## Come Let us help rebuild the church from the ground up

Instead of church-bashing we have to all help rebuild the church from the ground up in accordance with Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 4:7-16; 1 Corinthians 3:11-17; 2 Corinthians 6:16-18; 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 Galatians 2:9; 1Timothy 3:15

At least four things work together to bring about spiritual maturity in disciples. These are attitude (inclination of the heart), gifting, competence and opportunity to serve. Two of these - competence and opportunity - are within our means and ability to change and the other two - attitude and gifting - are beyond our means. Only the Holy Spirit can change the attitude of a person's heart and only God can give the gifts we need to serve and prepare for the coming kingdom. – Matthew 24:14 So let's work within our means.

Of course the Holy Spirit can work through people to change attitudes and He usually does work through people. But the Holy Spirit remains the one in control. Those who make themselves available to Him are only the channel through which He may choose to work. They are not in control. Most certainly all good gifts come from God and God alone. God creates opportunities for us to serve but we can also seek and find opportunities. That's why we are told to go and find the lost sheep of the house of Israel and wake them up. - Ezekiel chapter 37; Matthew chapter 10 and 29:19-20; Luke 15:4

All four things are needed to work together to bring about spiritual maturity, but competence is the one and only thing that now limits our growth. We can have the best gifts; attitude and opportunities but still fail to reach spiritual maturity if we are spiritually incompetent. Spiritual incompetence results from lack of spiritual training and lack of spiritual training results from lack of spiritual trainers among church leadership. The leaders today have the right attitude, gifting and opportunity to serve but lack spiritual training and competence themselves. It's not their fault for being spiritually incompetent. They are really doing the best they can with the means they have available and they can be complimented for that. But they inadvertently set the wrong priorities or expectations and tolerate the same heresies or delusional thinking they are under. However, better competence training is now available and so there's a better way. - Revelations 11:1-3. Church leaders are only at fault when they neglect or reject proper and regular spiritual training for themselves. Only those receiving regular spiritual training themselves are equipped to provide proper training for others.

How do we recognize those who are more competent and those with the right attitude? We have to use the gift of the Prophet's Staff (Revelations 11:1-3). Without the Prophet's Staff we cannot reliably and objectively identify the true prophets, test and confirm their authenticity and learn from their authority. Then we all remain incompetent as spiritual trainers and leaders. We inadvertently train disciples to become spiritual adolescents who remain dependent on others or think they know everything; but they never reach the adult stage of spiritual maturity where they know the truth and are revealed as Sons of God.

## Recovering from the near fatal blow

You will notice that the correct Hebrew names originally given to God and our Saviour are used in this text as well as English transliterations familiar to English speaking readers. If you find this difficult to assimilate, please be aware that the Greek terms we typically see as transliterations are not English equivalents of the Hebrew meaning but clumsy transliterations from Greek or pagan substitutes for the Hebrew words. This renaming is unnecessary (unless we include the original names) and it's impolite to those who know and understand the rich meaning of the original Hebrew names. So for example if you named your son "Tiger" and some foreigners transliterated that name to "XIGA" because that's the way they hear and pronounce "Tiger," your son would find that difficult to assimilate and the real meaning of his name would soon be lost in the foreign language. That is exactly what has happened to the original Hebrew names. So let's respect Jewish or Hebrew speaking disciples of Yeshua (Jesus) and with a little extra effort, include the original names with the English transliterations.

According to prophecy and history, Yeshua (Jesus to Greeks) dealt the antichrist an almost fatal blow. Satan was cast out of heaven (Luke 10:18 John 12:31 Revelations 12:7-8) But the antichrist also dealt the body of our Messiah a near fatal blow when he killed almost all the true apostles and prophets that Yeshua (Jesus) trained, commissioned and sent. Many false apostles and prophets stepped in to fill the leadership vacuum that was left in the body of our Messiah. (2 Corinthians 11 and 1 John 2:18-19 and 4:1) According to prophecy and history, the antichrist recovered and continued to oppress and kill the saints of YHWH for nearly two millennia, while many false apostles and prophets continued to deceive the unwitting followers throughout history. But today, after lying unconscious for centuries, the body of our Messiah is ready to rise up. We are about to be resuscitated, (Ezekiel chapter 37) anointed, (Revelations 7:1-8) re-armed with the armour of God (Ephesians 6:8-18) and commissioned (Matthew chapter 10 and 29:19-20) to prepare for our final victory. Our weapons will now be better than those used against us, Yeshua, Jesus, our leader much greater than His enemies and so our hope in victory is assured at last.

We might not yet have such mighty prophets and apostles of old in our congregations, but we now have available to us this gift, (a measuring reed, the Prophet's staff), a spiritual weapon to test those who go by the title of prophets and apostles, to expose fakes, to more effectively break down spiritual strongholds and to advance the Kingdom of YHWH. We have now received a commission to be part of the process of measuring (according to Revelations 11:2) the worshippers and servants of YHWH and discover those who have surrendered and sacrificed themselves on the altar. As we help in the process of measuring we will reveal the Sons of YHWH (God) whom He is preparing to prophesy. It will require wisdom and a little more effort at first to appreciate this spiritual weapon and a special focus to appropriate it. But once we become skilled at using this spiritual weapon our efforts and perseverance will allow us to sharpen discernment, to accurately test the spirits, effectively break down spiritual strongholds and to prophesy.

Preaching to large crowds was the corporate method Yeshua (Jesus) and his apostles (ambassadors) used to make converts. Personal discipleship training in small groups of converts was the method to raise them to maturity. The latter is sadly lacking in churches

today and the result is obvious – we have built a Mega church that's spiritually asleep. The prophet's staff reveals those rare disciples who are awake. Even those who are waking up might not yet be fully awake! The prophet's staff will wake them up.

Most churches, including Catholic, Orthodox, traditional Protestant, and Pentecostal churches have indoctrinated their followers with a foreign religion, a gross distortion of the message which Yeshua (Jesus) and the apostles taught. These churches preach the fear of hell and eternal damnation into the hearts of their followers and teach them to rely on the church and its priests, ministers or pastors to assure them of salvation from damnation through various different means, each church offering a different set of prayers, rituals and rules as the hope and route to salvation. Through fear, guilt, discomfort and force of habit most followers are driven to church each Sunday, not by the grace of YHWH God, the love of Jesus (Yeshua) and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus (Yeshua) and his ambassadors taught a different faith, hope and gospel - the true message of God YHWH for the whole world. They taught that this world is under the control of the enemies of God YHWH, so in this world we will always be troubled by famine, sickness, war, oppression, hatred, rejection, persecution, violence, earthquakes, floods and tsunami's. But when we become true disciples of Yeshua (Jesus), and start listening and obeying His instructions, we become more like Him, we are called out from the world to become Sons of God YHWH. Then, in the vacuum we leave behind in the world, the enemies of God YHWH find more opportunity for perpetrating more deception, ignorance and evil. So the world will become more troubled and those left in the world will suffer from more famine, sickness, war, oppression, hatred, rejection, violence, etc. In other words, as righteousness increases among those called out from the world, wickedness and suffering increases among those left in the world. As wickedness and suffering increases, more sleeping believers wake up to the fact that the church is lukewarm and weak, that their priests, pastors and ministers had misled them. They start reading the word of God and enquiring of the true prophets to find out what's happening in the crazy, deluded world around them.

Most churches including Catholic, Orthodox, traditional Protestant, and Pentecostal churches have indoctrinated their followers with a religion that says that the goal of the church is to make the world a better place by trying to oppose evil, deception and ignorance; an impossible task - the kingdom of the antichrist cannot be reformed. Jesus (Yeshua) and his ambassadors taught another gospel. They said leave evil, deception and ignorance behind. Don't fight to reform them but demonstrate personal goodness, knowledge and truth wherever you are accepted and then YHWH God will eventually use the growing evil, deception and ignorance in the world to destroy the kingdom of the antichrist. This is not our war; this is His but we are His foot soldiers. When we fully obey all the instructions Jesus (Yeshua) gave us, then YHWH God will do the rest.

## Shalom Michael John Molynaux

The task before us is to rebuild the church from the ground up. If anyone feels called to help in this spiritual work please contact me in New Zealand, Tel. Int. Code 011 +64274038561 or email me at mike.molyneaux@xtra.co.nz