be experiencing the reality of following Jesus every day as a lifestyle. The invitation is awesome! ***“Follow Me and I will make you fishers of men”***. We are to ***“follow”*** Jesus. We are to observe how He lives, watching His every move, so we can learn to draw others into His life. This is an invitation to learn to live ***“a new and living way”*** (**Heb.10:20**). It is time to stop what we are doing, ***“immediately leave our nets and follow Him”*** **Matthew 4:20**.

## What are you living for?

It is time to evaluate what we are living for. What are our motivations? What are our goals? Why are we alive? Jesus said ***“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me”*** Matthew 16:24.

- To ***deny ourselves*** is to no longer live for our own agendas or pleasures.
- To ***take up our cross*** is to ***“crucify the flesh with its passions and desires”*** (Gal.5:24), dying to our selfishness and wanting to gratify ourselves.
- It is to die to our selfish ambitions and living our own way.

The word ***follow*** means: *to be in the same way with, that is, to accompany*. Jesus wants us to go on the journey with Him. Jesus wants us to accompany Him so we can learn to do what He does. In order to do this we have to give up everything else.

## Losing our life to find it in Jesus

The awakening of discipleship is having a revelation that accompanying Jesus is worth the loss of everything else. ***“For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it”*** Matthew 16:25. Life is found in discipleship. Eternal life is discovered as we lose our own soul life for the sake of following Jesus! What are you living for? The late Jim Elliot, a missionary who gave his life in the 1950s while reaching out to an unreached tribe in South America, coined a phrase *“he is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep in order to gain what he can never lose”*. Jesus is all that matters. Let’s make the decision together to ***“count all things loss...that we may gain Christ”*** Philippians 3:8.

## God wants everything

God has always wanted to be involved in everything. He never planned for us to compartmentalize our life into different areas. He wants to be in everything. The greatest commandment according to Jesus is ***“Hear, O Israel: Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one! You shall love Yahweh your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your strength”*** Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (Mk.12:29-30).

The greatest commandment begins with a confession of who God is: that ***“Yahweh our God, Yahweh is one”*** (Deut.6:4). Jesus opened this up further when He said, ***“I and My Father are one”*** John 10:30. Jesus is the revelation of this one God. He is Yahweh in the flesh, ***“being found in appearance as a man”*** Philippians 2:8a. We are to have a confession of Jesus as the one true God and we are to choose to love Him with all of our being. This is actively giving Him pre-eminence in all areas of our soul, all of our energy and labouring ability, and serving Him with our spirit.

## Living the Lifestyle

After telling us the greatest command then God tells us through Moses the key of how to do this. It is by developing a lifestyle of surrounding yourself with Heaven’s way of life. ***“And these words ...shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”*** Deut. 6:6-9.

We are to surround ourselves with the Word. We are to talk the Word. We are to breathe the Word. We are to discuss the Word and teach it to our children, natural and spiritual. Every house is to be a place where Jesus is honoured. Every house is to be a place where a family is gathering around

the Word to learn of Jesus and be instructed in His ways. Do you teach your children the Word of God? Whatever we do we are to view it through the Word and then do it all in the name of our Lord Jesus, for the glory of God (**Col.3:17, 1Cor.10:31**). This is the discipleship revival!

### **Heavenly conversation**

Our ***“citizenship is in heaven”*** **Philippians 3:20**. The word *citizenship* was translated in the KJV as ***“conversation”***. Our conversation, which is our manner of life, is to be heavenly. The purpose for surrounding ourselves with the Word is to ***“then beware, lest you forget Yahweh”*** (**Deut.6:12**). Disciples ***“abide in My Word...and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free”*** **John 8:31-32**. This is the great awakening of discipleship. It is a change of lifestyle. It is not necessarily more “church meetings” to go to. It is a life to live. A life in the Word, breathing the Word so that the ***“Word becomes flesh”*** (**Jn.1:14**) in us and people then will see His glory!

### **More than a ‘good Christian’**

Many people are held back from discipleship. The young rich ruler was like many Christians today who are looking to find the minimum requirement to be “saved”. ***“What good thing must I do to inherit eternal life?”*** **Matthew 19:16**. Jesus told this man to keep the commandments and the man heartily replied that he was doing that, but said ***“What do I still lack?”*** (v.20).

There is a great lack in the Body of Messiah. Many people are endeavouring to be “good Christians”. They believe in Jesus, pay their tithes and are good ‘church members’ attending Sunday services. Many can even be successful in various pursuits. *But there is something lacking!*

### **Do not miss the invitation**

When the young rich ruler asked what was lacking, Jesus was able to answer him straight away, ***“If you want to be perfect, go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come follow Me”*** **Matthew 19:21**. Jesus made a powerful invitation to this man. This man was a “good” believer in God. He was obeying the commandments but still lacking something. Jesus offered this man the opportunity of a life time – ***“Come follow Me”***.

Jesus offered him discipleship. It meant that he would have to leave his normal life. It meant leaving his comfort and financial security, ***“sell what you have”***. It meant no longer finding his life in his possessions, ***“give to the poor”***. This was the eternal moment – but he missed it! He missed the offer of finding real life in the kingdom of heaven. He missed the offer of eternal riches of the glory of God, ***“treasure in heaven”***. He missed receiving the understanding of the ***“mysteries of the kingdom of God”*** (**Matt.13:11**). He turned down the offer of discipleship.

### **There is great reward**

There is great reward and satisfaction in taking up the call of discipleship. For the young rich ruler who turned down the offer, there was only sorrow, ***“But when the young man heard that saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions”*** **Matthew 19:22**. If we do not take up the call of discipleship we will be dissatisfied, sorrowful and regretful, and not enjoy the blessing of fulfilling the destiny and calling of God on our lives. But when we realise the greatness of the reward it should help us to lay everything aside. ***“Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life”*** **Matthew 19:28-29**.

The apostle Paul said, *“Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord”* **Philippians 3:8**. The reward of discipleship is great. It leads us into our inheritance.

### **Apostles are to provide the example**

It seems that generally in today’s “church” world there is still a great divide between “clergy and laity”, between the ministers and the people. This is not apostolic. This is not discipleship. When Paul spoke to the Thessalonians he said, *“For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power...as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake. And you became followers of us and of the Lord...”* **1 Thessalonians 1:5-6**.

As an apostle, Paul lived among the ones he preached to. He showed them a pattern of behaviour, conversation and lifestyle. He was also able to say that they *“became followers of us and of the Lord”*. The word *followers* here means *imitators*. The Thessalonians were able to *imitate* Paul’s lifestyle as exemplified through him and the team with him. Apostles are needed in the discipleship revival as they can say *“Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ”* **1 Corinthians 11:1**.

### **Learn, receive, hear and see**

When Paul wrote to the Philippians he was able to say, *“The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you”* **Philippians 4:9**. Apostles have been given to bring this pattern to the church. The church in the Scriptures is not an institution but a family and a company of disciples that are learning a new life. Apostles and leaders are to provide the example of how to follow Jesus.

- i) Disciples are *learners* – we must be willing to learn, be teachable and correctable
- ii) We are to *receive* from apostles, and other apostolic leaders, the impartation and anointing of the Spirit, by being with them (**Rom.1:11, 2 Tim.1:6**)
- iii) Disciples are to be *hearers* – being taught the Word, the apostles’ doctrine, thoroughly so that they can pass it on to others (**2 Tim. 2:2**)
- iv) Disciples are to be *seers* – watching and imitating the godly lifestyle and manner of life of the apostles and apostolic leaders (**1 Cor.4:16-17, 2 Tim. 3:10-11**)

### **It is time for disciples to multiply**

The Great Awakening for our generation is here. It is time to return to apostolic Christianity, which is a Discipleship Revival. It will need great commitment. It will need submission. It will need accountability. It will need grace and apostleship. God has restored the apostolic ministry to the church to bring about a multiplication of disciples who know how to follow Jesus and live with a *“conduct worthy of the gospel of Christ”* (**Phil.1:27**). With apostles in place and functioning *“Then the word of God spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly...and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith”* **Acts 6:7**. If you have not joined already, it is time to join in this great awakening and enter the realm of real discipleship.

**ENTER THE DISCIPLESHIP REVIVAL!**

# DOING DISCIPLESHIP

Since we responded to the Lord's calling in 1997 and formed Revival Ministries Australia as a fledgling apostolic ministry in January 1998, the so-called Great Commission was our commission. By the grace of God, we have been committed to *"making disciples of all nations"* (Matthew 28:19), and that has been our main work both in home base, Toowoomba Australia, and in our nation, as well as going to the nations of the world.

In October 2019 a team of three of us had the privilege of doing an intensive discipleship training in Myanmar. Twenty-five disciples gathered with us for nine days and we taught the word from 8.30am to 4.30pm each day. Some of the trainees were 'church planters' and they were so relieved when we shared that Jesus did not commission us to 'go and plant churches', but He commissioned us to 'go and make disciples. This is our work, and this should be a primary focus of every church and every ministry. If a person is called and goes in obedience and makes some disciples, then that person has formed a church. The meeting of the church is the disciples who are being taught, who gather together with their teacher. Can you imagine if all churches were making disciples of the believers who attend the church, what a huge difference that would make in the world.

## 1) DISCIPLESHIP IS A LIFESTYLE – how we live as committed Christians

In his letter to the church in Ephesus, Jesus said, *"Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works"* Revelation 2:4-5a. Jesus knew that if this church returned to the first works, their love for Him would be restored. The question we must ask ourselves is **'What are the first works'**? The answer to this question comes by looking at what the **first church** did and practiced in Acts 2.

On the day of Pentecost, after Peter had preached so powerfully, proving that Jesus was the Christ prophesied in the Old Testament, many responded. Acts 2:41 *"And those who gladly received his word were baptised; and that day 3000 souls were added."* All these new believers were added to the 120 who had been in the upper room when the Holy Spirit came.

Acts 2:42 tells us in clear terms what this newly formed church of thousands of believers actually did: *"They continued steadfastly [in a committed way] in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers."* We can say that these are the first works! This church was on fire for Jesus and the gospel, and their lifestyle took a radical turn once they had been baptised. Even before we look at the first works that they did and the brief description in Acts 2:43-47 of how they lived, we need to look at the greater context of Acts 2.

- The Holy Spirit was poured out by Jesus after He had been *"exalted to the right hand of God and having received from the Father the Promise of the Holy Spirit"* (Acts 2:33).
- As Peter preached the truth of who Jesus is, *"that God had made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ"* (Acts 2:36), many were convicted, *"cut to the heart"* (v.37), and they wanted to respond.
- Peter, exercising the keys that Jesus had given him (Matt.16:19), told them to *"Repent, and let everyone of you be baptised in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"* Acts 2:38. Peter's instructions have been misunderstood and not being obeyed by the church to this day. There is much controversy over baptism in the name of Jesus Christ, even though that is clearly the instruction of Peter

and confirmed in **Acts 8:16 & Acts 19:5**. Also many do not expect that new believers being baptised in water will then receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

These are the foundational experiences that led to the first church practicing the first works.

**The first works are four-fold.** The thousands of new believers in **Acts 2** continued committedly in four things:

- i. **Apostles' doctrine** - the Apostles' doctrine is the teaching of the word of God, that is, the word that has come by revelation from God to the apostles. God has ***“appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers”*** (**1 Cor.12:28**). These three ministries are responsible for bringing the word of God that comes by revelation with prophetic understanding, equipping and enabling the teachers to bring forth the word of God. We need the restoration of apostles and prophets (**Ephesians 2:20; & 3:5**) to lay the proper foundation of the word in the church. It is this word that the teachers are to teach.
- ii. **Fellowship** - Fellowship is gathering together with others where we live, for example, in houses. ***“Now all who believed were together ... from house to house”*** (**Acts 2:44 & 46**). There was a deep level of caring and sharing among the believers. They were selling ***“their possessions and goods”*** to help those in need in the Christian community (**Acts 2:45**).
- iii. **Breaking of Bread** - We are to remember Jesus at the Table of the Lord. The first church broke bread ***“from house to house”*** (**Acts 2:46**). This was their practice. It was only much later that the practice of ‘Sunday church’ meetings became the norm and that the breaking of bread was practiced weekly in those gatherings. Unfortunately, today, many churches do not break bread even weekly. The Breaking of Bread restores to the believers the reality of Jesus dying for our sins, the reality of the new covenant relationship we have with God through the blood of Jesus and the real hope of ‘His coming’ (**1Cor.11:23-26**).
- iv. **Prayer** - We are to pray together. **1 Timothy 2:1-2** tells us who we should pray for: a) all people b) for all in authority. The result will be peace in our neighbourhood and in our nation. This kind of prayer should be part of our daily life. As well as the instructions in **1 Timothy 2:1-9** regarding prayer, Jesus also gave us clear instructions in teaching us the Lord’s Prayer (**Matthew 6:9-13 & Luke 11:1-4**). A prayer meeting of two or three gathering together in agreement in Jesus name (**Matt.18:18-20**) can have an enormous effect in the nation.

These are the four first works of the early church and **v.46** tells us that they continued in these four things ***“daily with one accord in the temple and breaking bread from house to house”***.

**Acts 2:43-47** shows the pattern of a functioning Christian community: helping one another, sharing with others, contributing to one another’s needs, having favour in the community so that others in the community can be reached. The Lord will add new ones.

Discipleship is how we live: disciples are to read the Scriptures, fellowship together, break bread and pray. We are the church! This is being the church! How we live should demonstrate who we are. It is practical; people will see that you have a lifestyle of following Jesus.

## **2) THE OUTWORKING OF DISCIPLESHIP**

In Paul’s instructions to Timothy in **2 Timothy 2:2** we see that discipleship is from one generation to the next, which means that more and more believers are being discipled and then released into ministry to disciple others. ***“And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men [and women] who will be able to teach others also.”***

In this verse we have different levels of training and impartation:

- **Paul, an apostle**, received revelation from Jesus. Apostles are as *“wise master builders”* (1Cor.3:10), whose work of ministry is to raise others up into the ministry.
- Paul indicates that he imparted to a **group of ministers** *“many witnesses”*, among whom Timothy was one,
- these ministers are to pass on what they have been taught to **faithful men/women**. It is not enough to have received a ministry gift from the Lord, then get some training and just be a minister. All ministry is in the context of discipleship – training others to be able to do the work of the ministry, so that the gospel of the kingdom goes forth to every people group.
- The faithful men and women who have been trained will in turn **teach others**. There is no indication that these generations of trainees who are teaching others, should stop producing and raising more faithful men and women. It should be an ongoing reality: that each generation that is taught the apostolic word, will then teach others.

This is apostolic discipleship. Jesus raised apostles, and the apostles imparted to witnesses/ministers, who impart to faithful men/women who will then teach many others. The outworking of discipleship is to train and equip workers who will be able to teach another generation, and it does not need to stop there. This ‘other’ generation, if they are properly disciplined will by their very lifestyle and practice be teaching another generation and so on. This becomes the fulfilment of the Creation Mandate given to Adam and Eve in **Genesis 1:28**.

### 3) THINGS TO NOTE IN DISCIPLESHIP

**1 Timothy 4:13** Paul says there are three things that need to have expression regularly in the midst of the brethren. *“Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.”* There are three things in this verse that should be the practice of the church:

- Reading of the Scripture – this is more than private reading at home; this is the public reading of Scripture. The public reading of Scripture is extremely important among people groups who have levels of illiteracy. The only time such ones can learn Scripture is through the public reading of the Scripture, but Paul’s instruction is for all of us when we meet together. There should be the public reading of Scripture in the meetings of the church.
- Exhortation – this is the ministry of preaching, exhorting the brethren through the word to *“continue in the faith”* (Acts 14:22) and that faith comes by hearing the word preached (Rom.10:17).
- Teaching – we need teachers who faithfully expound the Scriptures *“precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line”* (Isa.28:13a). Paul is adamant that we are to *“teach no other doctrine”* (1Tim.1:3). We are to pass on the teaching that we have received, which is called the *“apostles’ doctrine”* in Acts 2:42.

People will hear the word as the Scriptures are read out loud, and even learn and memorize Scriptures. Exhortation or preaching brings encouragement to the brethren. Teaching is line upon line to bring knowledge and understanding of the word.

Making disciples should always include the children, in the house or in the fellowship meeting – are we making disciples of the children? Are our schools discipling the children?

God is restoring discipleship to His church. The church is the assembling of disciples. This is **the new wineskin**. There is a discipleship revival. This will never happen if we cling to the old

wineskin. Be a disciple yourself; help others to be disciples and provide discipleship for others. This is the planting of the church.

#### **4) THE GOAL OF DISCIPLESHIP**

**Habakkuk 2:14** *“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH as the waters cover the sea”*. When enough people have been discipled then the glory of God will be seen in the earth, and the whole earth will be filled with His glory. It is the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH: this is the work of discipleship. There is a wisdom *“yet not the wisdom of this age ... but the wisdom of God in a mystery”* (1Cor.2:6-8). The knowledge of the glory of God is to be taught.

**Ephesians 4:13** *“till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”*. This is the goal. If the five ministries are received and able to minister among the brethren, then we will come to maturity.

**Ephesians 5:26-27** *“that He might sanctify and cleanse her 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 would be holy and without blemish”*. The goal is a glorious church. It is the washing of water by the word that will sanctify and cleanse us, and we will become that glorious church.

**Hebrews 6:1-3** The goal is perfection, *“let us go on to perfection”*. That is why we need the foundations laid (v.1-2); then God will permit us to go on to perfection (v.3). God knows how to build His church; how to prepare His glorious church, but we need His permit to go on to maturity and for that to happen the foundations need to be properly set in place. This is the beginning of discipleship – making sure that every believer is properly taught in the *“first principles of the oracles of God”* (Heb.5:12).

#### **WE ALL NEED TO BE DISCIPLES!**

Once we enter into discipleship, that is, being purposely taught and trained, so that we can impart that knowledge and training to others, then we take on the lifestyle of a disciple of Jesus Christ. This is what is so difficult when one is simply a member of a local congregation, that meets only once or maybe twice a week and often does not disciple and train the brethren as to how to be disciples.

How many churches offer training to young parents? It is very concerning to see families with young children and the children are not disciplined [remember disciple and discipline come from the same base word]. Discipleship is for the whole family. If dad and mum are disciples then they will be able to disciple their children.

#### **Doing discipleship is a way of life! It is the new wineskin!**

It is the way of ‘being the church’ that enables our natural children and our spiritual children to grow up in the Lord, being blessed and able to continue in the Lord, in due time discipling others.

# ESTABLISHED IN THE PRESENT TRUTH

## Some reflections from the word of God on the Commission

### The Knowledge of the Glory of YAHWEH

The challenge for all of us in the great restoration of the church that God is bringing to pass in every nation on the earth is to stay on target. The target is adequately expressed in **Habakkuk 2:14** *"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH, as the waters cover the sea"*. Therefore we are to grow in the knowledge of the glory of the Eternal God, and through the thorough practice of discipleship, to make His glory known. If we will make disciples of the word of God, who are then able to make disciples, the knowledge of the glory will spread around the globe.

### LIVING IN CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY

On the day of Pentecost *"Those who gladly received his word were baptised; and that day about three thousand souls were added. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers"* **Acts 2:41-42**. Jesus had so trained His disciples that by the time He was ready to go to the Father, He was able to pray to the Father that *"these men you have given Me out of the world (Jn.17:6)* are now ready to be sent as apostles into the world (**Jn.17:18**). {Note that the word for *sent* in **verse 18** is the Greek verb *apostello*, which is the basis of the word *apostle*.} The first apostles were ready to establish Christian Community because they had been taught and trained by Jesus to live in the kingdom of God, and once the Holy Spirit had come they were able to flesh this out.

On the day of Pentecost, there were three thousand new converts who were baptised and added to the 120 who had been in the upper room (**Acts 2:41**). This large body of people, led by the apostles, were able to continue as a very real expression of Christian Community as summarised in **Acts 2:43-47**.

### GRACE AND APOSTLESHIP

**Romans 1:5** says that, *"Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name"*. This is the God-given means to do the work of discipleship in the nations. Grace and apostleship is outworked in making disciples. It is discipleship in action.

A disciple is primarily a devoted learner who is attached to the teacher. This in summary is the Biblical model. Jesus as the discipler, modelled the life of a disciple living in the kingdom of God. The disciples saw and experienced His life-style, His faith, His prayer life; the way He treated people, especially His compassion for the multitudes and the full inclusion of women in ministry, and many other things.

The gift of the apostle, combined with and expressed through grace is the means by which we can effectively make disciples (**see Acts 14:26**). As one of my brothers has said, *'All I need is one true disciple in a nation and then we can take the nation'*. It only takes one fully trained disciple, who has been sent out in the ministry to repeat what they have experienced and learnt, to influence a whole nation.

## Discipleship

Discipleship is much more than teaching the Scriptures, even though this is the essential ingredient. Jesus said, *"Go and make disciples of all the nations .... teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you"* (Matt.28:19-20). The word *observe* is the key word. We are to teach the disciples how to observe the word, not just teach them the word. As James says, *"Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves"* James 1:22.

## The word **OBSERVE**

This is a very interesting word. It is #S.C. 5083. It means: *to watch over, to preserve, keep, hold fast; to guard by keeping an eye upon*. It is translated: *keep [x57], reserve [x8], observe [x4], watch, preserve, hold fast*. *"He who is born of God keeps himself"* (1Jn.5:18). Paul said *"I have kept the faith"* (2Tim.4:7). Jude addresses those who are *"preserved in Jesus Christ"* (Ju.v.1). Many times when the word is translated *keep*, it is in the context of keeping the commandments.

## Lifestyle discipleship

We are to teach the disciples to *"observe all things"*; this is what Jesus commanded us to do. This is more to do with lifestyle discipleship, than just teaching the word. We have observed in the nations that many have taught disciples and the disciples have become fluent in the word, but there has been a lack of training in the lifestyle. We have not given due attention to the command of Jesus to teach the disciples to **observe** all things that He has commanded us; we have tended to teach the word only.

The disciple is to become like the teacher. Jesus said, *"A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher"* Lu.6:40. (also see Matt.10:24-25). Paul was able to say of Timothy, *"But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance"* 2Tim.3:10. Timothy was fully taught and trained in lifestyle discipleship. This is what is needed in the apostolic restoration world-wide.

## SHORING UP THE FOUNDATIONS

A building cannot be fully built unless the foundations have been properly laid. Let us revisit *"the first principles of the oracles of God"* (Heb.5:12). The goal is to *"go on to perfection"* (Heb.6:1), but we need a permit from God to do that (v.3), and that permit will not be given unless *"the elementary principles of Christ"* (Heb.6:1) have been properly laid.

The first principle is **repentance from dead works**. In preaching after the healing of the lame man, Peter said *"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ who was preached to you before"* Acts 3:19-20. Repentance leads to the remission of sins! And conversion means a different lifestyle. Repentance fundamentally means change, and the result of repentance and change is not only remission of sins, but the promise of *"times of refreshing"*.

And not only that: the times of refreshing are to prepare us for the coming of the Lord and the Lord is not coming until *"the times of restoration of all things"*(Acts 3:21). Repentance is the beginning of our preparation for the coming of the Lord and that means that we are fully involved in the restoration of all things *"that God has spoken through the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began"* (Acts 3:21).

The second principle is **faith toward God**, and faith is the means by which we live 'in another kingdom' (**Rom.14:17** & **Rom.10:17**). Faith replaces dead works with the reality of hearing and obeying the word of God.

The third principle is **baptism**: "*Buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life*" **Rom.6:4**. Through baptism we become fully a new creation and we walk in that newness of life in Christ, having been joined to His body.

The fourth principle is the **laying on of hands**. We learn from **Acts 19:1-6** that anyone who has been baptised should have also received the Holy Spirit. Peter confirms this also in **Acts 2:38** "*You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*". The Holy Spirit is imparted through the laying on of hands. He enables the believer to speak in tongues and to prophesy (**Acts 19:6**). The receiving of the Holy Spirit through the laying on of hands is a necessary foundation that must be laid so that the believers can be built up in their faith (**Jude v.20-21**) and be empowered to witness (**Acts 1:8**) and to understand the mysteries of the gospel (**1Cor.14:2**).

The fifth principle is the **resurrection of the dead**. Jesus said to Martha, "*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die*" **Jn.11:25-26a**. Resurrection life is not talking primarily about a life in heaven, but it is talking about a life now in the earth, living and walking by faith in the resurrected Lord and Saviour, Jesus the Messiah.

The sixth principle is **eternal judgement**: believe or perish! (**Jn.3:16**). We often think of eternal judgement as something to worry about in the future, but James warns us that every decision we make should be made in submission to God and we only go ahead when we know it is the Lord's will (**James 4:13-17**). James says, "*To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin*" (v.17).

Jesus warns us that for every idle word we speak we will "*give account of it in the day of judgement. For by your words you will be justified and by your words you will be condemned*" (**Matt.12:36-37**). Therefore we live in eternal judgement every day according to what we speak and what we do.

## **The word *PRINCIPLE***

The word 'principle' that is used in **Hebrews 5:12** is the Greek word S.C. #4747 *stoicheion*. This word refers to something set in orderly arrangement. It refers to how people act, whether they follow the dictates of the world (**Col.2:8 & 20**) or whether they follow the principles of the word of God (**Heb.5:12 & 6:1-2**). All the other uses of the word in the New Testament refer to worldly things: things in disobedience to God, but in **Hebrew 6:1-2**, the six principles listed are the very basis of understanding the word of God. These principles of the word of God must be established and functioning in our lives so that we can go on to perfection, that is, to full maturity.

## **AN EMPHASIS ON EVANGELISM**

In recent times we have felt a quickening to emphasise evangelism in our local work in home base, in Toowoomba, Australia. We have embraced the five-fold ministries of **Ephesians 4:11** since our inception in 1998. We have tried and have had some success in tapping the prophetic ministry

and we are satisfied that God is releasing that ministry more and more among us. In that light we have commissioned some prophets.

We have recognised the ministry gift of pastor and have ordained a number of pastors. We have recognised the ministry gift of teacher and have commissioned a number of teachers. Our ministry is the fruit of God calling me to the apostolic ministry back in 1997 and since then other apostles have been raised up among us and sent to the nations. As well many apostles have been raised in various nations.

We have made efforts to evangelise. Teams regularly go on the streets of our city witnessing. Some find it easy to make new contacts and share with them the word of God. But in it all, God is quickening the need and the expectation in our hearts of a fresh approach to evangelism and asking God to raise up that ministry among us.

A very clear example of the commission to evangelism and what we can expect when we obey that commission is given to us in **Mark 16:15-20** –

- Firstly we are to **preach the gospel to the lost**
- Secondly we are to **baptise those who believe**, and to warn those who do not believe of their condemnation.
- Thirdly we are to **see the believers released in signs**: to cast out demons, to speak with new tongues, to take up serpents, and if they drink anything deadly it will by no means hurt them; and to be able to lay hands on the sick and see them recover.
- Fourthly we are to understand that **the Lord has ascended into heaven** and is sitting at the right hand of God, overseeing the great work of the gospel in the earth.
- Fifthly **the Lord works with those who go out preaching**, confirming the word through the accompanying signs.

This is fundamentally the Bible way of evangelism. Yes there are many other aspects of evangelism through witnessing; through house churches functioning in the localities where they are based, but all of this is to be in the light of the Great Commission in Mark: preach, baptise and equip.

## **THE GREAT COMMISSION IN MARK: PREACH, BAPTISE AND EQUIP**

# STAYING ON TARGET

## WHAT IS THE TARGET?

**Habakkuk 2:14** adequately describes the central target of God's will in the earth. *"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH [the Eternal One] as the waters cover the sea."* This is confirmed in **Numbers 14:21**, where YAHWEH said, *"But as truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of YAHWEH."* God made this statement in the midst of His people refusing to obey Him and to enter into the Promised Land.

**Isaiah 11** is a marvellous chapter concerning Messiah and many wonderful promises, and in the midst of it, the Scripture says, *"For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of YAHWEH as the waters cover the sea" (v.9b)*. God has never veered from His grand purpose for His creation and **Ephesians 3:11** says that His purpose has already been accomplished: *"According to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Christ has accomplished the victory, but now the church is to grow up into maturity and come to the knowledge of the mystery and thereby make known *"the manifold wisdom of God to the principalities and powers in the heavenlies" (v.10)*.

## To fill the earth

Way back in the beginning, God told Adam and Eve that they were to *"be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves on the earth"* **Genesis 1:28**. How was the earth to be filled? Not just with human beings, but it was to be filled with descendants of our first parents, Adam and Eve, who were created in the image and likeness of God. Today over seven billion people live on the earth, but how many of them are walking in the knowledge of the glory of the eternal God?

What God commanded Adam and Eve to do is now done by making disciples in obedience to the commission that Jesus gave us in **Matthew 28:18-20**. If we make disciples properly they will come to the knowledge of the glory. If we are fruitful in making disciples, then they will make disciples and there will be multiplication. If the multiplication continues from one generation to the next, as taught by Paul in **2 Timothy 2:2**, *"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men [and women] who will be able to teach others also"*, then the earth will be filled with disciples who have the knowledge of the glory.

## With the knowledge

The first step that we must take in order to reach the target is to come to the **knowledge of the glory**. We receive knowledge by being taught. A disciple is one who is being taught. We need discipleship to diffuse the knowledge of God throughout the earth. Paul prays for us earnestly in **Colossians 1:9**, *"For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding."* Again in **Colossians 2:1-2**, Paul is deeply concerned that all the saints should *"attain to all riches of the full assurance of understanding, to the knowledge of the mystery of God, both of the Father and of Christ."* We need the knowledge of His will, and we need the knowledge of the mystery of God.

## Of the glory

God's goal according to **Hebrews 2:10** is to bring many sons to glory! *"For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering."*

God has ordained a **hidden wisdom**, which is a mystery, that we are to come to the knowledge of (**1Cor.2:6-7**). This wisdom *"God ordained before the ages for our glory"* (v.7). The glory will be known by those who come to the knowledge of the mystery.

**Ephesians 5:25-27** reveals that Messiah Jesus Himself, is fully committed to bringing His church into the glory. Jesus is clearly going to hit the target! He will present the church to Himself *"a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."*

Peter says that *"the God of all grace [has] called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus."* Coming to the glory involves suffering, but it also involves being **perfected, established, strengthened, and settled** (**1Peter 5:10**). God is serious about His church hitting the target.

In **Colossians 1:27** Paul says, *"God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."* We are to come to the knowledge of the glory.

## Of YAHWEH [LORD]

YAHWEH is the name of the Eternal God. Strong's Concordance pronounces the name as YEHOVAH. Unfortunately, most English Bibles, including KJV and NKJV, do not translate the name of God, which appears over 6,500 times in the Bible. Instead the English version writes His name as LORD, which is not a name at all. God has been known by His personal name since **Genesis 2:4**. From this we can deduce that Adam knew God by His name. One of the great restorations that is happening in our day, is the restoration of the Name.

A further important aspect of the restoration of the Name of God is understanding the name of Jesus, which is Yeshua in Hebrew. Within the name of Jesus is the name of YAHWEH. Jesus literally means 'YAHWEH is Salvation'.

It is the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH that we are talking about. This is the target, to come to that knowledge. YAHWEH is the Eternal One; He is the I AM (**Exodus 3:14**). In the coming of Jesus into the world, the Bible clearly says that *"God was manifest in the flesh"* (**1Tim.3:16**). *"In the beginning was the Word ... and the Word was God"* (**Jn.1:1**). This One described as the Word and who is God, *"became flesh and dwelt among us"* (**Jn.1:14**). This Word is said to be the Creator of all things (**Jn.1:3&10**); He is the life (v.4); He is the true light (v.5&8), and He became flesh (v.14). This One who became flesh is *"The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father"* and He has made God known (v.18).

## As the waters cover the sea

There is a covering that has been *"cast over all people"*, and there is a veil *"that is spread over all nations"*, but God says that *"He will destroy"* both the covering and the veil (**Isa.25:7**). In **verse 8**, the Scripture reveals that the veil is in place because of death, but Jesus has dealt with death: *"Death is swallowed up in victory"* (**1Cor.15:54b**). Jesus *"Himself ... shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil, and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage"* **Heb.2:14-15**.

The covering that God wants to bring across the whole earth is the covering of glory. In **Isaiah 4:3-6**, the prophet reveals to us that God will deal with all blood guiltiness through the purging by His blood and releasing *"the spirit of judgement and the spirit of burning"* (v.4). This will lead to a repentant and purified people and then YAHWEH *"will create above every dwelling place of Mt Zion, and above her assemblies, a cloud and smoke by day and a shining of a flaming fire by night. For over all the glory there will be a covering"* v.5.

In **Ezekiel 47:1-12** the prophet experienced the river of God. It was huge and it began to cover the earth. It flowed into the sea and everywhere it went there was healing and then there was fruitfulness; there was food from the fruit of the trees that grew up and there was healing in their leaves. Truly **the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea.**

## **HOW CAN THIS HAPPEN?**

### **By obeying the Great Commission**

To hit the target Jesus has a 'great bow' [this is a prophetic understanding], and with the bow He sends 'arrows' out into the world to hit the target. In **Genesis 9:13**, God set that bow in the clouds of the sky as a sign of the covenant between God and the earth. God's intention for the earth has never varied, and eventually the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of His glory. This is God's covenantal promise renewed to Noah after the flood.

In **Revelation 6:2** Jesus came riding on a white horse and He had a bow, and *"He went out conquering and to conquer"*. The great bow that Jesus had can be seen to be the commission that Jesus gave to the apostles, and through them to the whole church, to preach the gospel in all the earth, making disciples and teaching those disciples the knowledge of the glory.

The commission is given in the four Gospels:

- in **Matthew 28:18-20** Jesus gives us the apostolic commission, sending us to make disciples of all nations. The disciples are to be taught and so both apostles and teachers are needed to fulfil this commission.
- in **Mark 16:15-20** Jesus gave us the evangelistic commission to preach the gospel to everyone in the whole world, baptising those who believe and releasing the believers in signs and wonders.
- in **Luke 24:44-49** Jesus shows us the necessity of understanding the gospel from the prophetic Scriptures of the Old Testament, and preaching the suffering and death of Christ in the light of those Scriptures, so that *"repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem"* v.47.
- in **John 21:15-17** Jesus is giving Peter the apostle a pastoral commission, showing us that the care of God's people by all the ministries is of number one importance.

### **Making disciples**

The arrows that Jesus sends forth are the various aspects of what is essential in making disciples:

- the preaching of the gospel,
- baptising those who believe,
- teaching the believers the whole word of God,

- bringing the believers into a functioning fellowship,
- bringing the new believers to the Table of the Lord
- teaching them how to pray
- releasing the gifts of the Holy Spirit in them.

For the Great Commission to be fulfilled, we all need to be making disciples. A disciple is someone who is being taught the word. A disciple is a learner. Once the disciple has been taught the word, the disciple needs to be trained to teach the word to others, and equipped to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit. When the disciples were sent away from Jerusalem because of persecution in **Acts 8:1-4**, *"those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word"*. These were disciples who had been taught and trained.

### **Within the boundaries**

Over recent years we have been seriously making disciples and training ministers and we have learnt that there are three essential boundaries that disciples are to walk in, thus enabling them to be sent out on mission.

- 1. Commitment** to Jesus and the call - this means that we love Jesus, that we love His word and we love doing the work of the ministry, sharing that word with others.
- 2. Submission** - is firstly to the Holy Spirit; it means receiving the one that God sends (**Matt.10:40**). A submissive person is easily taught and corrected. A submissive person will listen for the *"still small voice"* (**1Kings 19:12**). Also check **Isaiah 30:21**.
- 3. Accountability** - is based upon an attitude of repentance, being willing to change; it means being obedient to the faith and being willing to report back (**Lu.10:1-2&17-19; Acts 14:27**).
- 4. Apostleship** - means that you are willing to be sent and you are able to be sent because you have been trained. If we are properly sent, we are able to pass on to the next generation the word that we have received (**2Tim.2:2**). There needs to be successive generations coming forth in the apostolic.

**Let us recommit to the will of God,  
which is to fill the earth with the knowledge of His glory!  
Let us endeavour to stay on target  
and make sure that all that we do in ministry  
is focused on hitting the target.**

# SONS OF PROMISE

*"Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children [sons] of promise" Galatians 4:28.*

In the **book of Galatians**, Paul is writing to the churches in the region of Galatia. There were a number of towns in Galatia where Paul had founded churches. Paul was their spiritual father (**Gal.4:19**). Paul wanted to bring them up to maturity as spiritual children, so that they would grow up and walk in their inheritance in Christ, walking *"in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage"* (**Gal.5:1**).

## Judaisers in the church

Paul is writing to them after they have received some people, known as Judaisers, who tried to convince them to accept a form of Judaism. This included even literal circumcision for the men, and keeping the laws, supposedly from Moses - but including many other Jewish laws and traditions - in order to be fully saved. Such people are arising again today, trying to convince Christian leaders and churches that we must go back to our 'Hebrew' roots and practice Jewish ways to be fully pleasing to God.

In this study we will see that the Scriptures teach us that we must go back to our father Abraham and emulate his faith, thus becoming the children of promise who are able to inherit all that God has promised.

**Galatians** is a book of 'faith', breaking us free from the bondage of religion. In the book of Galatians, the law that the Galatians needed to keep free of, was the law of Moses as preached by the Judaisers. In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, for Gentiles, it is not necessarily the "law of Moses" but a religious law, even a "Christian law".

## THE PROMISE

What is the Promise? *"And we declare to you glad tidings - that promise that was made to the fathers. 'God has fulfilled this for us their children, in that He has raised up Jesus'" Acts 13:32-33a.* The promise was made to the fathers: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. This promise was *"glad tidings"*. God fulfilled the promise by *"raising up Jesus"*.

*"For all the promises of God in Him are Yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us" 2 Corinthians 1:20.* It is through the Son of God, Jesus the Messiah, that **all the promises** of God are fulfilled. God is glorified through His people who are in Christ. God fulfilled His promises in Christ and now they are being fulfilled through His people, by faith.

## The Scriptures reveal the promises

**We must receive the Scriptures as the Word of God.** We have received them and all revelation must be based on the Scriptures; there is no revelation outside of the Scriptures. If we receive the Scriptures, the oracles of God, that which is written, we will receive the promises and become partakers of the Godhead (the divine nature). Peter says these promises are *great, precious and magnificent* (**2 Pet.1:2-4**). Our future is not to become like the Jews, but to become like God!

## THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM

*"For the promise that he would be heir of the world, was not to Abraham or to his seed through the law, but through the righteousness of faith" Romans 4:13.* This promise was spoken in Genesis 17:4, *"As for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be a father of many nations."*

## Heir of the world

Abraham and his seed would be *“heir of the world”*. Abraham was the beginning of the generations of the people who would be known as the Hebrews. But at the time Abraham was called, he was a Gentile, and he lived 430 years before Moses and the Law. Abraham received the promise through faith. The promise would come through the righteousness of faith. The promise would be of no effect if it was to come through “law”. Jesus, the Seed of Abraham, inherits the nations and the earth (**Psalm 2:7-8**).

## The Gospel was preached to Abraham

Paul declares *“the Scripture foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand saying, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed'” Gal.3:8*. The Scripture foresaw that God would justify Gentiles [the nations] by faith. Paul says that this is the preaching of the gospel: *“In you (Abraham) all the nations of the earth will be blessed” (Gen.12:3)*. Abraham and his seed are heirs according to the promise. The heirs are *“those who are of faith, the sons of Abraham” (Gal.3:7)*. *“So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham” (Gal.3:9)*.

This is amazing! God included the Gentiles in the original promises to Abraham. According to Paul, God's promise that all the families or nations of the earth would be blessed through Abraham, is actually the gospel. Through the gospel of Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God, the promised blessing is released to all the nations.

## Jesus is the Seed of Abraham

In **Galatians 3:16** Paul shows us that the promise was not made to the seed of Abraham, referring to his descendants through Isaac and Jacob, but was actually referring to the Messiah [Christ]. *“Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, 'and to seeds,' as of many, but as of one, 'And to your Seed', who is Christ” Gal.3:16*.

The *“promises”* refer to the covenant word that God had made to Abraham. If we do not know the promises we will not receive them. Many believers do not know the promises. The promises (of the covenant) were made to **Abraham and his Seed**. The covenant is made from a greater to a lesser, and is not able to be annulled (**Gal.3:17**).

God did not say *“and to seeds as of many, but as of one”*. The Seed of Abraham is a Person, and it is not Isaac; it is Messiah/Christ. The Seed is singular, The Seed is Christ. It is not Isaac, but the One Isaac points to, the Messiah.

**Messiah is the descendant of Abraham; the One who inherits the nations and the earth**

## WE INHERIT BY FAITH

*“Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed, not only to those who are of the law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all” Romans 4:16*. The seed, plural, includes those who are of the law, that is, the descendants through Isaac who came into the covenant of the law through Moses; but the seed plural also includes the descendants who are of the same faith of Abraham. Abraham is father of both. It is written *“I have made you a father of many nations” (Rom.4:17)*.

The children of the flesh, no matter how genuine their claims are to be Jews, to be Hebrews, to be of the chosen race, are not in fact the children of Abraham, unless they embrace Messiah by coming to faith in Jesus the Messiah. *“Those who are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God, but the children of promise are counted as the seed” Rom.9:8*.

Isaac was a son of promise. It required the supernatural intervention of God for Abraham and Sarah to be able to have a son. Isaac is a type, pointing to the Christ. The coming of Christ in the flesh is much more the supernatural intervention of God in human history than the conception and birth of Isaac. Christ is the promised Seed!

### **The promise of the Spirit through faith**

The word of God testifies that *"The just shall live by his faith"* (Hab.2:4 & Gal.3:11). Even those who received the law, finally they cannot live by the law, but actually are cursed because they break the law; *"For it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things that are written in the book of the law, to do them'"* Galatians 3:10. But *"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written 'Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree'), that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith"* Gal.3:13-14.

All the nations, including the nation of the Jews, are able to receive the promise of the Spirit. It is by faith. The children of the flesh are not heirs automatically, but only those born of the Spirit are the heirs.

### **THE MESSIAH IS FOR ALL NATIONS**

*"Jesus Christ has become a servant to the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises to the fathers, and that the Gentiles might glorify God for His mercy, as it is written: 'For this reason I will confess to you among the Gentiles, and sing to Your name'"* Rom.15:8-9. Paul is showing us here, by drawing on the Old Testament, that God sent forth His Son through the circumcision [the Jewish people] not only to confirm the truth of God among them so that they could be saved, but also to confess the Messiah, Jesus, among the Gentile nations. The Gentiles in believing in Messiah, would glorify God for His mercy.

The promises have to be understood in Jesus the Messiah. The promises are not received through the natural lineage. The Messiah came for all nations even as the promise was spoken to Abraham in **Genesis 12:3**. Abraham is the father of many nations and was called so by God from the very beginning.

### **The obedience of the faith**

Paul said we are established in the faith according to *"my gospel"* (Rom.16:25-26). The Scriptures testify of Jesus; He is the Messiah of the Old and New Testament. Jesus said, *"You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me"* Jn.5:39. The Scriptures have always pointed to Christ, and the purpose of the Scriptures being made known to all nations is for all to come to *"obedience of the faith"* (Rom.16:26). The revelation of the Scriptures is all about Christ, the Anointed One. Christ is a many-membered body (1Cor.12:12), and there is a corporate anointing that is to be manifested in the body, making Christ known in all the earth. The prophetic Scriptures make known to us the mystery of God's purpose for all the nations. This is *"according to the commandment of the everlasting God"* (Rom.16:26).

### **The truth of the gospel**

The Jewish believers including Peter and Barnabas caused trouble in the church at Antioch by separating themselves from the Gentile believers over the issue of food and refusing to eat with the Gentiles. Paul says, *"They were not straightforward about the truth of the gospel"* (Gal.2:14). And what is *"the truth of the gospel"*? Answer: *"That a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ"* (Gal.2:16a). Paul shows us in **Romans 7:4** that we *"become dead*

*to the law through the body of Christ."* What does this mean? That Christ by dying sets us free from the law because Christ took upon Himself our sin which required our death under the law, Christ dying for us, so that we could live for Christ.

### **Christ living in the believer**

Paul makes the point clearly that even though the Jews by nature are *"not sinners of the Gentiles"* but still, that all can only be justified by faith in Jesus Christ. Justification is not through works of law. Jews by nature are not justified by trying to keep the law - ceremonial worship, food codes, washings etc. Gentiles and Jews are justified the same way, through faith (**Gal.2:15-16**).

Therefore we *"have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live but Christ lives in me"* (**Gal.2:20**). This is the outworking of the grace of God! This is the fruit of Christ dying! (**Gal.2:21**).

### **WITCHCRAFT ENSNARED THE GALATIANS**

Paul begins chapter three of **Galatians** with an alarming challenge: *"O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified?"* **Gal.3:1**. Witchcraft had overtaken these believers. They had come under supernatural control which was leading them astray from faith in Jesus. They were now following a different religion, seeking to keep the law (**v.3-4**). And yet Paul asks them if God *"works miracles among you, by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith"* (**Gal.3:5**), and then reminds them that Abraham *"was accounted righteous because he believed God"* (**v.6**).

### **There is no discrimination in the kingdom**

Again Paul declares *"Therefore know that those who are of faith are sons of Abraham"* **Gal.3:7**. Only those of faith are sons of Abraham. *"There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus"* (**Gal.3:28**). This is a powerful declaration of the nature and culture of the kingdom of God. There is no discrimination or partiality or superiority on the basis of race or religion, on the basis of economic status, on the basis of gender.

*"So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham"* **Gal.3:9**. No matter what your background you are blessed with believing Abraham, when you have come to faith. We should pursue and walk in the inheritance promised to Abraham. This will bring us into freedom, and call us out into the real inheritance. Remember Abraham is *"heir of the world"* (**Rom.4:13**).

### **Faith comes through Christ's redemption**

If you stay under the law [whatever law it is] you stay under a curse. Inheritance does not come by the law but by the promise of Abraham. The Scripture says, *"The law is not of faith"* (**Gal.3:12**), but *"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law ... that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith"* (**Gal.3:13-14**).

### **What was the purpose of the law?**

The law was given to deal with transgressions (**Gal.3:19**). It was given *"till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made"* (**Gal.3:19**). Sin was openly judged in the earth through the law. Scripture confines all under sin (**v.22**), *"that the promise of faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe"* (**v.22**). *"Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we no longer need a tutor"* (**Gal.3:24-25**).

## **WHO ARE THE SONS OF PROMISE?**

*"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus" Gal.3:26*

*"And if you are of Christ, then you are of Abraham's seed  
and heirs according to the promise"Gal.3:29*

# SONS PLANTED REVEAL THE GLORY

**Matthew 13:24**, *“Another parable He put forth to them, saying: “The Kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field..... He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom...”* (v 37).

## **‘The Kingdom of heaven is like...’**

In **Matthew 13**, Jesus is telling a Parable to His disciples and He begins it by saying in **verse 24**, *“The Kingdom of heaven is like....”* The parable of the wheat and the Tares is in the context of understanding the Kingdom of heaven. In **Matthew 6:10**, Jesus tells us to pray for His Kingdom to come and His will to be done **on earth** as it is in heaven. The Kingdom of heaven is to be found in the earth and is to fill the whole earth (**Isaiah 9:6-7; Dan 2:35**). This parable teaches us how the Kingdom of heaven is revealed in the earth through His sons.

## **The Son of Man Sows sons of the Kingdom in the world**

Jesus said in v 37, *“He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man”*. Jesus is the Sower, sowing good seeds in His field. In **verse 38**, He then tells us what the ‘field’ is and who the ‘good seeds’ are, *“The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the Kingdom”*. Jesus sows sons of the Kingdom in the world. The world is His field. The field is a place of planting, growing and harvest. Jesus wants His field full of *‘His planting’* (**Isaiah 61:3b**).

Jesus came not only to save us from our sins but to ‘sow us’ in the earth. We have heard often the saying, **Jesus came to seek and to save**, but we also need to consider that Jesus came **to save and to sow**.

## **Sons of the Kingdom are Sown**

Sons of the Kingdom are sons who are already **in the Kingdom**. Jesus tells us in **John 3:3-5**, that we must be born again to see and to enter the Kingdom of God. Sons of the Kingdom that are sown into the world, are those who have already been born again and are already living in the Kingdom, growing up in all things into Christ (**Ephesians 4:14-15**). Their citizenship is in heaven (**Phil 3:20**); they are Kingdom of God orientated, seeking first the Kingdom of God (**Luke 12:31**).

## **Sons of the Kingdom are planted to produce a Crop**

**Matthew 13:26**, *“But when the grain had sprouted and produced a crop....”*

Sons of the Kingdom are sown into the world to grow and produce a crop. A crop is the fruit and multiplication of a seed, and as each individual seed grows and is fruitful and multiplies there will be an abundance in the earth! **Psalm 72** is a prophetic Messianic Psalm, that speaks of this abundance in the earth. **Verse 7**, says, *“In His days, the righteous shall flourish....”*

The context of this Prophetic Psalm is **“in His days”**. What days is this referring to? **Verse 8** tells us that it is the days when *“He shall have dominion also from sea to sea and from the River to the ends of the earth”*. **Verse 15** tells us that it is the days when *“He lives”* and *“prayer shall be made for Him continually and daily He shall be praised”*. The days of Messiah are speaking of when He is risen and seated far above (**Eph 1:20-21**). We are in those days now, where Christ is ruling and reigning *“until all His enemies are made a footstool for His feet”* (**1 Cor 15:25**).

It is in this context that **In His Days**, *“There will be an abundance of grain in the earth, on the top of the mountains; its fruit shall wave like Lebanon; And those of the city shall flourish*

*like the grass of the earth*". What an awesome picture of the Kingdom of God. Where is this 'abundance of grain' coming from? Sons of the Kingdom who have been sown into the world and have produced a crop. Hallelujah!

### **The time of Sowing is now**

The time for sowing sons of the Kingdom in the earth is now! Being born again into the Kingdom of God is only the beginning. Jesus gave the commission to "***Go and make disciples of all nations***" (Matt 28:19) because He wants to grow you and sow you in the world which is His field. All of creation is waiting for the manifestation of the sons of God. You were saved in this hope (Rom 8:19,24).

### **The seeds are made ready through Discipleship**

It is through discipleship that these 'seeds' are made ready to be planted in the world. Jesus spent three years with His disciples (His seeds), teaching them and training them in all that He did and taught. He prayed to the Father for them before He went to the Cross, "***I do not pray that you should take them out of the world, but that you should keep them from the evil one***" (John 17:15). Why was Jesus praying in this way? Surely He would want them to be in heaven with Him? Jesus prayed this way because the seeds were ready to be planted in the world. The Kingdom of Heaven comes on earth through sons of God planted in the world! Jesus then gave them the commission to "***Go and make disciples of all nations...***" (Matt 28:18-20). Why? Because there are **many** more sons to be planted in the earth and the way we are made ready is through discipleship.

### **Every place Filled**

In the nation you are in, the city, the town, the street and, yes, and even in your homes, Jesus wants you to be planted as a son of the kingdom. How is the earth filled with the knowledge of the glory of Yahweh (Hab.2:14)? It is through you and I being planted as mature Sons in the world, revealing the glory of the Father, "***then the righteous shall shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father***" (Matt 13:43).

This has been our experience, as we knew when God was moving us to where we live now, that He was planting us as sons of the Kingdom in a new neighbourhood. We felt His mantle of authority on us, to see His Kingdom come. We have witnessed our neighbours coming to Jesus and the whole spiritual atmosphere changing in the area in which we live.

### **The Seed has to Die**

***"But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified. Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain" (John 12:23-24).*** Jesus said this, knowing He was going to the Cross. Sons of the Kingdom are sown into the world through death. "***Foolish one, what you sow is not made alive unless it dies***" (1 Cor 15:36). Jesus died the death on the Cross once for all (Rom 6:10). However, it is only when a seed dies and is buried that it can produce **much** grain.

We need to die. The death that we need to die is not speaking literally but it is choosing to die with Christ and be buried with Him through baptism. "***Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism...***" (Rom 6:3-4).

## Dying to Ourselves

While ‘we are alive’ we are of no use in the world, it is only when we choose to **die to ourselves**, that we become useful to Jesus and He can sow us in the world. It is “*no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me*” (Gal 2:20). As long as we are living for ourselves, albeit, ‘doing God’s work’, we will remain alone. We need to surrender ourselves to Jesus and do the Father’s work, as Jesus did, and we will never be alone. “*And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him*” (John 8:29).

## A Time to be Glorified

“*The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified*”. How is the Son glorified? He tells us in the next verse. “*Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.*” (John 12:23-24). He is glorified as sons of the Kingdom are sown into the world. We are saved for glorification, “*Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified*” (Rom 8:30).

“*That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of YAHWEH, that He may be glorified*” (Isaiah 61:3).

“*Also your people shall all be righteous; they shall inherit the land forever, The branch of My planting, The work of My hands, That I may be glorified*” (Isaiah 60:21).

## Sons Glorify the Father

“*Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You*” (John 17:1). Why was Jesus glorified? So that He would glorify the Father. Jesus has not only justified us but He has also glorified us, so that we will bring glory to the Father. He has put the riches of His glory in us (Col 1:27), so that we will manifest His glory in the earth. Jesus sows sons of the Kingdom in the world because He wants His glory to be revealed in the world. The time of sowing is a time of glorification, a time that sons glorify the Father.

## Fruit Glorifies the Father

“*If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples*” (John 15:7-8).

How is the Father glorified? It is through bearing ‘**much fruit**’ that the Father is glorified. In the parable of the Wheat and the Tares, why did Jesus sow sons of the Kingdom in the earth? It was to see them produce a crop. Sons of the Kingdom glorify the Father by bearing much fruit.

## Many sons to Glory

Jesus was sown into the world to bring forth a crop, “**many sons to glory**” (Heb 2:10). The Fruit that Jesus is looking for and the fruit that glorifies the Father is **many sons to glory**. A seed produces after its kind. As sons of the Kingdom are fruitful and produce sons of the Kingdom, who in turn, produce more sons of the Kingdom, multiplication happens and before long, sons are filling the earth. The time of glorification is a time of seeing many sons come to glory. This is how the Father is glorified.

## **Glorified in the Earth**

*“I have glorified you in the earth. I have finished the work which You have given me to do” (John 17:4).* Jesus glorified the Father **in the earth**. The sowing of sons is **in the earth**. The glory of God is to **fill the earth**.

## **Jesus Finished the Work**

Jesus glorified the Father in the earth by, ‘**finishing the work**’, He was given to do. Jesus, as the Son of God, was planted in the world and the work that He did **glorified the Father**. As sons of the Kingdom, we also are to ‘**do the work**’ that Jesus did. Jesus said:

1. *“I have Manifested Your Name” (John 17:6).* Jesus manifested the Name. He is *“The express image of His Person” (Heb 1:3)*. Jesus said in **John 8:58**, *“Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM”*. When you see Jesus, you see the Father (**John 14:9**). Jesus manifested the Name, by revealing the Father in everything He spoke and did. He lived and breathed God. *“Great is the mystery of godliness, God was manifested in the flesh” (1 Tim 3:16).*

### **Sons of God manifest the Father’s Name**

*“Having His Father’s name written on their foreheads” (Rev 14:1).* Sons planted in the world reveal their Father. They carry the revelation and testimony in them that, *“God was manifested in the flesh”*, because *“Christ is formed in them” (Gal 4:19)*. Everything they say and do reveals Christ to the world, *“Daily...teaching and preaching Jesus the Christ” (Acts 5:42)*. He who receives you, receives Jesus and the Father who sent Him! (**Matt 10:40**) There is a ‘**manifestation of the sons of God**’, that all of creation is waiting for (**Rom 8:19**). Sons who are planted in the world are to manifest the Name.

2. *“I have given them the words you have given me” (John 17:8).* Jesus gave the words, which He had received from the Father, to the apostles. He was the Word made Flesh to them (**John 1:14**). His words are spirit and they are life (**John 6:63**). Jesus prayed for those who would believe in Him through the words of the apostles. The apostles’ words were no different to Jesus’ words; the word is one. Those who receive and believe His word become one in God, *“I in them and You in Me, that they be made perfect in one”*. It is through the ministry of the Word that God is revealed to us, *“For YAHWEH revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the Word of YAHWEH” (1 Sam 3:21)*. Sons of the Kingdom, planted in the world, have the Word of God abiding in them (**John 15:7**) and speak the Words of Christ, revealing Christ. He who has the doctrine of Christ has God – both the Father and the Son (**2 John v9**). Sons planted in the world only speak the word.

**Jesus is sowing sons of the Kingdom in the world**

**They shall bring forth a glorious crop –**

**Many more sons to glory!**

**This time of sowing sons is a time of glorification**

# THE WONDERS OF THE HOUSE OF GOD

In **Genesis 28** we have the account of Jacob being sent by Isaac to go to his mother's people in Padan Aram to get a wife. Isaac blessed Jacob very powerfully in **verses 3-4**. "***Jacob went out from Beersheba and went toward Haran***" (**Gen.28:10**). We are going to study **Genesis 28:11-22** and we will discover the wonders of the House of God.

## 1) A PLACE – Genesis 28:11

***"So he came to a certain place and stayed there all night"***. The first thing we find out is that Jacob came to a certain place where there were stones – not just any place where there were stones, but a **certain place**. Is there anything that we can know about this place? In **Genesis 12:8** as Abraham came to dwell in the land that God was leading him to, he ***"pitched his tent with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east; there he built an altar to YHWH [LORD] and called on the name of YHWH"***.

Two generations before Jacob, Abraham had come to a place near Bethel and built an altar there to YHWH. In those days an altar was to be made of uncut stones. The altar was the place where God would meet with His people, or with a particular person. We do not know for sure, but the Scripture suggests that Jacob came to a certain place where there were stones, not just any place. It is not impossible to think that Jacob found the place of Abraham's altar and that can help us understand that in this place, Jacob met with the presence of God.

In the New Testament, the church of Jesus Christ is 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 also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit"*** **Eph.2:20-22**. The place is the dwelling place of God in the Spirit. The church [assembly, congregation, the gathering of two or three or more in the name of Jesus (**Matt.18:20**)] is meant to be that dwelling place. We will discover that Jacob had an amazing experience of meeting with God in that place and called that place Bethel, the House of God!

## The House of God is a certain place!

## 2) A PERSON – Genesis 28:16

When Jacob slept on that particular stone (**v.11**), he dreamed a supernatural dream. He saw ***"a ladder set up on the earth and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it"*** (**v.12**). This reminds us of what Jesus said to Nathaniel in **John 1:51** ***"Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man"***. The main point is that heaven was open.

Then the Scripture in **Genesis 28:13** says that Jacob saw YHWH ***"And behold YHWH stood above it and said, 'I YHWH God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac'"***. God then repeated to Jacob the covenant promises that had been given to Abraham and Isaac, that they would not only inhabit the promised land, but that ***"all the families of the earth will be blessed in your seed"*** (**Gen.28:14**). That is the promise that brings all the Gentile believers into covenant with God through Christ.

God then promises to go with Jacob, to keep him and to bring him back to the land of inheritance (**v.15**).

*“Then Jacob awoke from his sleep and said, ‘Surely YHWH is in this place and I did not know it’” Gen.28:16.* The House of God is a certain place and the House of God is the house where a certain person dwells. Jacob experienced YHWH in this place.

### **The House of God is a person!**

#### **3) A PRESENCE – Genesis 28:16 & 17**

In this place Jacob experienced the Presence of God. He awoke saying *“Surely YHWH is in this place”* (v.16), and then he said, *“How awesome is this place”* (v.17). The KJV says *“How dreadful is this place”*. Jacob was both afraid and awestruck at the same time.

God instructed Moses that a sanctuary [tabernacle] should be built *“that I may dwell among them”* (Exodus 25:8). In the tabernacle God’s Presence dwelt behind the veil and could only be experienced directly by the High Priest, except when the cloud of God’s presence/glory came down over the tabernacle for all to see and experience and then the people worshiped (Exodus 33:10).

Through the cross of Jesus Christ, the veil in the temple was rent, signifying that the house of God, the very Presence of God, is able to be experienced by all who come to the fullness of faith in Jesus Christ. The Scripture says, *“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord”* 2 Corinthians 3:18. In the New Covenant we can come to know and experience the Presence of God.

### **The House of God is the place where the Presence of God is experienced!**

#### **4) THE GATEWAY TO HEAVEN – Genesis 28:17**

When Jacob awoke from the dream, he was acutely aware that he had seen into heaven; that he had seen YHWH standing; that he had heard YHWH speaking and he awoke in a state of fear and dreadful awe. Jacob saw the heavens open and there were angels ascending and descending. He then proclaimed that this place was *“the gate of heaven”*. Jacob is saying that the house of God, which is the place where God Himself is experienced, ‘seen and heard’, is actually the gateway to heaven. It is the place where we experience the supernatural manifestations of God.

Our experience of coming into the house of God is that of coming to the gate of heaven. We are able to experience the supernatural presence of God in dreams and prophecy – the voice of God can be heard! When the leaders of the church in Antioch were ministering to the Lord and fasting *“the Holy Spirit said ...”* (Acts 13:1-2). The voice of prophecy was heard; it was the voice of God and it affected history.

We can expect to experience God in the House of God. The House of God is the gateway to heaven. The gifts of the Holy Spirit are the manifestations of the Spirit in the midst (1 Corinthians 12:7-11). The ascension gift ministries of Ephesians 4:11 function in the House of God. The House of God is the place where we experience the presence of Jesus Christ through the gifts and ministries and activities of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor.12:4-6).

### **The House of God is the gateway to heaven!**

## 5) THE PILLAR OF TRUTH – Genesis 28:18

*“Then Jacob arose early in the morning and took the stone that he had put at his head”.*

The stone has many references in the New Testament. Peter refers to Jesus as the stone, *“Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious”* (1 Peter 2:4). Isaiah prophesied about the stone *“Behold I lay in Zion a stone for a foundation, a tried stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation”* (Isa.28:16). We are referred to as *“living stones being built up a spiritual house”* (1 Pet.2:5). We are to come to Jesus the ‘Living Stone’ and be built as a spiritual house for Him to indwell.

Jacob took the stone and *“set it up as a pillar”* (Gen.28:18). A pillar is as a memorial; it is something set in place; something that is meant to remain. In writing to Timothy (1 Timothy 3:15), Paul says, *“The house of God which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth”*. We see that the pillar of truth is built on the foundation of Jesus Christ (1 Cor.3:11), and the pillar of truth is the mainstay, or that which upholds the church as being the house of God: the place where the truth of God is found.

Paul goes on to declare that the major truth that is to be found in the house of God is the statement of the mystery of godliness: *“And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifested in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen by angels, preached among the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up in glory”* 1 Tim.3:16.

**The pillar of truth is found in the House of God!  
It is the revelation of God coming in the flesh!**

## 6) THE OIL OF ANOINTING – Genesis 28:18

Jacob took *“the stone that he had put at his head, set it up as a pillar, and poured oil on top of it”*. He anointed the pillar with oil. This is the anointing. John tells us that the anointing which we have received from the Holy One *“abides in us and we do not need that anyone teach us. The same anointing teaches us concerning all things and is true”* (1 John 2:20&27 with some paraphrasing).

Speaking of Jesus being anointed, Peter told the Gentiles in Cornelius’s house that *“God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power”* (Acts 10:38). Jesus Himself declared the anointing that He had received from YHWH, quoting from Isaiah 61, in Luke 4:18.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit, called the Spirit of truth by Jesus in John 14:17, is found in the house of God and this anointing is essential, bearing witness to the truth that is taught in the House of God.

**The oil of anointing is necessary in the House of God!**

## 7) THE NEW NAME – Genesis 28:19

Jacob *“called the name of that place Bethel”*. Bethel means ‘House of God’. Jacob changed the name of the place. The place was now called The House of God. Jacob had met with God at Bethel. We can meet with God in the House of God, which is the church of the Living God.

The receiving of a new name is indicative of a change of character and nature. When Abraham had first built an altar in that place, there is no record of God speaking to him or of his experiencing the presence of God. The Scripture says, *“he built an altar to YHWH and called on the name of YHWH”* (Gen.12:8). But Jacob had a life changing experience with God in that place and he named

the place Bethel. The church is the place where we can meet with God and have a life changing experience. Once we have encountered the living God in the House of God we are given a new name, that is, a new character; we become a new person.

### **The House of God is where we receive a new character!**

#### **8) COMMITMENT TO FAITHFULNESS – Genesis 28:20-21**

The result of Jacob realising that he was in the House of God was that *“Jacob made a vow”* that if God would look after him and be with him, and bring him back to his father’s house, *“then YHWH shall be my God”*. Jacob was now a believer.

We know that Jacob grew up with a father, Isaac, who was a believer and that he grew up in the heritage of Abraham, the father of faith, but now Jacob had a personal encounter with the living God and he realised that he was in the House of God. Not one of us can live off our parents’ faith or our grandfather’s faith. Each one of us needs a personal experience of the supernatural God and as a result make a personal commitment – a vow – to follow God and to trust Him for everything.

### **The House of God is the place of personal commitment to be one of His!**

#### **9) THE PLACE OF THE TITHE – Genesis 28:22**

Jacob restates the reality of the House of God that he had discovered: *“And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God’s house”* (v.22a). The stone is a reference to Jesus. It is only by coming to know Jesus as the truth, that we can come to God (**John 14:6**). In the House of God, Jacob experienced God; he knew it was YHWH the Eternal God. Jacob dreamed of heavenly things – Jacob saw beyond the veil and heard God speaking. Jacob was filled with awe and wonder and even dread. Jacob was filled with the Spirit of revelation to recognise that he was in the House of God. He was in the place of truth.

Jacob’s response to this life changing experience was to commit to become a tithing man: *“Of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth [tithe] to You”*. The tithe is to be brought into the House of God. [See **Malachi 3:10**]. It is important to realise that tithing is an integral part of our relationship with God. It is a response of faith to the revelation of God in Jesus Christ. The tithe is to be used, not to build natural buildings, but to support the work of the ministry in building the House of God [spiritual house] in the earth.

### **The House of God is where we place our tithe!**

**In summary, the House of God is:**

- a certain place in the Spirit where we meet with God;
- where we experience God; it is the place of His presence
- where we receive visions and dreams and prophecies and see the form of God.
- The House of God is a place of awe and worship.
- It is the gateway to heaven, where angels are seen ascending and descending.
- It is where we come into committed relationship with God because we have experienced the reality of God in the Spirit and we have heard His word, *“the exceedingly great and precious promises”* (2 Peter 1:4).
- The House of God is where we place our tithe.

**We are meant to dwell in the House of God!**

*“And I will dwell in the house of YHWH forever”*

**Psalm 23:6b.**

# TIMES OF RESTORATION

In **Acts 3:19-21** Peter was addressing the Jewish people who were at the Temple. He was addressing people who were serving God in the religious way that they had known. Peter said to them, ***“Repent and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus the Messiah who was preached to you before”***. Peter promises us that God will send times of refreshing. This is what revival is: a time of refreshing coming from the presence of God to encourage and lift the church into a fresh knowledge and understanding of God and His purposes.

## **Revivals are necessary**

While revivals have come and gone and some lament that they have gone, they are meant to be times of refreshing, preparing us for the end result, which is the church being raised up in glory in the earth, ready for the Lord’s return (**Ephesians 5:27**). Revivals are not an end in themselves and they are not meant to be a time which produces another denomination. They are **meant to be a time when God adds to the church what the church in general needs, to come to maturity**.

Some people experience a revival and want to ‘camp’ in the wake of that experience, not seeing God’s restorative purpose. It is not the revival that is happening now that counts in the larger picture, but it is the result or the outworking of that revival bringing us into God’s purpose more fully.

## **Living in times of restoration**

Peter goes on to tell us that heaven ***“must receive [Jesus Christ] until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began”*** (**Acts 3:21**). We are living in those times! We are experiencing wonderful things that God is restoring.

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE TABLE OF THE LORD**

The Table of the Lord has been restored into our midst – recently a senior Christian leader in Australia who was used by God to call the nation to prayer and fasting before our Federal Election in May 2019, encouraged the brethren who were taking part in the prayer and fasting, to break bread daily in their homes. This is radical! Also, Bill Johnson of Bethel Ministries, California, shared on a program, that he and his wife break bread in their home every day. The word is getting out: God has restored His Table in the midst of His people. This is a very significant restoration which many are still ignorant of, or simply ignore. But more and more of God’s people are coming into the practice of breaking bread daily in their own homes and in the house church meeting.

## **A problem**

An example of denominational churches resisting the restoration of the breaking of bread was as follows: we were staying in the home of a minister and his wife and because of the rules of the denomination that he belonged to, he was not allowed to lead a communion service in the church meeting. They had to wait for a specially ‘ordained’ minister to come to lead the communion service and that was scheduled every three months, but often did not happen in that framework. How tragic is this. The good thing about this minister was that he received me as an apostle to teach the word and he welcomed the breaking of bread in his own home.

## **You are authorised to break bread**

**Acts 2:42** describes the practice of the first church, *“They continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and the fellowship, in the breaking of bread and in prayers”*. Verse **46** says *“So continuing daily ... breaking bread from house to house”*! This was the practice of the first church. The word of God authorises disciples everywhere to be breaking bread daily in their own houses.

## **THE RESTORATION OF CHURCH IN THE HOUSE**

The practice of having dedicated church halls, church buildings etc, did not begin until the second half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, according to Google. The record of the New Testament shows that the church met from house to house. Jesus often ministered in houses; Paul taught *“publicly and from house to house”* (**Acts 20:20**). He used the School of Tyrannus (**Acts 19:9-10**) for public teaching, but when that time finished, the church did not continue to use that hall, because the church was meeting in houses.

There are many Scriptural benefits in meeting in houses. A few obvious ones:

- many more people are able to share and participate according to **1 Corinthians 14:26**; it is the place for the spiritual gifts of **1 Corinthians 12:8-10** to be exercised.
- ministry is multiplied – instead of having one preacher for a large congregation, there are many preachers ministering in all the house meetings, and the same applies for song leaders and other ministry opportunities, including exercising the gifts of the spirit.
- all of the family are able to be involved – the house church meeting is a family meeting. Children can be easily involved, reading Scriptures, praying, sharing testimony and functioning in the gifts.
- the house church meets in a neighbourhood and the members are more easily able to relate to neighbours, so new ones can be drawn in. **Acts 2:47** says they were, *“praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved”*.

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MYSTERIES**

More and more prophetic and apostolic teachers are bringing the knowledge of the mystery of Christ (**Eph.3:3-5**), the mysteries of the kingdom (**Matt.13:11**); the mystery of Godliness (**1Tim.3:16**), the mystery of God (**Col.2:2**); and there are other mysteries. Paul says *“We speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory”* **1 Corinthians 2:7**. Without the knowledge of the mystery we cannot grow up into the glory. It is the knowledge of this hidden wisdom of God that brings us into the experience of the glory of God.

In 2007 on a trip to West Africa, God began to open up the mystery of godliness according to **1 Timothy 3:16**. Suddenly we found ourselves quoting this verse and we were then challenged to teach on each facet of the mystery of godliness:

*“God was manifest in the flesh,  
Justified in the Spirit,  
Seen by angels,  
Preached among the nations,  
Believed on in the world,  
Received up in glory”*

This mystery has gripped many in the nations and brethren everywhere have come into the deep knowledge of who Jesus is – He is God, manifested in the flesh!

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE PREACHING AND TEACHING OF JESUS THE CHRIST**

The apostles in the New Testament were devoted to declaring that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ (**Acts 2:30-36**). In **Acts 5** some of the apostles had been arrested for preaching the doctrine of Christ. In fact, the high priest said *“You have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine”* (v.28). The apostles were beaten and then released (v.40). The Scripture says *“So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer for His name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus the Christ”* (v.41-42).

It is preaching and teaching the wonders of who Jesus is: He is much more than our wonderful Saviour: *“who is Christ the Lord”* (**Lu.2:11**). He is the one that Peter declared *“God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ”* (**Acts 2:36**).

In 2006 I attended an apostolic conference in Florida, and I heard a preaching of Christ [the anointed King] from **Acts 2**. Ever since then I have been preaching and teaching the mystery of Christ (**Ephesians 3:4**). This has been a marvellous journey! The Spirit has been unfolding this mystery in our midst and has enabled us to write of and teach the mystery of Christ in many nations.

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE FIVE-FOLD MINISTRIES OF EPHESIANS 4:11**

The five ministries of apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher were given by Jesus in His ascension. It is through these ministries that the grace of the Lord is released to every member of the body of Christ, enabling the whole body to grow to full maturity. While ever the church lacks these ministries, the church can never come to that maturity.

The ministries are given *“for the equipping [perfecting] of the saints”*. They are given *“for the work of ministry”*, that is, that each ministry gift is functioning to equip all the saints, and *“for the edifying [building up] of the body of Christ”* (**Eph.4:12**). These ministries are to bring the church to *“the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”* (v.13).

Through these ministries, the members of the church are able to grow from childhood to full maturity – they are able to know the truth and be rightly related to the head of the church, who is Christ (**Eph.4:14-15**). The whole body is to be *“joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share”* (v.16a). The body then will function in *agape* love (v.16b).

It is very important that the ministry of apostles and prophets are received by the church everywhere so that they can fulfil their role in founding the church properly and fully in the revelation of Jesus the Christ [Messiah], who is both the foundation (**1Cor.3:11**), and the cornerstone (**Eph.2:20**).

## **THE RESTORATION OF SONS IN THE EARTH**

### **The doctrine of the adoption as sons – many sons to glory**

*“For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings”* Hebrews **2:10**. Through His death and resurrection, Christ has fully enabled this to happen – there will be many sons coming to the knowledge of the glory of the Eternal One and walking in His glory.

*“But when the fulness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption*

*as sons” Galatians 4:4-5.* Jesus has redeemed us that we might receive the adoption: He gives us the ability [grace] to receive the spirit of adoption and become His sons. Even so we were **“predestined to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will” (Eph.1:5).**

**“For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God” (Rom.8:18).** Many are still waiting for a ‘rapture’, but the Bible says that all of creation is waiting for the manifestation of the sons!

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE ETERNAL ONE FILLING THE EARTH**

What is God’s perspective? He told Moses that despite all that had happened that **“the earth shall be filled with the glory of YAHWEH” (Numbers 14:21).** Originally God told Adam and Eve to **“be fruitful and multiply, fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth” (Genesis 1:28).** God planned for the earth to be filled with His glory, and He has never changed His mind.

God promised again in **Isaiah 11:9b “for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of YAHWEH as the waters cover the sea”.** This is again confirmed in **Habakkuk 2:14 “For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH, as the waters cover the sea”.**

This glory will be seen **“in the face of Jesus Christ” (2 Cor.4:6).** This glory is to be seen in our lives as we grow up more and more into Christ **(2 Cor.4:7-14).** This glory is to be revealed in the saints **(Colossians 1:27).**

## **THE RESTORATION OF THE GREAT COMMISSION**

We are hearing again today the Lord’s commission: **to go and make disciples.** This is the means by which the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH. For too long the ministers of the church have ignored the making of disciples, and many who have made some attempt have a very limited view of what making disciples means. The simplest way to understand the making of disciples is to look at the pattern and practice of the Lord Jesus. He concentrated on discipling and training twelve apostles and in **John 17** He is reporting to the Father that He had completed that very important work. The disciples were with Jesus fulltime.

Those disciples whom Jesus had trained, and there are others besides the twelve – see **Luke 10:1-19** – then went on to make disciples. **Acts 6:7** says **“Then the word of God spread, and the number of disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem”.** When those disciples were scattered and forced to leave Jerusalem over the death of Stephen, **Acts 8:4** says they **“went everywhere preaching the word”**, and they made disciples, not just believers.

## **OTHER AREAS OF RESTORATION**

There are many other areas of restoration that God is bringing to pass in our day. Some of them are listed below, and we need to be taught in all of these areas so **that we have that knowledge of the glory of YAHWEH.**

- The revelation of the name
- The preaching of the kingdom of God.
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Understanding the Tabernacle of Moses – following the pattern
- Understanding the Feasts of YAHWEH – God’s prophetic map/timetable
- The reality of spiritual fathers – **1 Corinthians 4:14-17**
- The truth of the word: that which is written – **1 Cor.4:6, Matt.4:4,7,10**
- Understanding the church – the body of Christ, no division “*one body*” – **Eph.4:4-6**

There are other areas of restoration that we could speak of.

### **This teaching is meant to raise the standard:**

- are you being disciplined in the word?
- Have you received the grace to walk as sons?
- Do you have an understanding of the wonderful mysteries of Christ and His word?

**We truly live in the days of restoration of all things.**

**Jesus is preparing His bride for His return.**

**Do not be like the foolish virgins.**