

Message Five

The Lord's Move Today

Scripture Reading: Matt. 16:18; Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5; Acts 5:42; Eph. 4:12; 1 Cor. 14:1, 3-5, 26, 31

I. Our God is living (1 Tim. 3:15; Heb. 3:12), our Lord is moving (Matt. 16:18), the Spirit is working (Rev. 5:6b), and the people who know their God will show strength and take action (Dan. 11:32).

II. The Lord's move today is for His people to enter into a new revival:

- A. Among God's elect there has always been an aspiration to be revived—Hab. 3:2a; Hosea 6:2; Rom. 8:20-22.
- B. We can enter into a new revival by arriving at the highest peak of the divine revelation through the ministry of the age:
 1. The highest peak of the divine revelation given to us by God is the revelation of the eternal economy of God.
 2. The entire Bible, which is the explanation of the eternal economy of God, is the autobiography of the Triune God, seen in the two sections of eternity and on the bridge of time—John 1:1, 3, 14, 29, 32, 42, 51.
 3. God becoming man that man might become God in life and in nature but not in the Godhead is the essence of the entire Bible, the “diamond” in the “box” of the Bible, the eternal economy of God—Gen. 1:26; John 12:24; Rom. 8:29.
 4. In every age there is the vision of that age, and we have to serve God according to the vision of the age; today we can be in one accord because we have only one vision, an up-to-date, all-inheriting vision, the vision of the eternal economy of God—Prov. 29:18a; Acts 26:19; Eph. 1:17; 3:9.
 5. “I hope that the saints in all the churches throughout the earth, especially the co-workers and the elders, will see this revelation and then rise up to pray that God would give us a new revival—a revival which has never been recorded in history”—*Life-study of 1 and 2 Chronicles*, p. 15.
- C. If we practice living the life of a God-man, spontaneously a corporate model of a people living in the economy of God will be built up; this model will be the greatest revival in the history of the church to bring the Lord back—Phil. 1:19-21a; 3:10:
 1. We need to follow the pattern of the Lord Jesus, bearing the brands of Jesus, the characteristics of His life—Gal. 6:17.
 2. We need to live Christ for His magnification by the bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ—Phil. 1:19-21a.
 3. We need to be conformed to the death of Christ by the power of His resurrection—3:10.
 4. “We should all declare that we want to live the life of a God-man. Eventually, the God-men will be the victors, the overcomers, the Zion within Jerusalem. This will bring in a new revival which has never been seen in history, and this will end this age”—*Life-study of 1 and 2 Chronicles*, p. 28.
- D. We can enter into a new revival by shepherding people according to God—having the loving and forgiving heart of our Father God and the shepherding and seeking spirit of our Savior Christ—1 Pet. 5:2-3; Luke 15:20, 4; Acts 20:20:
 1. We need to shepherd people according to the pattern of the Lord Jesus in His ministry for the carrying out of God's eternal economy—Matt. 9:36; John 10:11; Heb. 13:20; 1 Pet. 5:4:

- a. The content of God's entire New Testament economy in His complete salvation is Christ as the Son of Man cherishing us and as the Son of God nourishing us—Eph. 5:29.
 - b. In His heavenly ministry, Christ as the High Priest, with a golden girdle on His breast, is cherishing and nourishing the churches—Rev. 1:12-13.
2. We need to shepherd people according to the pattern of the apostle Paul as a good shepherd, taking care of God's flock—1 Tim. 1:16; Acts 20:28.
 3. "I hope that there will be a genuine revival among us by our receiving this burden of shepherding. If all the churches receive this teaching to participate in Christ's wonderful shepherding, there will be a big revival in the recovery"—*The Vital Groups*, p. 40.

III. The Lord's move today is through the recovery of the priesthood of the gospel in the New Testament for the organic building up of the church as the Body of Christ—Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5, 9; Rom. 12:1; Col. 1:28-29; Matt. 16:18; Eph. 4:16:

- A. We must preach the gospel by visitation—Luke 10:1-6.
- B. We must meet in the new believers' homes, nourishing and cherishing them, so that our fruit may remain—Acts 5:42; John 15:16.
- C. We must teach and perfect the saints through the vital group meetings unto the New Testament work of the ministry, unto the building up of the Body of Christ—Heb. 10:24-25; Eph. 4:11-12:
 1. In the vital group meetings, the believers have mutual fellowship and intercession, mutual care and shepherding, mutual teaching and studying of the truth, and mutual instruction in the pursuit of the growth in the spiritual life, for the promotion of the preaching of the gospel, the care for the new ones, the conducting of the vital group meetings, and all other kinds of service in the church life.
 2. The vital group meetings are the main part of the life and service of the church.
- D. We must lead the saints to pursue and desire after prophesying in the church meetings, speaking for the Lord, speaking forth the Lord, supplying the Lord to others, and speaking and listening to one another in mutuality for the building up of the saints and the church—1 Cor. 14:1, 3-5:
 1. This kind of prophesying is what every believer can and should do—vv. 31, 24.
 2. This kind of prophesying is the top point for building up the organic Body of Christ, and this will fulfill God's eternal plan according to His divine economy—vv. 1, 3, 4b, 12, 31; cf. Matt. 16:18.
 3. To prohibit prophesying is a sin before God—Amos 2:12b; 7:12-17; Jer. 11:21-23.
 4. In order to prophesy, we must exercise our spirit to speak with the constituting elements of prophesying—speaking what we see with the living words of this life under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit and with His enlightenment—Acts 5:20:
 - a. To prophesy is to have the oracles of God (God's speaking, God's utterance, that conveys divine revelation)—1 Pet. 4:11; cf. 1 Cor. 14:24-25.
 - b. When we have the human learning of the Word, the divine inspiration of the Spirit, and the clear view through the enlightening of the divine light, we will be able to prophesy—v. 31; 2:11-16.
- E. The Lord desires to and will fulfill His words in Matthew 16:18, 1 Peter 2:5, Ephesians 4:11-16, and 1 Corinthians 14:26 concerning the building up of the church as a spiritual house for His dwelling, a priestly body for His service, and as the organic Body of Christ for Christ's enlargement and expression.