

“THE MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”

“The Lord he is God, the Lord he is God.” (Verse 39)

“IS THE WORLD EVANGELIZED YET?”

- C. The assumption by some that the world is now evangelized, and therefore the signs are no longer needed, is so obviously far removed from the truth that it needs no refutation.
1. The facts simply are that the population of the heathen nations is multiplying at such a fantastic rate that unless the dissemination of the Gospel is speeded by some means, the fulfillment of the Great Commission can never be accomplished.
 2. Over the history of the Church, the only successful means of mass evangelism that ever has been demonstrated is that of the ministry of the Holy Spirit and His manifestations of healing and miracles.
 3. I would be the last to criticize any sincere effort to reach the heathen, such as the use of medical missionaries and the building of schools and hospitals.
 - a. The truth is, these means are good but entirely too slow if we are to reach the heathen in our generation.
 - b. With the increase of wars and mass murder over the world, we are being challenged to reach out in “power” and let Jesus demonstrate His power manifestations.

{LESSON 4B} {7/13/2008}

“THE CHURCH IS HAVING TO FACE THE TRUTH”

- VIII. Why not face the truth? The real reason the manifestations of the Spirit are missing from the Church is because the Church has been satisfied without them.
- A. It is my firm belief that the Church needs to realize that she is the Body of Christ, and without the manifestations of the Spirit in her midst, she can never fulfill her destiny.
1. As Paul admonished Timothy to stir up the gift that was in him, so we today need to awaken the Church to the fact that Christ has been given

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the gift of the Holy Spirit and that Christ has set certain manifestations in His Body, and we do well to put them into action.

“THE RETURN OF THE MANIFESTATIONS ANTICIPATED”

- B. Bible scholars of the 19th Century realized that the disappearance of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit from the main body of the Church was due to the spirit of lethargy and from lukewarmness.
1. They looked forward to and even predicted a last-day outpouring of the Spirit, and with it a reappearance of the nine manifestations from God.
 2. Michael Baxter, founder of the Christian Herald, writing in the year 1866, in his famous book Baxter’s Forty Wonders said: *“ Increased faith to work miracles....and unparalleled boldness in preaching the gospel, will characterize the coming Pentecostal outpouring of the Spirit – the various gifts of the Spirit were bestowed upon pastors, prophets, evangelists, teachers, for the perfecting of the saints, and the gathering and completing of a perfect Church. But this end is not yet attained, therefore these gifts cannot altogether have ceased, or been entirely withdrawn, although they have been suspended and temporarily withdrawn as mark of displeasure for the apostalizing of the church from her first love.”*
 3. Many of Mr. Baxter’s predictions have been startlingly fulfilled, and the above words of prophecy came true at the turn of this century.
 - a. The great Pentecostal outpouring, beginning in America, spread out over the world, and with it a new manifestation of the gifts.
 - b. Some of those who were most used in this outpouring, however, saw a greater move of the supernatural yet to come.
 4. In the book, NEW ZEALAND’S GREATEST REVIVAL, by Roberts, said of a fellow brother who remarked to Smith Wigglesworth, *“one is tempted to envy you when you have had such great success.”*
 - a. He received the following reply from Wigglesworth: *“Young man, it is the other way around. I feel like envying you. I have had three visions*

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– three only. The first two have already come to pass, but the third is yet to be fulfilled. I will most likely pass on to my reward, but you are a young man and will most likely be in what I saw.’ He burst out, ‘O it was amazing.’ He was asked what was amazing. ‘O’, he said, ‘I cannot tell God’s secrets. But you remember what I say – this revival we have had is nothing to what God is yet going to do.’ The one to whom Brother Wigglesworth addressed these words commented: ‘It was quite evident that the evangelist had a special vision granted him of the coming outpouring of the Spirit in an unprecedented effusion in the days just before our Lord comes to snatch away the Church.’”

“THE COMING REVIVAL PREDICTED”

“NOT A PRODUCT OF THE ESTABLISHED SYSTEM”

C. Dr. Charles S. Price, noted evangelist of yesteryear, said in a sermon he preached shortly before his death: *“Yesterday we sang, ‘Showers of Blessing’, but now we are waiting for the deluge! It is coming and nothing can stop it. Like every previous outpouring, this glorious experience which is about burst upon the world will not be the product of any established system. Established systems may experience it and enjoy it and flow along in the clear stream of its beautiful, onward flowing. Even then they may not do it as a system, but only as the multiplied thousands within their borders, who are hungry for God and are spiritually conscious of the fact that there is more to follow. ‘You have thought, have you not, that you have been in some glorious healing service? Perhaps you have and for them we praise the Lord, But wait a little while. I declare unto you that God is going to do better in your tomorrow than He has ever done in the past.’”*

“THE CHURCH NEEDS TO FACE ITS FEAR”

“THE MANIFESTATIONS ARE NOT OF THE DEVIL”

D. One of the primary reasons that hold back some in the Church from the operation of manifestation by the Holy Spirit is an almost morbid fear of the devil.

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1. These believers see demonic power and delusion everywhere, even in the manifestations of the Holy Spirit.
2. Now, I would be the first to admit that there are many deceiving spirits in this world.
 - a. However, the Scriptures give us the means to test the spirits and discern which is not from God.
 - b. This is bore out in 1 John 4: 1-3 AMP: **“Beloved, Do not put faith in every spirit, but prove (test) the spirits to discover whether they proceed from God; for many false prophets have gone forth into the world. V2, By this you may know (perceive and recognize) the Spirit of God: every spirit which acknowledges and confesses [the fact] that Jesus Christ (the Messiah) [actually] has become man and has come in the flesh is of God [has God for its source]; V3, And every spirit which does not acknowledge and confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh [but would annul, destroy, sever, disunite Him] is not of God [does not proceed from Him]. This [non confession] is the [spirit] of the antichrist, [of] which you heard that it was coming, and now it is already in the world.”**
3. Those who fear that if they sought the manifestations of the Spirit, they might receive something from the devil, should remember Christ’s words in Luke chapter 11.
 - a. **“If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”** (Luke 11:11-13)
 - b. Here, we see Jesus pointing out that if an earthly father gives good gifts unto his children, certainly the Heavenly Father will not do worse by His children!