CURRENT CHURCH MEETING AND CHANGE AHEAD

The churches that make up the systems of men have become an extension of the Old Covenant, where they have buildings as the temple and men as priests. Just because they change the name to 'Pastor', 'Vicar' or 'Elder', this has not changed their current role. The Body will be a much closer unified group of believers with group participation and contribution, humbled before God and humbled before each other, preferring one another, bearing one another's burdens, caring for one another and desiring to be a holy habitation for God's Spirit. Each wanting to give not receive. Wanting to serve, not be served, wanting to do their share, not be a passenger or a parasite. The nature of Jesus is to give, serve, care, heal, listen, help, love, and all those growing in Him will do the same things and walk as He walked. This 'order' will identify false brethren who will desire the two extremes, being 1) to rule and control or, 2) to be waited on and spoon-fed. To rule because they consider they are Lords rather than servants, or to be spoon-fed because they have the feeling of inadequacy or inability. The truth is neither, but we should all serve one another in love, counting each other's needs more important than our own.

<u>Beware of those who desire the pre-eminence.</u> Many desire to rule and control. They are ambitious and have no understanding of the church but confuse it with their earthly experience in the work place, club or society.

<u>Beware of the parasite.</u> They want to feed off the church permanently. They are thieves; thieves of your time, your focus, your resources, your energy, your patience. They have one desire – 'to take and not give.' They will take all you give but will not take the word. They want your resources but not your life in Christ. "Do not cast your pearls before this swine."

As the parable of the sower you will sow wherever you go and some seed will fall on stony or hard unfruitful ground. This is to be expected for many have hard hearts but only a fool returns time and time again to sow on the stony ground. The wise farmer learns where seed takes and grows. Those who are Spirit led will bear fruit because their seed is sown in many good areas and hearts, because the spirit will acknowledge the need of the word in good hearts. Also some seed will fall around them on others with hard hearts because they are close, not because they were the target of the word, so the word to them will wither.

<u>Now the church is My church</u> and will grow in My nature and become like Me in love, in wisdom, in character, in power, and in nature. So that when they see Me as I am they will be like Me. Because I live in them they will be My habitation. Then, each will seek Me individually, one to one and face to face. And in that place they will learn of Me and become humble. This humility is the nature that allows My church to gather corporately without division and without controversy.

<u>Humility</u> will be the key for My church. That nature will be a foundation and pathway to My way and My heart. My church <u>in My order</u> will not be an institution of men with ambition and plans and thoughts of elevation. My church has <u>one function</u> – to be My habitation – for if I am there I will save, heal and touch those who I desire and nothing is impossible to Me. If I am in the midst you need no plans of men for it will be <u>I</u> who will do all things. <u>I</u> will build My church and prepare My bride. <u>Your part is to be holy and humble</u> so that I might manifest Myself among you, for in My presence you are changed and healed and do My works.

But <u>your</u> churches are not holy and do not present themselves to Me, a fit habitation, so I will not make that place My dwelling place. And My life is not there so deceiving and religious spirits

manifest themselves in your midst with false tongues, false prophecies and false teaching. And with itching ears you receive their words for they are sweetened so you do receive them.

Yet My word has come – humble yourselves and pray and seek My face so that I may dwell in your midst and heal your land but no one hears because they don't want sacrifice and their ears are stopped and their necks are stiff. I will raise a people who will love My life above their own life and will humble themselves before God.

I will make that place My home and My Name will be there permanently and I will bring My life, My power and My nature and manifest Myself in the midst. I will dwell with them and My Father will dwell with them and He will be a father to them and they will be His sons and His daughters; I in them and they in Me, all one in the Father. Then soon they will be snatched away in the twinkling of an eye. In a moment they will be with Me and the earth will receive what it has sown over the generations.

The day of reaping what is sown will bring loud cries of anguish and gnashing of teeth but this is justice for this will be their harvest, for each man will reap what he has sown. The world has sown greed, selfishness, pride, arrogance, cruelty and it will reap the harvest of the pain and anguish it has sown. But the harvest is much greater than the seed, for a small evil seed will bring much evil fruit and they shall be made to eat of that fruit. They will be sickened by it but will have to eat more and more until evil brings its final fruit – death. This is the condemnation and judgement of the world because it would not repent, "for which of the prophets have you not stoned."

But there is no condemnation for those who are <u>in Christ Jesus</u> (in My habitation, in My dwelling place, in My church, in My order, in My presence) for that is what it means to be <u>in Christ</u>. And those in me shall not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit – in My church. These are the sons of God – manifest to the world as a witness to the nations - that I am risen, I am alive, living and dwelling in a people, manifesting Myself to them, in them, and through them until the end of the age and into My everlasting Kingdom, a world without end. AMEN

In that place there will be no more tears, no more suffering, no more death, no more pain, no more sorrow, no more mourning and weeping, no more sickness, no more poverty, no more dirt, no more evil. Pride shall be forever banished and man will fall no more to its power. For there will be everlasting joy upon their heads and ceaseless praise in song and dancing, great rewards according to each man's work, yet no jealousy for each will know justice and the balance of scales that show that whatever a man has sown yet shall he reap. And the greatest prize of all, that many have sought since the foundation of time will be theirs – the gift of everlasting life and through the understanding of justice the place to rule over new nations that I will create in the ever changing future of eternity.

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Rom.16:4: referred to the 'churches' of the gentiles and, v.5. "..the church which is in their house."

<u>General:</u> The church at Rome, Corinth, Ephesis, Jerusalem etc..

1Cor.12: different members, gifts, one body, closeness needed for if one member suffers all suffer with them, different rolls and functions but in unity and love.

Rom.16:16: confirms the plural "the churches of Christ greet you."

Eph.2:22: Church being built to be God's habitation.

1Cor.3:16: The temple of God.

1Pet.2:3: Living stones being built into a house and, v.9&10, chosen people who weren't a people but now are a people.

Eph.4:15&16: Each part does its share to edify one another in love.

1Cor.14:40: Let all things be done decently and in order.

His Workmanship

(2Cor.5:17 and Eph.2:10) If any man is in Christ he is a new creation. The old has passed away and the new has come. All things have become new.

For God will put a new heart in them and a new spirit in them

Create in me a clean heart O God and renew a right spirit in me.

(Eph.1:19) What is the exceeding greatest of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power.

(Eph.2:10) For we are <u>His workmanship</u> <u>created in Christ Jesus for good works</u>.

A Revelation - If My People Will Humble Themselves and pray..... (2 Chron.7:14)

By humility the body will enter a new phase of life in Jesus. A life of holiness and humility, that will create an environment of holiness. That environment will be the habitation of the Lord.

This is a new revelation. "The function of the church is to create a holy habitation fit for the presence of Jesus our Lord." As Jesus becomes present, this power will direct all proceedings and performs all required works, by His Spirit in the heart of man. We will therefore not require the plans of men or the intervention of man.

Man's part is to humble himself. God's part is to fulfil His word.

Holiness

Holiness therefore brings forth a Holy Habitation. "For without holiness no man shall see the Lord."

For this reason God will speak to us about personal holiness and corporate holiness, subjects such as adultery, divorce, honesty, truth will be brought forth for doctrinal clarity. Issues such as our role and witness in our workplace, our home and our social life will be made clear. The roles of men, women, parents, children, single and married will be explained. The way we live will be placed far above the words that we speak, for by a man's fruit shall he be known, NOT by his words. Those who teach and do not do it will be judged. But those who are examples shall live. The discipline of God will return to warn men that God requires holiness.

Leaders of Gods choice will be raised up. Men who will serve not control! The gifts will be released in the church and needs will be met. Marriages will be healed, relationships restored

and unity established for this is the holy habitation for the Lord.

Despite persecution there will be boldness and joy, despite troubles and threats they will be calm. This will be the witness that will cause the world to ask you for a reason for the hope that is in you. That question to you will be the door that I will open for my words and my truth to go forth. YOUR lives therefore must be in line with MY words of truth. You will win them with your conduct and convert them with my words. So you shall snatch away many from the flames of hell and bring life where there is death.

The End Time Church - The Final Church

1 Chron.22:5.... "The house that is to be built for the Lord must be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all countries.... I will now make preparation for it. So David made abundant preparations before his death."

The final church is the habitation of the Lord. The Lords temple firstly is the human body and He lives and dwells in us. We then become living stones that, when assembled corporately, become the house of the Lord, a spiritual house that is made up of living stones. This house that is to be built is to be as the former house that was built in Chronicles, in that it is to be exceedingly magnificent, famous and glorious throughout all countries. The church will be the house of God, His habitation and it will reflect His magnificence and His splendour and glory. The church is far from that place now and great work is needed in preparing for the house. This is the day when we must work to prepare that house. This is the day of preparation. WE don't build the Church because Jesus said "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it." Although He builds His church, He is calling some (those who understand) to prepare the church, to call them to repentance, to humility and to holiness. King David recognised that he was not to build the temple, and so we must recognise that we are not to build the church. For "If the Lord doesn't build the house, they labour in vain that build it."

Ps.127:1 "Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain that build it." - All the churches of the day are built by man. All denominations are built by some man or doctrine, and all those who continue in it are labouring in vain. This must be our warning. We must repent, humble ourselves and seek righteousness and holiness, in preparation for the Lords time.

The scriptures teach us that there is a time of pulling down and destroying and a time to build and plant. (Jer.1:10) This is the time to pull down the strongholds of sin and error in the church. It is a time to destroy false teaching and the traditions of men. It is a time of confronting the systems of men and the hypocrisy of the church. A time to expose the sins and double standards, a time to make known the love of money and immorality that perverts the church and renders it powerless and weak and sick. But even though the church be as dry as bones, yet at the Word of God, the word of life (Ez.37) the dry bones shall live.

So today we prepare for tomorrow the Lord will build His house and it will be exceedingly magnificent, glorious and splendid and famous throughout all nations, for it will be the habitation of the Lord. His name will be there, His power will be there His nature will be there, His love will be there His presence will be there because HE WILL BE THERE, in the midst, "As two or three gather in His name. A peculiar people, a holy habitation for the Lord, a people called out of darkness into His marvellous light." So he will call men and women out of the darkness of this

world, and out of the darkness of organised religion and into His marvellous light, into His everlasting Kingdom, a world without end, AMEN.

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A Response

(Rom12) Lord, at the sound of your word I present my body as a sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. (Through the blood of Christ, not by my works) And in Your strength not conforming to the world but being transformed by the renewing of my mind, that you may prove Yourself in me that I prove to be acceptable and in your perfect will.

I surrender all and abandon my life, my family, my all into Your hands and Your power, knowing that the God of all the earth will do right. For I trust in You (Prov.3:5&6) with all my heart and I lean not on my own understanding. I will acknowledge You in all my ways in the knowledge that You will direct my paths.

(Prov.3:11&12) I will not and have not despised your chastening, knowing that you chasten those whom you love as a father corrects his son. (Prov.4:10-13)

(1Pet.5:6&7) Now O Lord, I humble myself under Your mighty hand and I cast <u>all</u> my care on you in the knowledge that You care for me and will raise me up in due time. (2Cor.13:14) May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with me, your love as my Father and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with me, Amen.

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