

A Word of encouragement given September 21, 2008

I have given you a better covenant established on better promises. I have given you a covenant that cannot be shaken that cannot be moved, that can never fade away nor pass away. Even in your disobedience my covenant stands firm. My love for you is unshakable and everlasting. For I have made a covenant with myself and promise to you that I would never stop doing you good, that I would never stop blessing you, that I would never stop pouring out the showers of heaven on your life. But there are those in the community, and throughout the earth who would convince you of condemnation and of your guilt, convince you of your shame, the very thing that I died on the cross to free you from they would try to keep you in bondage to it.

They would keep you in their grip and power and keep you in a sense of shame and sin-consciousness so that you cannot receive by faith the blessings of heaven. I say it's time to shake loose the old ways and old covenant for you are not under the old covenant but you are under the new covenant; created in Christ Jesus, created by Christ Jesus for the betterment of man indeed for your benefit. I want to restore you and to revive you to renew you through the transformation of your thinking the transformation of who you are in Christ. Turn away from the old man, turn away in your thinking, repent in your thinking of the old ways, of the old mind, of the old covenant, for you are under my covenant. I will do wonders in your life that you have never seen before that your family has never seen before. I will do things in your life that you cannot even comprehend, if I told you of them it would be impossible for you to believe, because you are not used to them. But I am going to do wonders and miracles in your life because of your faith in what I've done at the cross, and because of your faith in what I've done through the blood of Jesus Christ.

I am going to do wonders and miracles. Don't listen to those religious voices that say " there are no miracles today, the signs and wonders passed away with the apostles". That is foolishness, in fact, I will deal with them at the right and I will bring them into repentance and I will bring them into faith. But, for now, you just ignore them, bless them and forgive them in their ignorance. You follow me and I will do wonders and miracles and almighty signs in heaven as Joel said,

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth".

This same word was confirmed by Peter in Acts chapter 2 when He spoke on the day of Pentecost these same words. Therefore remember what I have said to you and believe - I will do mighty signs, I will do mighty deeds right before your very eyes. And you shall see them, the works of my hands, in your life and you will praise and glorify my name to all those around you and many of them will believe because of your witness and the witness of my mighty and miraculous power working in your life says the Lord.

A prophetic word of encouragement to the body of Christ.
September 21, 2008

A note from Dan:

If you are not familiar with prophetic ministry here is a brief summary found in I Corinthians 12-14. Chapter 13 is actually about the love of God but in the context of what Paul is teaching - love is the driving force behind the giftings or manifestations of the Holy Spirit.

- A.) I Cor. 12:7 -- And to each hath been given the manifestation of the Spirit for profit; (YLT)

Notice that these are called manifestations of the Spirit not the manifestations of men. And also notice it is for profit not destruction or condemnation. I have seen too many well meaning but mislead people use prophecy for condemnation because they related the gift of prophecy to the old covenant ministry of the prophets. We are in no way shape or form under the ministry of condemnation from anyone. That includes Baptists, Lutherans, Catholics, and if you please Pentecostals, Charismatics, or any other denomination that is stuck in Old Covenant administration. There is a place for godly counsel and correction but even that is done in a spirit of meekness and in private.

- B.) and to another in-workings of mighty deeds; and to another prophecy; 1 Cor 12:10 (YLT)

Paul is showing the church the various ways in which the Holy Spirit manifests himself through the church. The rest of chapter 12 Paul reveals that it is the Holy Spirit who distributes these manifestations as He wills for the building up not the tearing down of the Church. He further declares and explains that if one has been used in one gift and someone else in another gift that no one need say that they are not useful to the body. He uses the example of the human body and how each part of our body needs the other parts no matter how minor a row it may play in our body.

Chapter 13 as I said above is about the love of God being manifested in us and through us. Some say that Chapter 13 says that prophecies shall cease and that they ceased with the passing of the apostles and that when the Bible that we have today was formed in 313 A.D. that the scripture was what was the perfect thing that Paul was speaking of. But this is a prime example of a religious mindset that hasn't used common sense or thought things through. The Apostles had the bible in their day. It was the Old Testament, although at that time it wasn't called the Old Testament it was revered as the word of Jehovah. And the word that they used then says the same as the word we use now.

7 The law of Jehovah is **perfect**, refreshing the soul, The testimonies of Jehovah are **stedfast**, Making wise the simple,

8 The precepts of Jehovah are upright, Rejoicing the heart, The command of Jehovah is **pure**, enlightening the eyes,

9 The fear of Jehovah is clean, standing to the age, The judgments of Jehovah are **true, They have been righteous--together.**

10 They are more desirable than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; and sweeter than honey, Even liquid honey of the comb.

Psalms 19:7-10 (YLT)

Those who contend that prophecy (or other giftings) have passed away because the bible - which is the more sure word of prophecy – was finished in 313 A.D. need to think things through a little better. Are they saying that the scriptures (the O.T.) the apostles used in their day were not perfect? The verses testify of the perfection of the word of the Lord. I believe I Corinthians 13 is saying that the perfect thing that is to come is Jesus Christ in His second coming. Bringing with Him the transformation of our bodies and minds to be like his glorious body and mind. Then we will know perfectly because we will know perfectly his thoughts and have no more need of prophecy. Because prophecy is mainly a gift of encouraging, strengthening and warning. When Christ is here in his physical bodily presence we won't need that because He will wipe away every tear, there will be no more sorrow or discouragement. And the lack of understanding of all his ways that we experience here on earth (one big reason we need prophecy and all the other gifts) shall be replaced with perfect wisdom, understanding and knowledge which is what I believe the apostle was speaking of in Chapter 13.

In Chapter 14 Paul is speaking almost exclusively about the manifestation of tongues and prophecy and how they should be used and their purpose within and without the church. Since this is a summary on prophecy I'll skip tongues for now. In verse three Paul reveals what the gift of prophecy is to do and how it functions within the church.

C.) **and he who is prophesying to men doth speak edification, and exhortation, and comfort;**
1 Cor 14:3 (YLT)

Edification --- this is really a construction term that has to do with constructing a building. When the Holy Spirit manifests Himself through someone in prophecy He is adding to the church (i.e. The people of God) structural strength by inspiring people to continue in faith, hope, and love.

Exhortation--- comfort, consolation, exhortation, entreaty.

This word is similar to comfort but has a little more forcefulness behind it. It also has several meanings depending on the context in which it is given. It can be a mild, kind yet earnest reproof as well as a cautionary warning or advice. To urge you towards a direction or goal through encouragement, warning, or advice. It also will cause you to have an expectation of God's redemption and covenant mercy to be manifested in external ways and means and also free you from anxieties about the future of some perceived or real danger. Simeon was waiting for the **consolation** (*same word in the Greek as exhortation here*) of Israel **Luke 2:25** which to the Jews was the Messianic Kingdom and freedom from all their enemies.

Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.
Acts 9:31 (KJV)

The reason the churches had rest is because they realized that Paul's' conversion was real and that He was no longer a threat to their personal well being. Paul's' conversion is a great example of the Lord fulfilling His covenant mercy, and promise and obligation to defend those He is in covenant with. There are many other scriptural examples of this word, but, this is after all, just a summary.

Comfort -- It means to call near and console. It's the Lord inviting you to come to Him as your Shepherd and giving you peace that all will be well as long as you stay near Him. He shows the love and care of His heart towards His children. This one I believe has to do with calming a persons emotions and bringing hope to them. It has to do a lot with emotional healing and having peace in mind. Within any church or home gathering are people who are hurting emotionally for a wide variety of reasons. The death of a loved one, loss of a friendship, betrayal by someone you trusted. Some are suffering from hurts and wounds they experienced as children and are still carrying the scars and pain. The Holy Spirit knows the right place and time to manifest prophecy through the right person and bring healing to the one who is hurting. He is basically fulfilling Psalms 23 by restoring your soul, and causing you to feast on the love of the Father right in the face of the evil one who thought to harm you. I believe this is also what takes place when an unbeliever comes into a meeting and a prophecy is spoken and reveals what's going on in their heart but also reveals the love in Gods' heart towards them. And they fall on their face and say God is in you. I've seen many people healed and/or saved in such meetings. If, as some suggest, that these gifts have passed away, therefore this must be the devil, I have one question for them. Since when did the devil go into the business of saving or healing someone and cause them to Glorify Jesus Christ ? I thought the devil did things that caused people to hate Christ and/or turn from Him. Think it through people !

The word comfort also is a covenant word and has to do with God defending those that are His. He has obligated Himself to defend you through the promises He swore to the fathers and through the new covenant that Christ has brought to the human race through his death,burial,and resurrection.

Well that is a very brief summary of the gift or manifestation of the Holy Spirit in prophecy. I am confident if you study the prophecy given above you will see that it falls into all 3 of these guidelines. May the Lord bless you in your journey of faith, hope and love.

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