Walk In Faithfulness

Joel 2:28-30

"Then, after doing all those things,

I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions. ²⁹ In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants - men and women alike. ³⁰ And I will cause wonders in the heavens and on the earth - blood and fire and columns of smoke."

I am convinced the end of this age is quickly approaching. However, this is not an hour of gloom, this is the hour of God's glory! The Body of Christ is writing the final pages of the history of the Church. We are about to witness the most magnificent display of God's power that the earth has ever seen. God told Moses in Numbers 14:21, "...as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the Glory of the Lord."

Every Generation has had its role to play in God's ultimate plan. In the time of Moses, God manifested His power on behalf of the children of Israel in such spectacular ways that they commanded the respect of the Egyptians. When he led the Israelites out of bondage, they were truly regarded as God's people because of the unquestionable show of God's supernatural power.

<u>I believe that our Generation will experience that same</u> high privilege. The day has come for God to raise up the Body of Christ, the Glorious Church without spot or wrinkle. <u>The Church in the Last Day will command the</u>

respect of the world because it has the miraculous power of God in manifestation with signs and wonders!

Moses was faithful. God needed his obedience. Moses' job was to stretch out his hand in the earth and command the will of God to be done. God had to have someone who was loyal and would dare act on His Word. When Moses stretched out his hand, God extended His hand and performed miracles and signs and wonders! God needs faithful, obedient people in this hour because He is going to once again show Himself strong in the earth.

God revealed Himself to the children of Israel as the covenant-keeping God Jehovah. He performed whatever signs and wonders necessary to bring them out of the bondage of Egypt. God needed Moses. They worked together. God used Moses because he knew His way, as seen in Psalm 103:7, "He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the children of Israel." Listen; if Moses had not been faithful to know God's ways, the children of Israel would never have seen His acts. Moses' heart was loyal toward God and he made himself available to God.

In our day, the Spirit of God is dealing with us much in the same way as He did with Moses. We have experienced a move in the Body of Christ in which God has taught us His ways. We have learned to live according to His Word. We have been taught to walk by faith and not by sight because God needs a body of people who have a solid foundation in His Word. He needs those who will not be blown to and fro by

every wind of doctrine. He needs those who have made God's Word the final authority in their lives. Those who know how to depend on His Word will be the backbone of this move of the Spirit.

<u>I believe that we are the generation, which will usher in</u> the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. Before He comes, God will manifest Himself more intensely than He did in the time of Moses. He will pour out His Spirit on all flesh. Think of it - the Spirit of God revealing Himself to flesh!

The greatest thing that Satan has had to use against the Church since Calvary is the weakness of the flesh. He has had to depend on deception through the weakness of man's flesh in order to be effective in his work. His power in the spirit realm was broken when Jesus was quickened with eternal life and raised from the dead. Legally, Satan's hold over mankind was broken forever by the Lord Jesus Christ!

God has revealed Himself to our generation in the Spirit. We have learned to hear God in our spirit and to know Him by His Word. For the most part, He has not revealed Himself in a way that we could see, hear, or feel in the natural realm. We have had to walk by faith and not by sight.

Satan has reigned in the area of the *flesh*. This has been his greatest avenue. But now, God, in His *mercy* and *love* for man, is going to sweep into the realm of *sight* and *sound* by His Spirit with signs and *wonders*. In this final harvest of souls,

God is going to take over the *flesh domain*. Satan will have no place to call his own!

God is pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh. We have been born again to live and operate in the spirit. Ephesians 2:10 tells us that we are God's "workmanship, created in Christ Jesus, ordained of God to good works." We have the Holy Spirit, God Himself, abiding on the inside of us! God has determined to reveal and manifest Himself in the earth in the Body of Christ.

The Body of Christ is made up of spiritual beings, living in bodies of flesh, capable of manifesting the glory of God. Ephesians 4:24 says that when we were saved we were "created after God in righteousness and true holiness." Even so, God has not been able to reveal Himself to the degree that He desires because we have been dominated by the flesh.

By His Spirit God is revealing how we can walk in the Spirit and not be controlled by the flesh. As we fine-tune our lives to obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit, God will have the available vessels necessary to manifest Himself in the earth.

Listen, God is not looking for ability; He is looking for availability. He needs you and me to do the work that must be done. He has to have people who are faithful. Good help has been hard for God to find!!

I believe that we are approaching the greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the history of the human race. We are fast coming to the end of this age in God's timetable. It is harvest time! God has a plan for this generation - to sweep the souls of this earth into the kingdom of God!

Supernatural power will be required to accomplish this great task just as it was required to deliver the children of Israel! The Body of Christ will deliver the children of men from the power of darkness by the power of the Holy Spirit!

Today, we must be faithful. God needs us. His plan is to use us as He used Moses. He is requiring that we "sellout" to Him. God is looking to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward Him, as seen in 2 Chronicles 16:9, "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of those whose heart is perfect toward him." That word "perfect" in the Hebrew does not mean that God is looking for those who have never made a mistake. It means "loyal, devoted, dedicated, consecrated, faithful." A literal translation of the Hebrew reads this way, "For the Eternal's eyes dart here and there over the whole world, as he exerts his power on behalf of those who are devoted to him."

Today, God is looking for those who are devoted, loyal, consecrated and dedicated to Him, to His plan and purpose. God wants your heart!

We have learned to practice faith, therefore, we are saved. Now God wants us to learn to practice faithfulness. Jesus said in Mark 8:34, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." To deny yourself is to disregard your flesh, your own desires ambitions and interests.

In Galatians 5, we are told that the "spirit lusts against the flesh and the flesh against the Spirit." This simply means that the desires of the outer man are in direct opposition to the desires of the inner man. In other words, even though our spirit is secure in Christ we still experience a battle in our mind, will and emotions. We want to leave the old patterns of living and embrace the new life in Christ but the flesh constantly wants to have its own way. Listen, just because we are saved does not mean that Christians do not struggle with sin. In fact, the reality is, as Christians, we find ourselves living by a superior standard of life. Our spirit has been set apart by God but our minds continue to have the pattern of the old way of thinking. This conflict between the flesh and the Spirit within us is a form of *spiritual warfare*. The Bible has given us this promise in Romans 8:37 that "we are more than conquerors through him that loved us." Sin is a powerful force to be reckoned with, but it can no longer exert its influence over you unless you allow it to do so.

When I surrendered to preach I made the decision to be faithful. You do the same! No one can do it for you! Commit yourself to be a wise and faithful servant. Say from your heart, "God, You can count on me."

How will we be able to walk in the Spirit even though we are clothed in the flesh? We do this by spending more time pursuing the things of the <u>Spirit</u> than we spend pursuing the things of the <u>flesh</u>. We will have to become dedicated to <u>prayer</u> and to <u>fellowship</u> with God. We will have to be dedicated to the <u>Word of God</u> and allow Him to guide guide us, teach us, and communicate with us.

Child of God, God wants you to love Him and to serve Him with all of your heart. Will you just let Him be the God of your life?

If you are not saved, why not??

Everyone please stand for prayer.

Father,

Give me the grace to put Your will ahead of my own will, and give me the courage to do it all for Your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.