

THE CHURCH IS MEANT TO BE GOD'S TESTIMONY 2/7/17

The true church should be built on the examples of Christ and the apostles, through the tangible power (rather than doctrinal theory), of the Holy Spirit. The functioning of our church needs to be representative of God's attitude and blessing to the human race, which also includes continuous refining of doctrinal issues. The positive way we treat each other, the way we respond to pressure or betrayal, should also reflect our God given testimony. Everyone in the church owes it to God, to have and continually present a positive testimony of overcoming and spiritual joy.

God's presence is always identified with signs and miracles... not just a series of doctrinal beliefs. 2CHR 7:1 Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.

ACT 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. **3** And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. **4** And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. *Both the old and the new covenants were confirmed by Godly demonstrations of power and supernatural support. Both of the above descriptions were not optional and both describe the entry of the Holy Spirit into God's temple for covenant purposes. 1COR 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? The scriptural evidence is clear and precise... while many 'religious' alternatives are uncertain and compromised.*

You cannot fill spiritual voids with natural beliefs or actions... Signs identified the presence of God, preventing powerless 'faith' taking hold. MAR 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. *The church is built on miraculous evidence. It is also a very good reason why all Christians should exercise spiritual resources.*

JER 10:23 O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps. *Without the Spirit (anointing) dwelling in us, we are empty vessels running on natural talent rather than on supernatural power. Scripturally, there is no substitute for Godly empowerment with clearly identifiable signs. The Holy Spirit secures eternal life, no natural ability, practices or beliefs can attain that.*

A church that works as God describes... 1COR 14:1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy... etc. *Preaching a signs based gospel and running a signs based meeting, supported by signs backed testimonies, identifies the church and people of the bible. Nothing has changed since Pentecost.*

A lot is learnt from fellowship and a lot more is learnt from actually practicing what is learnt. PHI 3:17 Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

2COR 9:8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: *You only need be consistent in prayer and faith: God will do the rest.*

JAM 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. **23** For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: **24** For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

The old adage that it takes a whole village to raise a child is confirmed and promoted as a scriptural truth. EPH 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love. *Every Christian has a significant role to play in God's church... No spiritual input is ever seen as meaningless or insignificant by God. All genuine efforts are noted and rewarded.*

Obedience to simple scriptural behaviours and powers serves as a living testimony of how we love God. 1JOH 3:23 And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. **24** And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. *And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us.*

We all need to set an example, not only for ourselves and our families, but for other church members as well. There is no substitute for your spiritual input into the fellowship and the people it serves. If we won't serve as a testimony of God's blessing to humanity... then what hope is there for humanity? Remember, the church is also meant to be God's testimony to all the unsaved... after all, your body is God's home on the earth!!