Church in Regina September 17, 2017

Doing Everything according to the Leading, Working and Speaking of the Spirit, Honoring the Lord as the Head of the Body for His Unique Move, and Being Balanced by the Body to Be Kept in Its Unique Oneness

Everything that we do in our Christian life – and especially in what relates to our bearing the ultimate responsibility for the Lord's ultimate move – must be according to the leading, working, and speaking of the Spirit. We want to be those who participate with the Lord in His move and bear the ultimate responsibility in a pure way, so we need to let His word purify us and keep us in the way of God's economy in the purest way possible. We need to see **the Spirit** and **the Body**, being those who do everything in the Spirit and for the Body. If we don't see the Body, we will merely have social gatherings with good Scriptural content when we meet with the saints. If we don't see that the Spirit produces the Body and the Body is baptized in the Spirit and drinks of the Spirit (1 Cor. 12:13), our Christian life will be empty. The Body of Christ comes out of the Spirit; we all have been baptized into one Spirit in one Body, and now we are all drinking of this one Spirit.

When we speak of the Body of Christ, we need to have a deep realization that the Body is uniquely one, and for us to be in the Body in reality we need to live according to the leading, working, and speaking of the Spirit. If we don't do everything according to the leading, working, and speaking of the Spirit, we may live a religion and not a genuine Christian life in oneness with the Lord. To be religious is to do something for God yet without the Spirit; it is to do a good thing "for God" or "in God's name" apart from the Spirit.

## Not a Movement but a Living Move of a Living Person

In the book of Acts we see nothing of a movement but the living move of the living person of Jesus, and this living person is the Holy Spirit. For example, after the Holy Spirit set aside Barnabas and Saul (in this order) for the work He called them to do, they went to a place and a sorcerer confronted them (see Acts 13:9-10). Immediately, Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak to him, rebuking him in the name of the Lord. In Acts 13:2 we see Barnabas being mentioned before Paul, and in v. 9 Paul took the lead to speak; Barnabas and Paul didn't hold a special meeting to decide who to speak, who to take the lead, etc – it was Paul who spoke, being filled with the Holy Spirit.

Barnabas didn't say, Paul, you studied at the feet of Gamaliel, you know the word of God better, so you should take the lead in speaking...rather, it was the one who was right then and there filled with the Holy Spirit that spoke. As they went and did things, the apostles didn't follow a schedule, they didn't hold conferences and meetings, and they didn't decide things – they simply sought to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and there was the living move of the living person of Jesus with them. In the Lord's move today – in His ultimate move toward Europe to gain many golden lampstands as His shining expression before Antichrist comes – we need to rely not on meetings or conferences where we decide things but rather seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit and let the living person of Jesus take the lead in us as the Spirit.

The principle is not who is older should take the lead nor who is more learned that should speak first; rather, if we have the Holy Spirit filling us, He will speak through us, but if we are not filled with the Holy Spirit, we should be quiet. Unfortunately, when we are not filled with the Holy Spirit, what we may have is a "democratic church life" in which there's human discussion, the decision of the majority, and voting to do this or that, or elect this one or that one in a certain position of responsibility.

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May the Lord save us from the influence of the degraded Christianity and the corrupted and immoral world, and may we just seek to be filled with the Holy Spirit so that we may be in the living move of the Lord Jesus who is the Spirit today! We do not want to have a movement called "the Lord's move to Europe"; what we want is to be in the living move of the living person of the Lord Jesus by being filled with the Holy Spirit!

## Honor the Lord and Praying until we are clear about His Leading

Although the Lord has burdened us to go and preach the gospel of the kingdom to the whole inhabited earth (Matt. 24:14), we must not turn this into a movement but rather contact the Lord, pray, wait on Him, and stay before Him until we are clear concerning His leading what to do and where to go. The Lord has entrusted us with the present truth, the central revelation of God, and the complete gospel,...Therefore, we need to do a work in three stages: in the stage of incarnation to produce sons of God by preaching the gospel, in the stage of inclusion to establish churches, and in the stage of intensification to produce overcomers and build up the Body of Christ.

However, even though we are commissioned and equipped to go, we should still not initiate anything but contact the Lord, wait on Him, and honor the Lord as the Head of the Body. Any decisions that we make by ourselves for others are an insult to the Spirit; if we have done this, we need to repent before the Lord and, if necessary, even ask others to forgive us because we gave them instructions about what they should do.

None of us should ever tell others where they should go – this is an insult to the Lord! What we should do is **go** to the Lord, **pray**, **wait on Him**, and **honor** the Lord as the Head of the Body, and we should also encourage others to contact the Lord in a personal way. If we advise others to go somewhere and they move there without consulting the Lord, we have usurped the position of the Lord and we made ourselves as Lord; this is the greatest insult to the Lord. We need to personally seek the Lord, contact Him, and help others to contact Him, pray, and seek His leading concerning what to do and where to go.

But the Lord Jesus always took the way of spending time with the Father. When the whole village was gathered at the door and waiting for Him, He rose up early in the morning and went away to pray alone with the Father (Mark 1:35); when others sought for Him and told Him to come because everyone is waiting for Him, He had different instructions from the Father. In Matt. 14, after feeding the five thousand, the Lord compelled the disciples to get into a boat and go on the other side, while He sent the crowds away and went to spend time alone with the Father.

We may be burdened and led of the Lord to move somewhere or to work on the campuses, but we need to bring this matter to the Lord, pray, offer ourselves to Him again, and ask Him for His leading where to go. We need to pray until we are clear about the Lord's leading; we all need to be brought into the Lord's presence to contact Him. The Lord may be moving to Europe and to the campuses, and He may lead many to go, but perhaps in His sovereignty He may not allow us to go; this will be a proof that what is taking place among us is not a movement but absolutely a matter of the Lord's leading.

Lord Jesus, we want to cooperate with You in Your ultimate move by honoring You as the Head of the Body and being balanced by the Body to be kept in its unique oneness. Amen, Lord, we want to hold You as the Head, being intimately related to You and seeking to have Your leading where to move in oneness with You. We want to be balanced by the Body by having thorough fellowship with the Body to have the feeling of the Body concerning us. Lord, keep us in prayer and fellowship with You and the saints in the Body for Your ultimate move! (Excerpt from the Ministry of the Word: Special Fellowship Concerning the World Situation)