

The Church, The Whole Church, and Nothing But The Church, So Help Us, God- Part 6

AT Snacks-October 1, 2023, 2023

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I've been gone all week. I went down to the little town of West, Texas to do a funeral service for Becky Oglesby's dad. Be praying for Becky and her family. Becky and her girls live in Vernon, and you know, Jimmy, her husband, went to heaven earlier this year, and now her dad. They're going to be OK, but it doesn't hurt to throw a prayer up for them.

I believe in the gathering together of God's people. I believe that the Church is going to be a glorious Church. Are you with me?

A lot of people are so rapture-minded, and they have their focus on that. They buy the next book about somebody predicting when Jesus is coming back. That part is a waste of time, because the Bible says, "*no man knows the day or the hour*", Matthew 24:26.

There is something happening in the earth. It's God! This is a good thing. There is an all out assault on the heart of man. That's a good thing. God wants your heart. That's what it's all about.

We talked about how the church is forming and shaping, not just here, but all over. It blesses me to hear what's happening in our pockets, other places, other expressions of the body of Christ.

It's a really, really critical time, and the stakes are really, really high. If you're not careful, you'll get overcome or distracted or obsessed with all the dark stuff and it puts you in a bad mood. You've probably have that already a time or two.

Apologies aren't meant to change the past. They are meant to change the future.

We're in the end times, and all the stuff you see out there are indicators and a result of the two kingdoms, the kingdom of man, or the kingdom of the world, and the Kingdom of God clashing together. And we know who's going to come out on top on that.

Paul Revere rode through the streets, calling, "*The British are coming*"! The difference between that message and this message is, the Kingdom is already here. The Awakening is already here. This house ought to be more prepared than any house I know of, to participate, full fledged, in what God's doing.

I've said the awakening is here, but the church is asleep. I think there's still a lot of people, maybe even in our own household, who still are a little dull of hearing.

One of the things that I believe God has said is that we, the body of Christ in our area, has an opportunity for God to use our area, this region, to be an example to the whole world. That's a big deal.

“Lord, if it’s You, bid me to come to you”, Matthew 14: 28. You know, Jesus had to love that. You ought to pray some of those dangerous prayers, and watch what God does in your life, and around you.

There was an atmosphere around Jesus that was 100% charged with agape, unconditional love. And even though Peter made a greater failure than anybody in this room would ever make in their lives, something got fixed in him that day. Less than two months later, Peter had become the foremost voice on the whole planet, as it relates to the advancement of the Kingdom of God.

“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word”, 1 Peter 2:2. Have you tasted? Did you just hear about it, or have you tasted it?

“But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous life, who were once not a people, but are now the people of God, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy”, 1 Peter 2: 9-10.

“God has determined our pre-appointed times, and the boundaries of our dwelling”, Acts 17:26. I hope you catch the weight of this, the gravity of this. You are handpicked by God for this very generation that you live in. He’s betting the spiritual well-being of the entire planet on you, and people like you.

I really believe that I am expressing to you, when I come up here on Sunday, the heart of the Father. It’s important to me. I gave my life for this. And I believed all along that God was doing something significant with this little group of people, right here in this house.

If the world is going to get better, it’s going to get better only because the people of God wake up. It’s about the church. It’s not about the church as an organization. It’s about the church as an organism, the only organism that’s designed to give the world hope.

That’s the responsibility. You’re going to have as much authority as you will take responsibility for.

If you’re just around here so you can get to heaven, you’re going to get tired of me talking about this stuff. In fact, this might not be the place for you, if you don’t think the churches need to rise up, wake up and change the world.

A lot of people are, again, so rapture-minded that they are missing what God is doing right now. We have a huge percentage, more than half, of the whole body of Christ wanting off the planet. And all the time, God’s trying to get on it, through the people.

For anyone to think that the church is going to just keep going downhill, and He’s going to come back to it, really? I mean, really? Jesus said, *“I’ll build My Church”*, Matthew 16: 18. Do you think He was talking about a church that you can’t get anything done with? With no power, and doesn’t love anybody? Come on!

You’re chosen. You’re hand-picked, for this generation. You’re a royal priesthood. Kings and priests. I mean real royal blood. You are descendants of The King. The King of Kings. We should act like it.

You carry something greater than you're even aware of. The presence of God is on you. You are here to show the world Who God is, what He looks like, what He acts like. That's why you have to get your hard work done.

When you go into a room, you have to be aware of it a little bit. When you come into a situation, when you're invited to pray for someone, when you walk into the hospital room, when you walk in, the atmosphere changes, because of you. It's the Kingdom of God coming.

Where is the Kingdom of God? It's within you! It's out there too, but it's within you. You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation.

A lot of the church is still asleep. I'm going to commission you to do this. You don't have to do anything. All you have to do is be in a receiving mode. I'm going to give you this, because I think the Lord told me, that whoever we wanted to give this to, we can give it to.

Wherever you go, you can lose the awakening. You can do it. **But will you?**

It's a growing nation of Kingdom people, and He's using you to grow it. It's a nation, a holy nation, people who know God, not just know about Him. He wants to be known. If you seek Him, you'll find him.

An east Texas prophet once said, *"The church has become way to familiar with the God we barely know"*.

The people who are going to do the heavy lifting are the people who know God. Knowing about Him is good. But it's not enough.

Some of you have already made the choice. You understand the weight of the call. You have a grasp on where the church is, and where God wants the Church to go.

You have to watch out for spiritual pride. It's the ugliest kind of all, and it's the thing that will kill a move of God quicker than any other thing.

It's not about any of us. It's about Him. His own special people. He does it, and they cooperate, *"that you might proclaim the praises of Him Who called you out"*, 1 Peter 2:9. It's what's in their heart. It's what's on their lips. What they think about and talk about.

What's in your heart? What are your thoughts? What are you thinking about? What are you talking about?

"Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks", Luke 6:45. That would be the thing that you think about and talk about. It would be what's on your lips, what in your heart, what on your mind, is the Awakening.

All the darkness, all the negativity, all the sin gone rampant that you see in the world is a demonic attempt to keep the Church distracted, to keep the Church out of being what the Church is supposed to be.

I believe that our generation could see the greatest move of God there's ever been on the planet. It needs to happen, worse than ever before. Darkness and sin is at a rate that the world has never seen before. We're seeing stuff right now, daily, that we never thought we would ever see in America, or the world.

In the middle of all this, the Church is quietly, silently rising up. There's a silent revolution taking place. There's a silent revolution.

1 John 2:15-17, *"Don't love the world, or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the Love of the Father is not in him. For all that's in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world is passing away and the lust of it, but he who does the will of God abides forever"*.

I think we're living in a time now that it's not going to take long for man's plans to be exposed. Any place, any group, any organization, any family, any person, any business that has excluded God and His influence, is right now in the process of imploding.

There's never been a more critical time. And God has made it where it's easy for us to hear Him. You just have to do it. You have to make it a priority.

It's the Church's responsibility to displace darkness with light. That only comes through personal and relational interaction with the Father.

Jesus said, *"I'll build My Church"*, Matthew 16:18. He won't reach over the church and do what He's given the Church the authority and the power to do. It's us. Our number came up.

"For our God is a consuming fire", Hebrews 12:29. He's after your heart. He's burning up everything in you. That's why it's uncomfortable sometimes, because He's burning up everything in you that doesn't fit, doesn't look like Jesus.

If the church doesn't rise up, and rise up soon, the human race is in for some dark, dark times. It's the one organism on the planet that God has designed to give the world hope.

Let's not destroy people's hope. Let's give them hope. The longer it takes to correct the course of the Church, the longer and harder it's going to be to turn the ship around. The clock is ticking.

What can you do? Let Him have unlimited access to your heart. Be able to tell your story. Make a Kingdom difference whenever and wherever you can. Minister, when the door opens. When the door opens, we step through the door.

But never be pushy. Just be available to the Lord. It might be the most important thing, the fact that you're just available. If you're available, you don't have to look for ministry. Ministry comes to you.

When God opens the door for you to pray for someone, you don't have to be a professional. You don't have to pray a King James prayer. Just say, *"Lord, I haven't done this very much. But my friend here, his wife is going through a tough time with her health. I don't know what to do, except Your word says that by Jesus's stripes we are healed. I don't even really know how to ask. I just believe that I've seen what You've done in my life. I think you can fix her"*.

The Lord loves those kinds of prayers. You know why? Because they are real. They are not orchestrated. They are not written down often. It's off the cuff. It's coming out of your heart. God loves that kind of thing. Ministry will come to you.

Our area, our region, is experiencing something extremely profound. It's a revolutionary concept that there's one Church. There's neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, carry it out: rich or poor, baptist or Pentecostal. We're all ONE. It's a concept that only makes sense to a Kingdom person.

Our area is experiencing something extremely, spiritually, spiritually profound. If you're paying attention, you can see that's happening. God is calling you to be an important part of it.

"Draw near, Hang on". There's some people who are just hanging on now. Because they've caught what it is that God is doing. We're going to do the best that we can to do what God is saying, We don't have a preconceived idea what it's going to be, except that it's going to be glorious.