

## Don't Miss God in the Turn...

**T**here have been many prophecies, sermons, teachings, conferences, and discussions over the last several months concerning a "shift" taking place in the heavenlies - that God is moving in a new direction, and that He has called for a "shift" in the atmosphere of our lives. **NO MORE BUSINESS AS USUAL!**

It is not coincidence that we continue to have issues in our American economy, as well as in the economy of the world. As a country, we are still battling over issues regarding marriage, healthcare, education, and employment. And now that we are in an election year, and a new presidential campaign is underway, more and more issues are uncovered as potential candidates expose the weaknesses of our leaders and the flaws of our nation. Still, God has called for a shift.

The ever-changing weather patterns - earthquakes, hurricanes, and flooding - all mark a shift in the natural atmosphere. God is allowing this convergence in our political climate, social agendas, natural environment, and even our personal lives to get our attention. It is as if He is saying in an audible voice, **"STOP!" "I AM DOING A NEW THING, CAN YOU NOT SEE IT?"** Rather than making this turn with God, many of us are struggling with holding on to old patterns of thinking, and selfish living. Some of us are holding on to relationships that were given in one season, but are forbidden in the next. As a result, we have not repented, and without even fully realizing it, we are missing God in the turn.

In our church community, we often sing a song entitled, "Lord, Whatever You're Doing in this Season, Don't Do it Without Me". When we hear it, we're compelled, some to our feet, others to our knees, singing with one voice and yielded to God. Yet, with all of our fervor, if we do not repent and turn, He will do it without us, and we may miss Him in the turn.

I am reminded of Jesus in the Gospel of Mark as He taught parables to the multitudes, while sitting in a boat out at sea. Jesus taught them the parable of the sower. And God reminds us today of this parable as we consider the hearing of God's Word, and His current call to the Body of Christ.

There is a Word from the Lord, and the call is to *shift, repent, and change direction*. We can either receive this Word, or be like the various types of soil in the parable of the sower who, being caught up with the issues of this world, missed God in the turn:

*"The farmer sows the word. Some people are like seed along the path, where the word is sown. As soon as they hear it, Satan comes and takes away the word that was sown in them. Others, like seed sown on rocky places, hear the word and at once receive it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Still others, like seed sown among thorns, hear the word; but the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for other things come in and choke the word, making it unfruitful. Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown."* Mark 4: 14-20

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When we hear a Word from the Lord, we can either reject it or accept it. Accepting the Word in our hearts is like seed falling on good ground. For when we hear it and accept it, it will bear fruit; it will produce a bountiful crop in our lives.

We are being called to accept His Word and to become firmly engaged in Kingdom business. This requires our complete and full attention now. Any delay in obedience, is disobedience. For God is calling us, not just to personal revival, but to a corporate awakening, to prepare us for the end-time harvest that is before us.

To prepare for this harvest will require personal sacrifice, submission, sanctification, and service. It requires that we know who we are in the Kingdom, and that we are actively preparing for duty. This is the season of turning, for putting off all personal agendas, desires and ambitions to embrace God's call to prepare for the harvest of souls that is to come. *We must lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.* (Hebrews 12: 1-2)

The world is hungry and thirsty for the reality of Jesus Christ, but do not yet know it. Our ability to accurately present Jesus in the earth will either bring unbelievers to Him or send them away. If we are to have any part in Christ, and in this harvest, we must come into unity with Jesus, and unity with His Body. We must walk in the power of His love, and allow His presence and His power to draw them into the Kingdom. It is into this calling, that each of us is being asked to commit in this hour.

So, let us pray that we will not miss God in the turn. Let us fervently pray for one another that as He calls, we will answer - we will receive His Word, accept His Word, and allow it to produce a crop in our lives that will yield abundant fruit.

*Most gracious Father, You have authorship and final authority in our lives. May we recognize the voice of our Shepherd, and as His sheep, may we cooperate with Your Spirit, to hear Your voice and obey. May we not miss You in this current shift, holding on to that which is the former and has now passed away. May we be caught up in Your plans and purposes for this season. Make us fully alert and prepared for a coming corporate awakening and the end-gathering of souls for Your Kingdom. May we be rooted and firmly established in Your Kingdom, and may we be used mightily to accomplish in the earth, Your will, to the honor and glory of Your name! This is our prayer, in the name of the Anointed One, Jesus - Amen.*