

The Critical Need Within The Christian Church Today!

What the Christian Church needs most critically at the moment is the right kind of leaders and a new baptism of the Holy Spirit.

God knows that the Church needs both but God will **not** fill “mice” with the Holy Spirit, only bold, fearless and dedicated leaders.

Leaders who feel themselves expendable in the warfare against evil, for they have already died to the allurements of this world.

1 John 2:15-17 [NIV] *“Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For everything in the world, the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does, comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives for ever.”*

Such leaders will be free from the compulsions that control weaker people.

Such leaders will **not** be forced to do things by the squeeze of circumstances.

Their only compulsion will come from the active Holy Spirit within them.

This kind of freedom is necessary if we are to have prophets as our leaders instead of mascots of the people.

Such leaders are free to serve the Creator God and humanity from motives too high to be understood by most people because they are given by the Holy Spirit.

Such leaders will make **no** decisions out of fear, take **no** course out of desire to please, accept **no** service for financial reasons, perform **no** religious acts out of mere custom, **nor** allow themselves to be influenced by the love of publicity or the desire for reputation.

The true Christian Church has never sounded out public expectations before launching into its crusades.

True Church leaders heard from the Creator God, through the active Holy Spirit within them and went ahead wholly independent of popular support or the lack of it.

True Christian Church leaders knew the Creator God’s will, clearly found in the Word of God, the Christian Bible, and did it without question.

Sometimes people followed them in triumph, but more often to insults and public persecution.

Their sufficient reward was the satisfaction of being in harmony and submission to God’s Word, the Christian Bible, in a world that is devoid of God’s Wisdom as found in His Word.

Another characteristic of a true prophet/leader has been love of all human beings.

John 3:16-17 [NIV] *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.”*

The true Christian leader reflects this same love for all humanity because they have the Holy Spirit within them expressing this characteristic of love which is one of the “*fruits*” of the Holy Spirit, [Galatians 5:22-23].

John 7:38-40 [NIV] “*Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.*’ By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified. On hearing his words, some of the people said, ‘Surely this man is the Prophet.’”

The Holy Spirit cannot be static, it must flow out from the person in whom He dwells in acts of love, compassion and faithfulness.

A true prophet/leader empowered by the Holy Spirit has **never** been a religious tyrant, nor have they sought to “*lord it over*” God’s heritage.

It is fear and lack of self-assurance, as a bond slave of Jesus Christ, that has led some leaders to try to bring others under their domination.

Such leaders have had some personal interest to protect, some position to secure, so they have demanded subjection from their followers as a guarantee of their own safety.

Matthew 20:25-28 [NIV] “*Jesus called them together and said, ‘You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave, just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.’*”

Instead of using people we are to serve them as leaders. This is exactly what Jesus Christ did on earth and continues to do as our High Priest in heaven and head of the Christian Church, [Hebrews 8:1; Hebrews 7:25; Colossians 1:18; Ephesians 1:22; Ephesians 4:15].

The true prophet/leader is a free human with nothing to protect, no ambition to pursue and no enemy to fear.

For this reason such leaders are completely careless of their standing among people. If people follow what they teach and live well and good. If not they lose nothing that is dear to them.

But whether they are accepted or rejected, they will go on loving people with sincere devotion, and only death can silence their tender intercession for them.

Every prophet[teacher]/leader is well aware of certain scriptures.

James 3:1 [NIV] “*Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.*”

They are directly accountable to Jesus Christ for all that they teach or do.

Psalms 19:13-14 [King James] “*Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.*”

They are constantly aware of Who is their Lord and Saviour, and that they can accomplish nothing of lasting value unless it is Jesus Christ doing it in and through them, [John 15:1-8].

God will hear the cries of His people as He heard the cries of Israel in Egypt, [Exodus 3:7] and He will, in His own time, send deliverance by sending deliverers, such as Moses.

When the deliverers come, reformers, revivalists, prophets, they will be people of God and people of courage.

They will have the power of God on their side because they have been very careful to stay humble, obedient bond slaves of God.

They will be co-workers with Jesus Christ, [Mark 16:20] and instruments in the hands of the Holy Spirit.

Such people will be baptised with the Holy Spirit, [Acts 1:5] and through their leadership God will baptise others and send the long-delayed revival in the Christian Church.

A preparing of people for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ as John the Baptist prepared a people for the first coming of Jesus Christ, [John 1:19-27].

Malachi 4:5-6 [NIV] *“See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.”*

The final warning words of the Old Testament which was followed by 400 years of silence from God’s prophet/teachers until John the Baptist.

This is a **dual** prophecy, note it was *“before that great and dreadful day of the Lord,”* it is directly referring to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.