

APRIL 2019

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

# OUR FINEST HOUR

A LIVING WORD ACADEMY OF LIGHT PUBLICATION



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Hour Cometh and Now is  
Neville Johnson
- 8 Here I am, Send me  
Bobby Conner
- 13 The Glory of God Shall Been Seen  
Joe Sweet
- 19 Shame Off You  
Kent Mattox
- 25 The Gospel of the Kingdom  
Sadhu Sundar Selvaraj

## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

As we transit into a new day our minds and hearts will be stretched somewhat, as God releases more and greater understanding of His ways and purposes. God has continued throughout the ages to release more and more truth, here a little there a little.

It is important that we keep up with what the Bible calls present truth. I trust that this issue will stretch you somewhat.

Blessings  
Neville Johnson  
April 2019

A Living Word Academy of Light  
Publication

PO Box 1123  
Maleny QLD 4552  
Australia

[www.TheAcademy.org.au](http://www.TheAcademy.org.au)

For a Chinese version please contact:  
Glory Ministries  
[info@gloryministries.org.tw](mailto:info@gloryministries.org.tw)  
[www.gloryministries.org.tw](http://www.gloryministries.org.tw)







NEVILLE JOHNSON

# The Hour Cometh and Now is

Why did Albert Einstein say time is an illusion  
which means a nonentity?

**Many Christians never really live because they continually  
live in the anticipation of living**

**They have the mindset that things will be better in the future**

**However  
Today is the first day of the rest of your life  
So how will you live it?**

**“*****B**ut the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.*

*John 4:23*

*“Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.*

*John 5:25*

*“Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His*

*voice and come forth; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation.*

*John 5:28*

*For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

*1 Timonth 4:8*

**Your spirit does not live in the realm of time as we know time. In the realm of spirit there is no**

**time as we know or perceive time.**



**WHAT IS TIME?** We know that God saw the end from the beginning, He is the Alpha and Omega. "In physical science, time is defined as a measurement, or as what the clock face reads." We see time as measured or measurable period, a continuum that lacks spatial dimensions. Time is of philosophical interest and is also the subject of mathematical and scientific investigation.

Why did Albert Einstein say time is an illusion which means a nonentity?

People who believe in physics, know that the distinction between past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion. Einstein did not reject the existence of time. **Instead he rejected the distinction between past, present, and future.**

The concept of time is self-evident. An hour consists of a certain number of minutes, a day of hours and a year of days. But we rarely think about the

fundamental nature of time. Time is passing non-stop, and we follow it with clocks and calendars. Yet we cannot study it with a microscope or experiment with it. And it still keeps passing and we just cannot say what exactly happens when time passes.

**The problem we have is that God, heaven, and the Kingdom of God exists outside of time in a spiritual realm rather than of a physical reality.**



**The so called spiritual realm was or is the first reality, and the physical realm was created from action originating from the spiritual realm**



**It is obvious that the Spiritual**





**is more real than the Physical  
realm**

**The spiritual realm is more real  
and tangible**

*Blessed be the God and Father  
of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has  
blessed us with every spiritual  
blessing in the heavenly places  
in Christ, just as He chose us in  
Him before the foundation of  
the world, that we should be  
holy and without blame before  
Him in love, having predestined  
us to adoption as sons by Jesus  
Christ to Himself, according to  
the good pleasure of His will,*

*Ephesians 1:3-5*

*elect according to the  
foreknowledge of God the  
Father,*

*1 Peter 1:2*

God was and is at the beginning  
and the end at the same time,  
when we use the word, 'end'  
can only refer to the end of an  
era or epoch end, as time as  
we know it does not exist in the  
Kingdom realms of God.

*The prophetic writer CS Lewis  
once said "if I find in myself  
desires which nothing in this  
world can satisfy, the only logical  
explanation is that I was made  
for another world"*

One of the names of God is "I  
AM" God is omnipresent i.e.  
everywhere at the same time.  
This of course destroys our earthly  
concept of time and space.

God I AM, is passed present and  
future all at the same time.

*elect according to the  
foreknowledge of God the  
Father,*

*1 Peter 1:2*

God is at the end and the  
beginning at the same time  
Alpha and Omega.

*Most assuredly, I say to you, the  
hour is coming, and now is, when  
the dead will hear the voice of  
the Son of God; and those who  
hear will live.*

*John 5:25*

**Jesus said that time is coming  
but now is! How does that work?**

Now how can that be? Jesus is  
talking about the resurrection of  
the dead into immortal bodies.  
But He then said the time for  
this now is and yet it is still in the  
future. It is available now but  
also future event.

If Adam had past the tests in  
Eden, God would have led him  
to the tree of Life and he would  
have lived forever, that was how  
it should have been.

*Then the LORD God said,  
"Behold, the man has become  
like one of us, to know good and  
evil. And now, lest he put out his  
hand and take also of the tree  
of life, and eat, and live forever";*

*Gen 3:22*

Adam was the first prototype  
for the human race and he



was supposed to live forever. Jesus was known as the last of the Adamic race and He was without sin. Through His death and resurrection a new race of people were born again and this new race of people must qualify to eat of the tree of life and be transformed while still on earth in the flesh.

*For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.*

*1 Corinthians 15:22*

*For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death.*

*1 Corinthians 15:25*

### **This Time Is Yet To Come However It Is Also Now**

There will be many in this last generation who will overcome the last enemy of the human race, death.

*Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.*

*John 5:25*

This may seem way out there to many, however the word of God is very pure and means what it says. We are no longer sons of Adam but sons of God. The last enemy that of death will be overcome by many while still in the flesh here on earth. This last enemy has to be overcome by humans, death was the result

of human failure. That's why Jesus had to take on a human form without sin enabling Him to start a new supernatural race of people, children of the light.

### **The Apostle Paul said this:**

*For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.*

*1 Timothy 4:8*

Paul said exercise is ok but there is a better way i.e. divine life

### **The Apostle John saw people in heaven who as yet had not been born. How could this be?**

*Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. "Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them.*

*Revelation 7:13-15*

They came out of the last day's tribulation period of time i.e. our time frame, yet John saw them in heaven around 2000 years ago.

*"Most assuredly, I say to you, he*



who hears My word i.e. (Hears what I really am saying) and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. "Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live.

John 5:24-25

We are followers of Jesus, we have been born again becoming a new species, a new creation. We have been baptised in water as Jesus was, and we have been baptised in the Holy Spirit just as the dove of the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus. However Jesus went on from there and was transfigured setting an example for us to follow. This transfiguration of Jesus happened after 6 days. Now we are living at the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> day, 6000 years from Adam and beginning of the 7<sup>th</sup> day

Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus.

Mark 9:2-4

Transfiguration causes the mortal body to put on immortality while still here on earth in the flesh. Why would we the followers of Jesus stop at being water baptised and baptised in the Holy Spirit when there is more transfiguration? After all we are followers of Christ and he is our example. We are now passing from the church age to the Kingdom age and the powers of the age to come are now available.

*For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit, and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.*

Hebrews 6:4-6

We clearly see from these verses of scripture that it is possible to experience and walk in the powers of the age to come before the age to come has come.

Your spirit lives in another dimension while yet inside your physical body. There is a part of you, your spirit which exists outside of time and space. Because of this reality Paul said this.



*Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

*Hebrews 4:16*

There is a part of us that has access to the unseen realm of heaven which is more real than this physical world. We are told that we can come boldly.

The word boldly here is the Greek word "parrhesia" which has the meaning of with confidence, with the assurance that we are welcome"

**There is a word that appears in the Bible in more than one place that helps us understand this: It is the word eternity.**

*He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.*

*Ecclesiastes 3:11*

The word eternity here is a word that has deep profound meaning.

The Hebrew word is Owlam. The meaning of this word gives us real insight into the two worlds the physical world and the spiritual world.

**OWLAM 5769. 'owlam, ; from H5956; prop. concealed, place .The vanishing point; gen. time out of mind (past or future.), i.e.**

**(practically) eternity;**

Psalm 24 is a psalm about ascending. It talks about having clean hands and a pure heart. About a generation who will seek the face of the Lord and ascend into God's realm.

*Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.*

*Psalms 24:7*

Everlasting doors what are they? The Hebrew (HB) word here for "everlasting" is the Hebrew word OWLAM - the concealed place, a place of time out of mind, eternity. These gates which lead to this realm are available to you and I.

HB word here for everlasting is "owlam" a place beyond time and space the realm of heavenly places.

There is another you inside of you, your spirit which has access to the realms of God.

*But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, (The hidden man, your spirit)*

*1 Peter 3:4*

*That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;*

*Ephesians 3:16*





When was the last time you were aware of your inner man? The hidden man of the heart. There is another you inside of you, your avatar as it were, and this inner man has a permanent connection with the Lord: Spirit to Spirit.

First you must become aware of your inner man. Think about him, become aware of him. Close your eyes and see him in you. You must become inner man conscious and set your heart on the eternal.

This is a constant daily thing until it becomes natural to you. Practice, practice, until it becomes natural. Then turn to the Lord the same way and become aware of Him. Lay a foundation on truth so the enemy cannot throw you. The Lord is always with you He never leaves you. It is your awareness of Him that varies. Whether you are aware of Him or not He is there. He is omnipresent at all times.

**Set your imagination on Him – Open the eternal door to His realm.**

You have to learn to dwell in this secret place. As you do, you start to walk in two realms; the heavenly and the earthly. You come with a pure heart and clean hands and ascend the hill of the Lord to *owlam* a place of time and of mind, the realm of

God.

*"But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.*

John 4:23

Einstein's theory of special relativity created a fundamental link between **space** and **time**. The universe can be viewed as having three **space** dimensions — up/down, left/right, forward/backward — and one **time** dimension. This 4-dimensional **space** is referred to as the **space-time continuum**.

**God calls it Eternity and we all have access to our original home. After all it is where we came from and can visit home when we need to. If you believe it is so – If you don't believe it is not so for you.**



Neville Johnson  
Living Word Academy  
PO Box 1123  
Maleny 4552 QLD  
Australia

[www.TheAcademy.org.au](http://www.TheAcademy.org.au)



# Here Am I, Send Me

**BOBBY CONNER**

The Lord is going to use mighty signs and wonders and marvelous miracles in these days to win multitudes of souls to Christ

**“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “When the plowman shall overtake the reaper, and the treader of grapes him who sows seed; the mountains shall drip with sweet wine, and all the hills shall flow with it.”**

**Amos 9:13**

The year was 1992 the location was somewhere between Moscow Russia and Vienna, Austria I was standing in the aisle of an airplane 33,000 feet above the earth, speaking to one of the world's premier evangelists. My team and I had been in the historic Moscow Crusade with Dr. Billy Graham as he preached the gospel to the multitudes that filled the stadium. I was thrilled beyond words at the sight of thousands rushing forward each night to accept Christ as their personal Savior in

response to the message of the cross. Dr. Graham's message of God's redemptive love drew countless thousands to respond to receiving new life and hope (**2 Corinthians 5:17**).

Truly there is joy in the presence of God and the Holy Angels over one sinner that is converted, think of the joy in heaven over this huge massive crowd of saved souls (**Luke 15:10**).

As Billy Graham and I conversed that night in the aisle of the plane, I explained to him how I had received a strong prophetic visitation from the Lord concerning this time of global harvest. I said, “The Lord is going to use mighty signs and wonders and marvelous miracles in these days to win multitudes of souls to Christ (**John 6:1-2**). I will never forget the love and compassion





streaming from the voice and eyes of this great man of God as he placed his weathered hand upon my shoulder and looked so deeply into my eyes. Billy Graham said to me; "son I believe every word of that!" His words shot to the very depths of my soul. He continued saying, "Son, I was reared on a farm, and one thing I have learned about harvest time is it is short. Never forget: Harvest time is a short time."

Then Dr. Graham quoted the words of warning concerning delay given from the lips of the Master Harvester—our Lord:

*"Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest?' Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest!"*

*John 4:35.*

Oh, how we must be reminded! The time to reap the end-time harvest is now. We do not have time to waste, nor is there any excuse for waiting. The Scriptures declare:

*"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation"*

*2 Corinthians 6:2 KJV*

The reason we are still here on earth is to share the gospel. Look at what we have to tell: good news. Do not be deceived into thinking that people don't want to hear what we have to report. We have good news to share with them! The Holy Spirit will anoint you to be a real witness of

Jesus and His marvellous power and grace to save.

*"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth"*

*Acts 1:8*

God has given you the power to share a clear witness about His Son.

### **All Are Invited**

*"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"*

*Romans 10:13 KJV*

The word "whosoever" includes everyone and excludes no one. Through the cross of Christ, the door of salvation is open wide for all to come to new life in Jesus. The problem with the harvest is not in the invitation but in the proclamation. This can be seen in the questions Paul raises in Romans 10:14–15:

*How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!"*

*Romans 10:14–15*

If people are going to be saved, they must hear the gospel. We have been given a commission by the Lord Jesus. Hear His





command in **Matthew 28:18-20**:

*And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

*Matthew 28:18-20*

We are under divine orders to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" (**Mark 16:15**). The Apostle Paul reminds us that we should always be ready to tell others about Jesus: "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season" (**2 Timothy 4:2**). God's heart is to see a great harvest saved. We are to give a clear message about Christ, yet with a humble and right attitude. When we are sharing with the lost we should never come across like we are somehow superior. We are only what we are because of the grace of God.

Jesus has promised to make us successful "fishers of men" if we follow Him (**Matthew 4:19**). It is the Holy Spirit who does the work. We are just the yielded tools in His hands.

*"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure"*

*Philippians 2:13*

You are created and empowered by the Spirit to accomplish great

things for the kingdom of God.

### **A Clear and Simple Gospel**

The good news we share with the waiting world should not be vague or complicated. The Scriptures teach that Christ Jesus is the only way to heaven (**John 14:6**). Though it has been said that "All roads lead to Rome," never forget that "All religions do not lead to heaven." The gospel brings the lost into a relationship with Jesus, the one who is able to save them completely. The only right covering for our sin is the precious blood of Christ.

We must make sure the gospel we share points to Christ and Him alone.

*"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved"*

*Acts 4:12*

Christ is ready and able to save any and all who will, by faith, come to God by Him.

*"Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them"*

*Hebrews 7:25*

We also must be careful not to make converts to a religious system, but help bring people into a relationship with the glorious Savior, Christ Jesus. Like Adam and Eve hiding in the fig leaves, man often seeks to run off and hide in the cover-up of man-made religion. No religious system or good works have the



power to remove sin and restore a relationship with God. Just as the shedding of blood was required to cover Adam and Eve (**Genesis 3:21**), only the blood of the Lamb is capable of covering our sins.

We must point only to the Lord's atoning work and a relationship with Him, never the dead, dry and rotten covering of man-made religion. One way to recognize these religious systems is that they make the gospel complex and complicated. Man-made religion will always have a lot of "hoops" we are required to jump through to attain our reward, whereas the gospel is simple and available to "whosoever will."

### **The Harvest Has Begun**

The harvest is not just coming—it has begun! Dennis Balcombe, the pastor of Revival Christian Church in Hong Kong, reports that each day more than 25,000 souls are being won in China. The doors are opening for many to go into China as short-term or long-term missionaries.

Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ reports that Muslims are being converted to Christ in record numbers—not through traditional means of persuasion, but through mighty signs and wonders. Many former Muslims have reported having a "divine visitation" which so impacted their lives that they are now saved and following Christ.

People are now hungry to hear

about Jesus—though they are rightfully skeptical of those who come peddling man-made programs with puffed-up personalities. People want to hear about Christ and His power to save, heal and restore.

Recently my wife and I were coming out of a shopping mall in East Texas. There were three or four rebellious-looking teenagers dressed in hyper-punk clothes. The Lord said, "Bobby, go and share Jesus with them." I said, "Lord, they don't look as if they want to hear." Yet the Spirit very firmly said, "Go. Do what you are told to do." I did and was shocked at the response. There was great openness, and soon a crowd of these young people had gathered. I was able to openly and powerfully share Jesus with them. Many of the teens were truly broken and repentant as they gave their lives to Jesus.

### **It is not the harvest that is lacking, it is the reapers.**

Let's all surrender and ask the Lord to make us sharp threshing instruments *Isaiah 41:15*

I once was told of an elderly lady who was not able to get out of her bed, yet her heart was burning for souls. She prayed and asked God to provide some way that she could tell others about Christ. Suddenly she saw her telephone—practically her only link to the outside world. She was shut in, but not shut out. She began to call each person in her telephone book, and with a beautiful sweet anointing



upon her, she was able to lead more than 8,000 people to receive Christ in one year over the telephone.

### **Needed: Weepers and Reapers**

We must pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to fall upon our hearts and give us compassion for the lost. As the Psalmist promised, if we sow in tears, we will reap in joy:

*"Those who sow in tears shall reap in joy. He who continually goes forth weeping, bearing seed for sowing, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him"*

*Psalm 126:5–6*

The Lord is looking for willing workers to send out into these ripe harvest fields. Not long ago, He spoke this word to the church through a friend of mine:

"I have placed My calling upon you and set you apart for My service. And yet you have also heard another call, for the world has also called your name. With its calling it has promised pleasures—both simple pleasure

and sweet delights. You have not rejected My call, you have merely placed it on hold while you examine the other. How long will you waver between two opinions, double-minded and neither hot nor cold? Choose this day to pick up the call that I have given. Your call is waiting!"

Will you answer the call, saying, "Lord, **here am I. Send me!**" Jesus declares that the harvest is ready. The harvesters are what is lacking.

*"Then He said to His disciples, 'The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest'"*

*Matthew 9:37–38*

We must be about the work that God has left us here to do—witnessing to a lost world. Jesus said,

*"You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you"*

*John 15:16*

Harvest time is short. It is urgent that we ask the Father to help us bear good fruit—the fruit of increase for His kingdom. Let it not be said concerning our generation:

*"The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved"*

*Jeremiah 8:20*

Bobby Conner  
Eagles View Ministries  
P.O. Box 933  
Bullard, TX 75757  
903-894-6481  
manager@bobbyconner.org



www.bobbyconner.org







the glory of GOD shall be seen

JOE SWEET

When Jesus walked the earth He manifested His glory.

**B**efore the Lord Jesus Christ manifested His glory (John 1:14) to Israel, God sent John the Baptist to prepare His way. When John was only eight days old, his father, Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:

*"And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Highest; For you will go before the face of the Lord to prepare His ways"*

*Luke 1:76*

About thirty years later John began his public ministry.

*"And he went into all the region around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the remission of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah*

*the prophet, saying:*

*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight. Every valley shall be filled. And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough ways smooth; And all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "*

*Luke 3:3-6*

When we read this Scripture from the book of Isaiah, instead of saying that all flesh shall see the "salvation of God" the Bible says that all flesh shall see the "glory of the Lord". Therefore, the "glory" of the Lord is His salvation.

*"The voice of one crying in the*

wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted And every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight And the rough places smooth; The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Isaiah 40:3-5

When Jesus walked the earth He manifested His glory.

"And 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."

John 1:14

When Philip asked Jesus to show him the Father, "Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; so how can you say, 'Show us the Father'? The "glory" of God manifested through the Lord Jesus in His character, His words, His deeds and His power.

When they heard Jesus speak, they "marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth." Luke 4:22

"And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one having authority,

and not as the scribes."

Mark 1:22

"God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

Acts 10:38

"And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Mark 7:37

**The glory of God was seen through the Lord Jesus as He manifested the Father's Name (John 17:6).**

He exercised dominion over evil spirits, over nature, sicknesses and disease; He spoke with authority, healed the broken hearted, comforted the weary, rebuked the hard hearted, warned men of perdition, and preached the Kingdom of God with power. All flesh saw it.

**Before the glory of God was manifested through the life of the Lord Jesus Christ, it was necessary that John the Baptist went ahead of Him to prepare the way.**

John the Baptist was filled with the Holy Spirit from the womb (Luke 1:15) and then separated unto the Lord for many years



"in the deserts till the day of his manifestation to Israel" (Luke 1:80). When John was about 30 years old, *"the word of God came to John the son of Zacharias in the wilderness and he went into all the region around the Jordan preaching a baptism of repentance"* (Luke 3:2-3) John came *"in the spirit and power of Elijah. . .to make ready a people prepared for the Lord"*.

John confronted and addressed specific sins of the people (Luke 3:8-14, Matthew 14:3-4). He preached that men should "bear fruits worthy of repentance". The repentance was not to be "lip service" but a genuine turn-around that resulted in a change in behavior. The apostle Paul preached similarly. Paul "declared ... to the Gentiles, that they should repent, turn to God, and do works befitting repentance." (Acts 26:20)

In addition to addressing specific sins and preaching repentance, John rebuked hypocrites and warned of the wrath to come (Matthew 3:7).

The Lord Jesus, and the apostles also warned of the wrath to come (1 Thes. 1:10, Matthew 5:29-30, Matthew 10:28). John gave instructions on righteous conduct (Luke 3:11-14). *Today we hear very little preaching that addresses specific sins, calls*

*men to repentance, rebukes hypocrites, instructs in righteous living and warns men of the wrath to come.* However, this is what is needed in order to prepare people for the glory of the Lord.

Following is the response to John's anointed ministry:

*"Then Jerusalem, all Judea, and all the region around the Jordan went out to him and were baptized by him in the Jordan, confessing their sins."*

"Jerusalem, all Judea and all the region around the Jordan" comprised an area in excess of 1,000 square miles. First century historian, Josephus, estimated that between 750,000 and 1,250,000 people came out to be baptized by John the Baptist. They were not only being baptized, but they were "confessing their sins". Josephus believed that John's public ministry lasted approximately 12-18 months. If John's ministry lasted 18 months and he baptized around one million people, that is more than 50,000 people repenting per month. That is a major move of God!

Today churches everywhere are lacking in the manifest presence of God.

There is almost no fear of God. True Holiness is rare. Popular messages cater to the





perceived “needs” of people instead of preparing the people for the Lord. People come to church lukewarm. They go home lukewarm. People come to church sick. They go home sick. They come to church in bondage and go home in bondage. More than anything, we need a great awakening IN the church and the glory of God to return. Just as John’s ministry of repentance prepared people to see the glory of God, today repentance must come to the church if we are to see the glory of God manifested in the body of Christ. The following Scripture is one of many that show us that God has called His church to obtain His glory.

*“But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

*2 Thes. 2:13-14*

The Bible teaches that our complete “salvation” comprises three parts: justification, sanctification and glorification. As our “salvation” grows from justification, through sanctification to maturity we begin to experience His abiding glory.

Justification occurs when we initially repent and trust Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We are declared “righteous” apart from any works (Romans 4:5-7) by faith in Jesus. When we are justified by faith in Jesus we are “saved” from the penalty of sin. However, our soul still needs to be “saved” from the power of sin; from the power of lust, greed, anger, etc. The process of our soul being transformed into the holiness of Jesus Christ is called sanctification. As the sanctification of our soul progresses, the glory of God increases in our lives. The outshining of His nature, presence and power is the glory that increases in and through our lives.

In the above Scripture (2 Thess 2:13-14) the apostle says that God chose us for salvation (justification and then sanctification unto glorification). Full salvation means that we go through the process of sanctification unto glorification. Paul says that God chose us for salvation “through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth”. Believing (and acting upon) God’s Word and being sanctified by His Spirit is how we grow. This is the required pathway so that we may “obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ”.

Without sanctification we cannot become vessels of His glory. Repentance and sanctification



always precedes a greater manifestation of His glory. The process of sanctification is not always easy, but it is always worth it. The purging fire of the Holy Spirit will bring us through tests and trials to expose our present condition and to conform us into the image of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:29). We must embrace repentance and the dealings of the Holy Spirit as He conforms us to the image of Jesus Christ. This includes the chastening of the Lord.

*"For whom the Lord loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives."*

*Hebrews 12:6*

*"Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."*

*Hebrews 12:11*

The apostle, Peter, knew about walking in the glory of God. Peter was so filled with the Holy Spirit that when people got within shadow distance of him, the glory of God that was radiating from him healed them.

*"so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem,*

*bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed."*

*Acts 5:15-16*

Peter also understood that the process of sanctification, which at times involves some suffering, is necessary to obtain the glory that we are called to walk in. We must embrace repentance and the fire of sanctification.

*"But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you."*

*1 Peter 5:10*

**"The God of all grace"** It is the GRACE of GOD that has worked in your life until now. The grace of God will carry you through to the end.

*"But by the grace of God I am"*  
*1 Corinthians 15:10*

**"Who called us to His eternal glory"** Yes, God has called us to His eternal glory! His glory is our salvation. As we embrace repentance and sanctification His glory (which is our inheritance in Christ) will increase.

**"After you have suffered a while"** Let God deal with you. Don't think it is strange when you go through trials and testing (1 Peter 4:12). God will bring you through it and you will come out like gold



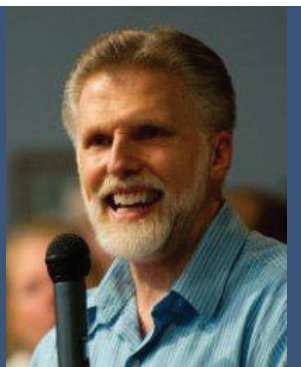
(Job 23:10).

**God will “perfect, establish, strengthen and settle you”** You can count on it. God will do it. He will perfect you (Hebrews 13:20-21, 1 Thes. 5:23-24). He will finish what He started (Philippians 1:6). He will cause you to obtain the glory of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Thes. 2:13-14).

**Prayer:** Lord, we ask You to send the fire of the Holy Spirit into our lives and into our churches. Bring a fresh revelation of the beauty of Your holiness. Let the fear of

God return to us. Just as Isaiah saw You high and lifted up, when he saw Your majesty and holiness, he was undone. In Your light he saw his uncleanness. He cried out in repentance and You sent fire from Your altar to cleanse him. Lord, will You do that again in our lives and in our churches. Cleanse us. Bring the revelation of Jesus that will awaken Your body. Bring the revelation of Jesus that will bring repentance and transform Your church to become the dwelling place of Your glory once again (Ephesians 2:19-22).

Joe Sweet  
Shekinah Worship Center  
42640 10th St. West  
Lancaster, CA 93534  
swc-office@verizon.net  
661-940-8378



[www.shekinahworship.com](http://www.shekinahworship.com)





# *shame off you*

*Kent Mattox*



This Passover is very significant because I believe that the Lord has clearly spoken to me that He is rolling away reproach and shame

In God's economy Passover is very interesting in that we, God's people, have yet another opportunity to determine the level of blessings we will walk in for the upcoming year. Personally, I want to walk into new levels of blessings and I know you do too. This Passover is very significant because I believe that the Lord has clearly spoken to me that He is rolling away reproach and shame. It is important to prepare ourselves for what God is going to do for us in the next season. This article is for anyone and everyone who has ever made a wrong choice, so, let me ask you directly, "Has anyone ever said, 'Shame on You?'"

What a judgement that is, *shame on you*. I cannot tell you how many times I have heard that said to people who do not

need the reproach of shame levelled at them, but rather, a revelation that there is another opportunity to make things right, and to begin again. The Holy Spirit has shown me that during this Passover the word is SHAME OFF YOU! Shame brings a reproach upon us regardless of how we have been shamed and especially when we are trying to make the right choice and things just do not end the way we had believed they would. I have been in the place when I have had more money than money and American Express called and told me to leave home without it. Yes, as you are reading this you know what I am writing about regardless of whether our failures are financial, moral, or societal.

Shame brings a reproach when we cannot pay our bills



or we are not as significant or successful as we thought we should be. Perhaps mistakes were made and somehow you have just never recovered from the consequences of wrong choices. The hardest reproach to recover from may be that you have held onto the promise God gave you years ago and the fruit and the harvest have not yet been made manifest in areas of your life and you have told everybody what you are believing God for and you have been mocked and accused as people question, "Where is your God?" Or, what about the times God has come through for you and the mockers still mock and the reproach has remained. God has spoken clearly that He is ready to bring us into the fullness of what He has for each of us regardless of what we have been through in past seasons, in this season, God is saying, "I am rolling away reproach from your life, "SHAME OFF YOU."

Your question may be, "Well, how does God roll away shame?" When this word was given to me I began to study spiritual examples of reproach being removed. The first example is found in 1 Samuel 1:2-2:21 and is the story of Hannah, first wife of Elkanah, who was barren. The Bible does not state specifically how long Hannah was barren but scholars believe it may have been as long as nineteen years. Yet, year after year, she would go to the Tabernacle and seek God about having a

child. As a point of reference we must understand the utter shame and reproach that Hannah and any other woman lived under if they were unable to produce an heir. A barren wife brought great reproach upon the individual and shame upon the patriarch. Included in this scenario, but not limited to, are Elkanah's other wives, and likely community members who were producing offspring and ridiculing Hannah for her inability to produce a child. But, year by year she faithfully went before God and *still did not conceive*, but then, *suddenly*, God opened her womb, she conceived, and she did not just bear a child, she gave birth to Samuel, the greatest prophet in the whole of the Old Testament. When God stepped in and did that for Hannah, her shame and reproach was lifted.

Then, instead of weeping and mourning, Hannah prayed and we find this is what she said in 1 Samuel 2:1-10, "I am bursting with God news. I am walking on air. I am laughing at my rivals, dancing my salvation, nothing, and no one is holy like God. No rock mountain is like our God. Do not dare talk pretentiously, not a word of boasting ever for God knows what is going on. He takes the measure of everything that happens, the weapons of the strong are smashed into pieces while the weak are infused with fresh strength. The well-fed are begging on the streets for crusts, while the hungry are getting



second helpings. The barren woman now has a house full of children while the other mothers are in bereavement." So, how does God roll away shame? He comes in with a blessing so big that you do not even know what to do with it and all of a sudden the blessing is so powerful that we forget all our past pain because the joy that we are now experiencing in the present overtakes the oppression the reproach has held us under.

Then, I read about Mephibosheth's journey from cripple, to conqueror, in 2 Samuel 4:4. Mephibosheth was Jonathan's son, grandson of King Saul. While fleeing from David's men his nurse dropped him and he remained crippled for the rest of his life. As an adult he remained in hiding fearing that he would be killed because he was of Saul's lineage. The outcasts of Israel migrated to a desert called Lodebar. This is where Mephibosheth had landed, crippled, living in a place that in Hebrew means howling wilderness and no communication.

Have you ever felt you are lame and that you are living in a place where you can no longer hear from God? Or, have you believed that because of your weaknesses or failures that perhaps God has forgotten about you? How many of us believe that we were dropped as kids? Likely we were not dropped physically, but every

person reading this has believed themselves to have been dropped emotionally in one way or the other as a child, or as an adult, and we are still struggling today from the crippling effects of what has happened to us. We keep battling these weaknesses and we really believe that these negative circumstances are keeping us from living in God's blessings. It is my experience that we all have something that we are dealing with that has made us lame. We may have it all going on in two or three areas, or even many areas of our everyday lives, but there are other areas we are crippled in.

Mephibosheth was living out his life in the howling wilderness of exile with no communication from anyone from the house of Saul, living in fear that King David would find, and kill him. Mephibosheth's name literally translates to "*mouth of shame*." The reproach that he lived under due to a childhood injury, was something he had nothing to do with incurring and an injury he would not recover from. Then, Mephibosheth's *suddenly* happened when David became king and the first thing he did was to look for someone to give Saul's inheritance to. When he discovered Mephibosheth David said, "Do not fear for, I will surely show you kindness for Jonathan, your father's sake. And I will restore to you all the land of Saul, your grandfather, and you will eat bread at my table continually." The message





translation reads, "David said, 'Do not waste a minute. Go grab Mephibosheth from the howling wilderness and bring him and set him at the king's table and hide his lame legs under my table. Call and let him eat *without shame* in my presence forever and ever and ever.' "

In this Passover season God is coming to get you out of your wilderness. He is about to roll away your reproach and shame and restore your inheritance. He is going to set you at the King's table and you are going to feast on the goodness of the Lord. God is going to prepare a table for you in the presence of your enemies and they are going to watch you feast on His faithfulness. That is how God removes reproach, with His goodness.

When Holy Spirit revealed this word to me He said, "Do not celebrate Passover the normal way, celebrate by crossing over." The next afternoon, Chuck Pierce text me and confirmed what the Spirit is telling us, "The Lord just spoke to me concerning your celebration this year. Do not celebrate Passover the way you celebrated it in the past. Celebrate as crossing over, not coming out." Just a few weeks later, my brother Dan was reading an article from a rabbi who had written, "Do not celebrate Passover this year like you have normally celebrated it by coming out of the wilderness, celebrate as crossing over into

your inheritance and into your future."

As I am writing this I see you somewhere in the future and things look a whole lot better than they do right now. Recently, upon returning from Israel Dan asked, "How are you doing?" I said, "I am great and I loved living in the future." You see, I had been living eight hours ahead of our time zone for two weeks and it was easy to share that the Lord has already gone ahead of us and is preparing our future. He already sees that our future is better than our past and He is coming in this season to remove our reproach as we crossover and enter into our promised land. Here is the promise of the Lord, "You are going to get double for your trouble."

God is about to step into our world and roll away our reproach. In 2012 I found a new place to baptize in Israel. We used to baptize in the north at a really popular place. However, the last time I was there I found a place that, in my opinion, is likely more geographically accurate as to where Jesus would have been baptized. There was nothing there the first time I saw it other than the muddy Jordan River. This time when we arrived we realized others had found this quiet place and have built a beautiful resort area adjacent to the river. Take a moment and close your eyes. Now, imagine with me that this is where Israel crossed. Jericho is right



across the river and the Mount of Temptation is a mile away. This is the place where Elisha put the mantel on for a double portion and it all took place right there in that geographical terrain.

As we were baptized the reality hit us of what crossing over into the inheritance that God had for the Israelites was like for them and as prophecy for us. Instead of shame we are going to receive double honor. Instead of confusion we are going to rejoice in our portion. Isaiah 61:7 assures us of this, "Therefore, in their land, you shall possess double. An everlasting joy is going to be yours," and Psalm 1:26 confirms this promise, "When the Lord turned the captivity of Zion, they were like men that dream. Their mouth was filled with laughter and people said, God has done great things for them."

The answer to your next question is, "Yes, we are going to enter into a move of God. Yes, we are going to see the double portion anointing restored and yes, we are going to fulfil our purpose. And yes, we are going to see transformation. Remember, the Lord has prepared a table before us in the presence of our enemies.

God can give you more in a moment than you have earned in a lifetime. So, when I stood in those waters of baptism, looking at the city of Jericho, thinking about the double portion, I remembered Joshua

3: 1- 4:24 and the story of the Israelites crossing over. When they stepped into the waters, they rolled all the reproach all the way back to a place called Adam. There is a city there called Adam, but I believe it is prophetic that this Passover, when we cross over into our heritage, not only is our reproach going to be rolled away, but I believe God is about to deal with generational reproaches that go all the way back to Adam. There are generational iniquities that keep trying to keep our families captive. God is dealing with what has been tormenting you and He is now crossing you over to the other side.

Isaiah 54 1:17 tells us this: "'Sing barren woman who has born no child, break forth into singing and cry out you who never were in labor for the children of the wife who has been deserted will be more numerous than the children of the married,' says the Lord." Here is what the Lord says to you: "Enlarge the site of your tent. And let them stretch out the curtains of your dwellings; Do not spare; Lengthen your cords, and strengthen your stakes. For you shall expand to the right and to the left, and your descendants will inherit the nations, and make the desolate cities inhabited. "Do not fear, do not fear or be ashamed; Neither be disgraced, for you will not be put to shame; For you forget the shame of your youth, and will not remember the reproach of



your widowhood anymore. For your Maker is your husband, The Lord of hosts is His name; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth. For the Lord has called you like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit, like a youthful wife when you were refused," says your God. "For a mere moment I have forsaken you, but with great mercies I will gather you. With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment; But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you," Says the Lord, your Redeemer. "For this is like the waters of Noah to Me; For as I have sworn that the waters of Noah would no longer cover the earth, so have I sworn that I would not be angry with you, nor rebuke you. For the mountains shall depart and the hills be removed, but My kindness shall not depart from you, nor shall My covenant of peace be removed," says the Lord, who has mercy on you. "O you afflicted one, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay your stones with colourful gems, and lay your foundations with sapphires. I will make your

pinnacles of rubies, your gates of crystal, and all your walls of precious stones. All your children *shall* be taught by the Lord, and great *shall* be the peace of your children. In righteousness you shall be established; You shall be far from oppression, for you shall not fear; and from terror, for it shall not come near you. Indeed they shall surely assemble, *but* not because of Me. Whoever assembles against you shall fall for your sake. "Behold, I have created the blacksmith who blows the coals in the fire, who brings forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the spoiler to destroy. No weapon formed against you shall prosper, and every tongue *which* rises against you in judgment you shall condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is from Me," says the Lord."

It is time to make room and stretch out the drapes of your dwellings. We all need to put a stake in the ground and say, "I am standing on the promises that God has set for me and my family, and I am believing this Passover all reproach is rolled away. It is time to burst out and cross over. Your children will possess the nations and settle there. Desolate cities do not fear because you will not be ashamed. Do not be dismayed because you are not going to be disgraced. You will forget the shame of your youth and you will remember your disgrace no more.

Kent Mattox  
Word Alive International  
Outreach  
122 Allendale Road  
Oxford, Alabama 36203  
contact@wordalive.org  
256-831-5280



[www.wordalive.org](http://www.wordalive.org)





# THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM



**SADHU SUNDAR SELVARAJ**

The Body of Christ is mandated to preach the  
Gospel of the Kingdom of God

I declare to you in the name of the Lord Jesus that the set time has now come, the time for every servant of God to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, that time has now come.

*And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.*

*Matthew 24:14*

This is a direct command from God – the Lord Jesus Christ. I see a vision in my spirit as I write these things to you now. I see the Lord Jesus Christ regally seated on His throne. He holds in His right hand a royal blue colored container with a scroll in it. Lifting up His hands I hear Him say, “The people of God, the Body

of Christ is mandated to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God.”

When the Lord declared those words, I saw the hosts of heaven standing on the right-side and on the left side of the Throne of God. The hosts of heaven consist of the 24 Elders, Saints, different kinds of living creatures, and the angels. All of them bowed down before the throne of God and I heard a loud voice ring in heaven, “Yea, and amen, O Lord God.”

## **The Gospel**

What is the Gospel? The word ‘gospel’ in Greek is *evangelion* meaning *reward for good tidings*. Later, the meaning became known as *Good News*.



Good News of what? All of us are familiar with the word 'Good News.' What is the Gospel, or Good News? It is the Good News of salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ's birth, death, burial and resurrection. This was the message preached by the first century church (1 Cor 1:23). The greatest good news is God becoming man (1 Tim 3:16), which is the mystery of godliness – the God who is Spirit, the God who is light and fire, the God who dwells in unapproachable light whom no man can see and the God who fills the whole universe, humbled Himself and became man. This is the mystery of godliness that we have been preaching in these 2,000 years.

There are many different terms used for the word 'Gospel' in the New Testament. Firstly, just a simple word *Gospel* which is mentioned 15 times in the Bible. Secondly, the term, *Gospel of Jesus Christ* which is mentioned 12 times. Thirdly, the *Gospel of the Grace of God*, mentioned once. Fourthly, the *Gospel of God* mentioned 8 times. Fifthly, the *Gospel of the Kingdom*, mentioned 4 times. And sixthly, the *Eternal Gospel* mentioned once in the Bible.

These six different terms can be classified under three categories.

1. The Gospel of the Jesus Christ.
2. The Gospel of the Kingdom of God.

### 3. The Eternal Gospel (Rev 14:6).

This gospel is eternal because it will be preached for all ages throughout eternity. There are two facets to this eternal gospel. I want you to look at this Scripture again. What is the essence of the message in Revelation 14:6-7?

*Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people — saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."*

Revelation 14:6-7

There must be a reason why it is called Everlasting Gospel. If this gospel is only meant to be preached for the particular period of time of our lives till the Lord comes again, why call it everlasting?

In verse 6 we see two things, who is preaching that word and to whom it is been preached? But in verse 7, we find the Angel preaching the message saying "Fear God." Why fear God? Because the hour of His judgment has come.

Earlier I said that there are two facets to the eternal gospel. The first facet is called *repentance*



– calling the people back to repentance. In Matthew 3:2; Mark 1:4; Luke 3:3, we read that the very purpose and essence of the Prophet John the Baptist's message was repentance. The Bible further reveals that when the Lord Jesus Christ began His ministry, He too preached repentance (Matt 4:17). Why is repentance very important? So that we can be reconciled with God and be reinstated to the original state of Adam. Secondly, the Angel also preached saying, "give Him the glory." That means to acknowledge God as the only true living God and there is no other God beside Him. It also means, we must worship only the true living God. It is He who made the heavens and the earth; no other God did all that. That is the essence of the message of the eternal gospel.

Why is it so important to repent? The Lord Jesus Christ said very simply and very clearly that if we will not repent, we cannot see the Kingdom of God, neither can we enter into it (Jn 3:3,5). No matter how hard we try we can never get rid of the sin in us because it is in our spiritual DNA. That is why the Lord Jesus Christ came to die for us. He took our place; He became sin for us. Our sin was put on Him, and He died in our place. The blood of Jesus Christ has eternal life. When we apply that blood on our heart by faith we receive eternal life.

## **Gospel Of The Kingdom**

Now, let's look at the second aspect of the eternal gospel – the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven.

*Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."*

*Mark 1:14-15*

Observe what the Lord Jesus preached – the gospel of the kingdom of God. Why did the Lord also preach saying, "the time is fulfilled." What time was fulfilled or what time has come? Look at the message that the prophet John the Baptist preached. The Holy Bible tells us in Isaiah 40, that the prophet John the Baptist was sent by God to prepare the way for the Lord Jesus to come. These two prophets, John the Baptist and the Lord Jesus Christ, represent the two facets of the eternal gospel.

By reading each verse of Luke 3:2-18 carefully we find that he preached strongly about repentance. He did not perform any healings or miracles. But every message that he preached was exhortation towards repentance.

Soon after the prophet John the Baptist was put in prison and





later beheaded, the Lord Jesus Christ began His ministry (Mk 1:14). When the prophet John died 'that time' was fulfilled. The first phase of just preaching repentance is finished. Then the Lord Jesus Christ came to preach the second phase of the eternal gospel.

Please observe Mark 1:15 carefully: *Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God.* He took the message of repentance of the prophet John the Baptist and went further adding the second facet of the eternal gospel. The Lord not only preached repentance, but also preached the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Since the past 2000 years we have just been preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ towards repentance – the *gospel of salvation* (Rom 1:16; 1 Cor 1:18). It is also called the *gospel of peace*. Why peace?

*"But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation."*

*Ephesians 2:13-14*

The Gospel of Jesus Christ that the Lord Jesus has now brought peace and reconciled man with

God.

This Gospel of Jesus Christ has been preached for the last 2000 years, but this is not the Gospel of the Kingdom of Heaven. I know, I just shocked you, it's meant to shock you. A shock like this will open our eyes, our hearts, and our minds to understand the truth.

### ***What is the Gospel of the Kingdom?***

The Lord Jesus Christ Himself defined it as *the preaching of the good news that God's Kingdom is coming with power and great glory* (Matt 24:30; Mk 13:36). And the second part is praying for God's will to be done on the earth as it is done in His Kingdom (Matt 6:10). It is the praying of God's will to be done in heaven and on earth together at the same time.

When we pray this prayer the Lord taught us, like then the third aspect of the gospel of the kingdom takes place. That is, bringing the Kingdom of God that is in Heaven down to earth through us. Let me show you a mystery. In Luke 17:21 the Lord Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven is within us. And 2 Corinthians 6:16 says that our body is the temple of God, in which God dwells, walks in us and talks to us. God put His Kingdom inside us.

First, the Lord must rule in us,



and then bring that Kingdom of God's rule to the earth through us. That was the calling of Adam. Genesis 1:26 says that God gave him power over the air, the earth, and over the sea. That which he lost through sin, the Lord Jesus—the second Adam, regained through the Cross and said:

*"All power and authority is now given into My hands"*

*Matthew 28:18*

The Lord Jesus Christ, the second Adam, lived a perfect life of obedience, died in the place of man and took back the power and authority that Adam lost. Looking at His disciples, He said, "I have that power and authority now I give it to you, go into all the world and preach the gospel."

The Kingdom of God is not just preaching but is power (1 Cor 4:20). The Lord Jesus Christ was filled with this Kingdom power (Acts 10:38; Lk 4:14). We read in Acts 4:31 that the disciples were filled with this same Kingdom power.

How do we know that the Lord Jesus had this Kingdom power? The Lord Jesus Christ demonstrated the Kingdom's power by healing the sick and casting out demons (Matt 4:23; 9:23; 12:28). The disciples and later the apostles, too demonstrated the Kingdom's power by healing the sick and casting out demons (Acts 4:33;

5:12; 6:8; 14:3; Rom 15:19; 1 Cor 2:4).

### ***The Kingdom of God's Message***

What makes the Christian message unique? It is a *message of hope*. The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of Hope. Recently, after the death of the man of God Dr. Billy Graham, a very famous Indian actress died. At the height of her acting career it is reported that she said like this, "I do not know, if there is an afterlife, I don't know where I will go." That is the essence of many of the world's religions' message. But the Kingdom of God gives hope.

The Kingdom of God gives not one but four kinds of hope: "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away" (Rev 21:4).

1. *No sickness.* 1 Peter 2:24 tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ had healed us all when He died on the cross, everyone.
2. *No death.* Jesus Christ raised at least three people from the dead during His earthly ministry to prove that He is "the resurrection and the life" (Jn 11:35).
3. *No sorrow.* The Bible tells us that the Lord Jesus Christ gives us comfort (Jn 14:17).
4. *No more weeping.* The Lord Jesus Christ wipes away all



tears.

People of God, this is the Gospel of the Kingdom of God that the Lord Jesus Christ preached. The very first message the Lord preached when He began His ministry was about the gospel of the Kingdom (Matt 4:17; Mk 1:15). After His resurrection He spent 40 days with His disciples. During that period, He taught them things concerning the Kingdom of Heaven (Acts 1:3). And the very last message the Lord Jesus Christ preached before He died, was announcing that the Kingdom of Heaven is coming again with power and great glory (Matt 26:64; Mk 14:62).

People of God, the Kingdom of heaven is calling us to preach this message now—for that time has now come. We must preach this Gospel of the Kingdom because the time for the end has come (Matt 24:14). The preaching of the Gospel of the Kingdom will signal that we are very near to the end of the coming of the literal Kingdom of God.

### **What Should We Do Next?**

The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking (Rom 14:17). Many preachers – including me – have preached like this: “When you come to the Lord Jesus all your problems will be gone, you will have no lack, and everything will be good for you.” Which is all true to an extent. However, the Bible says that the Kingdom

of God is not in eating and drinking. Which means it's not just a life lying on a bed of roses. It is true that you will not suffer any lack, but that does not mean the church will feed you all the time. Once, about 20,000 and more people waited on the Lord Jesus continuously for three days listening to His messages (Jn 6:22-27). On the third day the Lord Jesus supernaturally multiplied food for all the 20,000 and more people to eat. Everyone ate to their hearts content. After getting free food from the Lord, huge crowd began to follow Him every day. Why? Not because of the wonderful teaching He was giving, but because they were getting free food every day. No need to work. Translate that to today, it will mean, you go to a church, the church feeds you three times, and the church gives you money to spend. Sadly, many churches do these kinds of things to bring people to their churches. Some poor people are promised free education, free clothing, free food, free money, if they will convert from their religion to Christianity. That is why in a nation like India, the orthodox Hindus criticize Christians that they are converting people through the inducement of money and benefits. To a large extent, very sadly, those accusations are true.

However, look at how the Lord Jesus Christ handled such a





situation. After eating free food, when a huge crowd followed Him, He turned around and looked at the crowd and rebuked them strongly and asked them a question, "Why are you following me? Is it because of the free food or because of the Word that I am preaching to you that are true?" People were shocked, because most of them followed Him because of the free food.

People of God, do not preach the gospel or do the works of the ministry inducing poor people with benefits so that they become your church members. The Lord Jesus told His followers, "If any man wants to follow me let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow after me," (Matt 16:24; Mk 8:34; Lk 9:23) and that's what we should tell everyone who comes to the church.

The Kingdom of God is not eating and drinking but is the demonstration of power, signs, wonders and miracles (1 Cor 4:20). When we preach the Kingdom of God that Kingdom of God is power and that power will flow through us to confirm the message that we preach.

For the past 2,000 years our messages have been full of weakness and our churches are largely weak, devoid of power. Why? It is because the Gospel of the Kingdom is not preached and

taught. But, when the Gospel of the Kingdom is preached and taught, the Kingdom of God which is power, will manifest to set people free. We must preach the Kingdom of God.

So, what must we do? I present to you the same counsel the Lord Jesus Christ gave His disciples.

*But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.*

Acts 1:8

Look at the first part of the Scripture, "you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." After we are baptized with the Holy Spirit, the next step is to get power. Don't just stop at talking in tongues. That is just the baby stage. We stop seeking God after the experience of talking in tongues. We don't continue to seek God more in prayer, we don't push for more of God, and we don't go deeper into the things of God to get the power of the Holy Spirit. Let's look at this principle from the life of the Lord Jesus Christ. In Luke 4:1 we read that the Lord Jesus Christ was baptized in the water and the Holy Spirit came upon Him and He was baptized with the Holy Spirit. And then He was led by the Holy Spirit to go to the wilderness to fast and pray. He was there in the wilderness



praying and fasting for 40 days. At the end of the fast when he came out of the wilderness, Luke 4:14 says that the Lord Jesus Christ returned in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We see here from the life of the Lord Jesus two experiences: first, He was baptized with the Holy Spirit, and second, He returned with the power of the Holy Spirit. Between these two experiences, there was a space of 40 days. During those 40 days He prayed earnestly for the power of God to rest upon Him. He also had to battle with the devil to overcome the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life (1 Jn 2:16).

As I was writing this portion, the Holy Spirit inspired me with this understanding: Adam lost the power of God due to falling to the temptation of the devil in the areas of the lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and pride of life (Gen 3:1-6). So, to regain it back, like

our Lord, we too must overcome the devil daily in the areas of the lust of the eyes, lust of the flesh and pride of life. This is the secret of, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me" (Lk 9:23). The Cross is the overcomers' power!

Pray earnestly that you too will be endured with the power from on high. Don't let God go, until He baptizes you with fire and with power. You may now ask: *How long do I need to seek God?* It all depends how earnest, hungry and desperate you are. Second, overcome the works of the devil – the deeds of the flesh – by crucifying it daily. Such a life of victory is only possible if we live a surrendered life like our Lord Jesus.

When the power of God comes upon you the Holy Spirit is going to do or rather the Lord Jesus Christ is going to do two things to you. He will pour the Holy Spirit like water upon you who will come with His nine gifts and He is going to cloth you with His seven-colored garment which are the seven Spirits of the Lord.

Sadhu Sundar Salvaraj  
Jesus Ministries | Angel TV

Villivakkam, Chennai,  
India

[www.jesusministries.org](http://www.jesusministries.org)  
[www.angletv.org](http://www.angletv.org)

