

FOREWORD BY LOU ENGLE  
INTRODUCTION BY JOHN KILPATRICK

THE  
ALTAR

PREPARING FOR THE  
RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

JEREMIAH JOHNSON

BESTSELLING AUTHOR



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# ENDORSEMENTS

In every generation and in every move of God, we hit critical moments when we must answer the hard questions: Is this about us or is it really all about Him? Are we willing to die to self and be a public spectacle for the world to peer in upon? Will we be willing to let Him jackhammer up what took us years to build and let Him build another foundation? “But God, I thought...” I have been there so many times in my life and ministry. In fact, I feel that many of us are at this cross section right now and some do not even know it.

One of the things I appreciate about Jeremiah Johnson is his vulnerability. He is an open book. He is highly gifted, strong in fortitude and conviction. As I ponder, pray, and reflect upon this buoyant man of God, something resonates within my being that feels similar to the calling I have known: “Let the fire be kept burning continually upon the altar and never go out!”

JAMES W. GOLL  
Founder of God Encounter Ministries  
GOLL Ideation LLC

I believe Jeremiah Johnson has obeyed the Lord by reframing his life and ministry focus. The impact of this is obvious in this compelling book. His focus on the bridal altar is profound and centers the Church back to the consummation of human history—which is the marriage supper of the Lamb.

DR. JOSEPH MATTERA  
National convener of the United States coalition of apostolic leaders

Your heart will cry “Maranatha” as you read Jeremiah Johnson’s new book. It’s a timely word for the body of Christ in this hour. Read it on your

knees. Allow the Lord to convict you, purify you, and prepare you for His soon appearing.

DANIEL KOLENDA  
Evangelist/President, Christ for all Nations  
Lead pastor of Nations Church

Jeremiah Johnson is one of the most accurate prophetic and apostolic voices in our generation who, most importantly, embodies the reality of walking as a friend of the Bridegroom. This last-hour mandate upon Jeremiah's life in preparing the Bride for the return of the Bridegroom King is, I believe, in the pinnacle company of eternal directives this side of heaven. Prepare your heart to be radically transformed as you dive into this *must read!*

BRIAN GUERIN  
Founding president of Bridal Glory International

The book you hold in your hands is unique in many ways. The first thing that jumps out initially is the transcendent transparency that Jeremiah Johnson opens up with. The next factor is the vintage call to align oneself with the ancient ways, to prepare the way of the Lord. This book also points out the emerging signs of the growing hunger for revival, consecration, and passion for Jesus Christ. I'm convinced that as you read this, you will be pulling your heart up to a fiery furnace of holy affections and you *will* encounter the zeal of the Lord of hosts.

SEAN SMITH  
Co-host of "Keep It 100 w/Sean and Christa Smith" Podcast  
Author of *I Am Your Sign*

Rarely have I seen books dedicated to preparing the Bride for the marriage supper of the Lamb. The book you're holding is a unique book dedicated for this very purpose. Your most important day is in front of you—the day you will lock eyes with Jesus for the very first time. With clear, bold, prophetic insight, Jeremiah Johnson calls us to the urgency of intimacy that the Church might become a ready Bride. I've gotten to know

Jeremiah through the tumultuous events of the last year and have been incredibly blessed by his humility and commitment to focus on preparing the Church for Jesus's soon return. I encourage you to read this book with an open heart, asking the Lord to prepare you for His coming.

BILLY HUMPHREY  
Director, GateCity Church

For as long as I have known Jeremiah John-son, he has been filled with passion and longing for the Church to be prepared as the glorious Bride for the coming of Christ. He has personally embraced a life of surrender, sacrifice, extravagant worship, devoted prayer, and service before the Lord—that is how you live when you are deeply in love with the Bridegroom King. This book contains a call for the reader to awaken as the Bride of Christ, and when you know you are the Bride, everything changes.

PATRICIA KING  
Author, minister, media host

In this challenging book, Jeremiah John-son lays before us two choices—either we make the decision to remain in love with the world and harlot bride or leave the world behind and become committed followers of our Bridegroom King. I pray the Lord will use this book to awaken a deep longing in each of us for the return of Jesus Christ, the Ruler of kings of the earth.

DAVID RAVENHILL  
Author and itinerant teacher

Honest. Convicting. Thought-provoking. Jeremiah Johnson's *The Altar* is an invitation to the body of Christ to embrace the simplicity and purity of first love so that we might be that spotless Bride presented to Christ. This work will shift your perspective from the temporary to the eternal.

DAVID DIGA HERNANDEZ  
Evangelist

I am so excited about this amazing new book, *The Altar*, from my friend Jeremiah Johnson. I've followed him for many years, and beyond his integrity and prophetic insights, I love his contagious passion for Jesus. Expect this book to ignite your fire for our coming Bridegroom King and His return.

WILL FORD

Former Director of Marketplace Major at Christ for the Nations  
Institute Author of *The Dream King: How the Dream of Martin  
Luther King Jr. Is Being  
Fulfilled to Heal Racism in America*

THE  
ALTAR

DESTINY IMAGE BOOKS BY JEREMIAH JOHNSON

*Houses of Glory*

*Judgment on the House of God*

*The Power of Consecration*

*Cleansing and Igniting the Prophetic*

*The Altar*

THE  
ALTAR

PREPARING FOR THE  
RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST

JEREMIAH JOHNSON

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## **TO COREY RUSSELL AND ALLEN HOOD**

Thank you for your examples and the sacrifices you have made in this generation. Your friendship, humility, and perseverance in the midst of fiery trial have strengthened my soul and many others beyond words. I pray that upon your shoulders will rise a fresh generation of forerunner messengers who not only love their spouses and families well, but who also love and long for the appearing of Jesus Christ. I love you both dearly and am eternally grateful for your “yes.” Your investments in my life and ministry reverberate throughout the pages of this manuscript.

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# FOREWORD

by Lou Engle

*In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. ...Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar. And he touched my mouth with it, and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your iniquity is taken away, and your sin purged." Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" (Isaiah 6:1,6-8)*

**K**ing Uzziah governed Israel for 52 years. He was a great king who called the people of Israel to make a covenant to seek God with all their hearts. His rule was a time of great prosperity and military power. However, as the years rolled by, the shadows of his pride and of national spiritual decline and apostasy were growing beneath the outward veneer of blessing. Then, Uzziah died. Then, Isaiah “died.”

At the time, Isaiah was likely a young man of around twenty years old. He had grown up hearing the exploits of the great king. According to the scriptures, Isaiah wrote the memoirs of Uzziah from beginning to end (see 2 Chron. 26:22). He had probably viewed the king as a great political hero and possibly had misplaced his hope for the blessing of Israel upon the man. Then, crushed and deeply perplexed over the king’s death, Isaiah was praying in the temple when, in an awesome vision, he saw the Lord high and lifted up. There the furious holy fire of YAH sealed Isaiah’s heart, purified his prophetic lips, and commissioned him as a prophet with a fresh message for the nation.

Often hope in a man, hope in a plan, hope in a vision grand must die before the Lord reveals Himself in blazing Technicolor to the shattered soul, before a new prophetic message is born. I believe this is what happened, in part, in America in the days of the 2020 elections. It’s also how this profoundly prophetic book, *The Altar*, was born.

In the year President Trump died, Jeremiah Johnson died. Jeremiah Johnson Ministries died. When my friend apologized for an inaccurate prophecy about President Trump being reelected, many abandoned the prophet for his apology and just as many got angry at him for his “false prophecy.” Then, Jeremiah Johnson saw the Lord high and lifted up and heard the Voice saying, “*Jeremiah, I want you to shut down your ministry. I want you to delete your social media accounts and public following. If you do not let this die, what I am calling you into will never live. Your prophetic ministry has become polluted with commentary on political events. I called you to build a Wedding Altar to prepare the Bride of Christ for My return and her Wedding Day.*”

The author Paul Billheimer once wrote, “When God wants to use a man and fuse a man, how He hammers him and hurts him and with mighty

blows converts him. He knows what He's about." I love Jeremiah Johnson. I love the Jeremiah John-son journey. What surgery of the soul! He shut it all down! Who shuts it all down? Out of Jeremiah's agonizing death to public opinion, ministry, finances, and success, I believe the coals off the altar have touched Jeremiah's lips. Like Isaiah, he has received a fresh commissioning from the Lord, in which he's to herald the end-times preparation of the Bride of Christ for the return of the Bridegroom. Welcome *The Altar*.

Meanwhile, as history will bear out, the ramifications of our recent election will be comparable, I believe, to those of 9/11 and COVID. Many of us saw President Trump, in spite of his pride, failures, and frailty, as a stick in the wheel of a rising, global antichrist agenda on the earth. He, his administration, and America stood in the way of that agenda. Therefore, to the seen and unseen powers of the age, this man had to go.

Though many disagree with me, I stood without regret in fastings and prayers for President Trump and his reelection. Yet shall we despair when the king falls? Shall we move into an ever-intensive frenetic activity looking for a human hope? Something is wrong when the church hopes for, prays and fasts for, and pursues a president more than a nation-shaking great awakening and an all-consuming inward desire for her Bridegroom and His return. Crash course adjustment! In the year that President Trump died, I saw the Lord. When the kingpin falls, the King makes His entrance. Jesus is the Lord of history and He will not share His glory with another.

# SPECIAL INTRODUCTION

by John Kilpatrick

Something distinctive can be heard in a person's voice, or read in the words they write, which reveals a life-changing transformation they have encountered. As a matter of fact, I have reached a place where it is really difficult for me to receive from someone who has not been broken at an altar.

Jeremiah Johnson's new book, *The Altar*, actually takes you on a guided tour to the encounter this generation seeks.

In Second Chronicles 7:14, the Almighty Himself establishes the standard for revival. Ironically, He demands that we must be brought low to reach the high bar of His fiery presence.

I believe the book will serve as a modern-day treatise for those who desire to be used in this last-day revival and for those who are looking for His imminent return.

# CHAPTER 1

## THE ELECTION THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING

On the night of November 3rd, 2020, I sat in my living room in North Carolina watching the U.S. election with Mario Murillo. We had just arrived back from Washington D.C. where we saw many souls saved and an energized crowd gathered in support of Donald Trump and a Third Great Awakening in America. As Mario and I sat on the couch that night and discussed what God wanted to do in the years ahead, I recalled to him an incredible three-part dream that I had in late September of that year. It was later published in October online and went viral around the world.

In the dream, I saw three specific events happen. The first event was the Los Angeles Dodgers winning the World Series. God spoke to me that this was a sign that He was not done with California and a mighty revival was coming. The second event was of Amy Coney Barrett being set in place as a Supreme Court Justice before the U.S. election. This was a sign that a mighty Esther movement would be birthed in the earth and Roe v. Wade would be greatly challenged in the days ahead. The third event in the dream was of Donald J. Trump winning the U.S. election.

When the U.S. Senate confirmed Amy Coney Barrett as a Supreme Court Justice on October 26, 2020 before the U.S. election, the second event in the dream that I received had come to pass. The very next day, the Los Angeles Dodgers won the World Series on October 27, 2020. The first event I saw in the dream had now come true. With two out of the three events being accurate, I was now certain that Donald J. Trump would win the 2020 election.

As the polls began to close on November 3rd in various states, Donald Trump gained key victories in Texas, Ohio, and Florida. Based off the past history of U.S. elections, it was nearly impossible for him to lose the race with winning all three of these key battleground states. However, as the clock began to reach midnight eastern time, suddenly votes stopped being counted in several northern states. I vividly remember looking at Mario in disbelief in my living room, knowing that something was shifting.

**“With two out of the three events being accurate, I was now certain that Donald J. Trump would win the 2020 election.**

## THE WEEKS AHEAD

We finally went to bed around 3 am, and in the weeks that followed we watched as Joe Biden was declared the winner of the 2020 U.S. election. Due to the three-part dream I had in September that was published around the world, our ministry became the largest target of almost every major news outlet in the world. From the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Politico*, and *Business Insider* to Christian outlets such as *Christianity Today*, *The Christian Post*, and *Relevant Magazine*—everywhere I turned we began to be heavily criticized and attacked.

My initial response, because two out of the three events had come to pass, was to defend the third event. I even went as far as to initially claim online that the 2020 U.S. election had been stolen and, with time, God was going to work everything out. We just needed to pray for truth and deception to be exposed. In December, although mainstream news outlets were continuing to mock and target our ministry, millions of Christians were still standing on the prophecy that somehow Donald Trump would be declared the winner. We received an untold number of letters, emails, and phone calls of support weekly from so many saints and leaders from around the world.

The date of January 6th, 2021 had been set for the Senate to confirm the 46th President of the United States. The likelihood of something being reversed after that date was very low. Around Christmas time, I knew I needed to seek the Lord for clarity regarding my response to everything that was happening. Was I to continue to stand and declare that Donald Trump really was the winner and that the 2020 election was stolen regardless of what the outcome was, or was the third part of my dream inaccurate and I needed to publicly repent and ask for forgiveness?

**“My next decision was going to have a massive impact across the landscape of the body of Christ.**

As I sought the Lord in prayer, I bore the weight of knowing literally millions of people around the world followed our ministry. Due to high-profile television interviews, bestselling books I had authored, and national

speaking engagements, my name and voice were elevated in various places even beyond my own comprehension at the time. My next decision was going to have a massive impact across the landscape of the body of Christ.

## **THE PUBLIC APOLOGY**

It took several days for me to find clarity from the Lord in late December. I needed to shut myself in and stop watching the news. I wanted to make sure my mind and heart were not being influenced by any other source than the Holy Spirit. One night as I was seeking God, all I can say is that He made Himself known to me. I immediately began to weep and tremble as I felt Him step into my home. I instantly knew what must be done. I needed to publicly repent to the body of Christ and ask for forgiveness for inaccurately prophesying Donald Trump would win reelection. The Holy Spirit was very clear to me: *“Jeremiah, the mandate on your life is to prepare My Bride for the coming of the Bridegroom, and getting overly involved in political matters will pollute the call on your life. You must repent and return to Me with all your heart!”*

After this encounter, I reached out to several seasoned leaders in the body of Christ. They advised me to wait until after January 6th, to make a public statement regarding my apology. I felt because of the millions of people around the world who followed our ministry, I needed to write an open letter of public apology. On January 7th, 2021, that apology letter was distributed across all our social media platforms. Almost every major news outlet began publishing that letter and I could have never prepared myself in a million years for the fallout and change that was coming to my life and ministry in the months ahead.

## **DEATH THREATS AND VITRIOL**

“Sellout. Betrayer. Coward. I will kill you and your family.” These were all statements that were repeated again and again through phone calls, social media commentary, and emails in the weeks that followed my public letter of apology to the body of Christ. Here are several more exact quotes to help the reader understand what we were receiving at the time:

- “You are a freaking jerk. I love my President and you are no different than Mitt Romney.”
- You’re a false prophet and once Donald Trump is still the President you should go die in a hole somewhere.”
- “Your apology was asinine and no one ever wants to see your face again.”
- “You have given up faith in God and should be publicly stoned.”
- “How dare you apologize for God you moron. Hold the line.”

To my shock, these statements were all coming from those who had partnered with our ministry and supported us for years. I had expected to be labeled as a “false prophet” by many outside the Charismatic world who expect a 100 percent accuracy rate at all times from anyone claiming to be prophetic, but I could have never prepared myself for the vitriol, threats, and harassment that came from the Charismatic movement.

**“I could have never prepared myself for the vitriol, threats, and harassment that came from the Charismatic movement.**

On March 8th, 2021, *Christianity Today* published a viral article called “Trump Prophet Enraged His Followers by Apologizing,” detailing the response of so many Charismatics toward my public apology. Due to the intensity of the attacks that were coming from every side, I once again decided to shut myself in and seek God concerning the future of our ministry. What was I to do concerning so many close friends and ministry partners turning on us? The most common response that we received were angry messages stating, “Jeremiah, stop this! You do not have to repent for anything. Trump won and the Democrats stole the election.”

Sitting before the Lord, I was expecting Him to give me direction on how to navigate through all the turbulence of the season. How could I better address and bring peace to all the newspaper articles and anger toward us in the body of Christ?

*“Son, I want you to shut down your ministry.”* These were the exact words I heard in the secret place that shook me to my core. I instantly began to reel internally while simultaneously weep and wail externally. Shut down my ministry? *“Yes, I want you to delete your social media accounts and public following.”* I protested with numerous excuses. How would I take care of my staff and their families? What about the platform that He had given us that had a worldwide reach and took over ten years to establish? He continued, *“You have been operating in a room for over a decade that includes preaching about eternal realities, but it has become polluted with prophetic commentary on political events. I want you to enter a new room where you are solely focused on My return and the preparation of My Bride for the Wedding Day. I want you to build Me a Wedding Altar in the earth.”*

I remember being in my garage several days later, hysterically crying over what God was asking me to do. With close to one million active online followers and subscribers across our social media platforms, I just could not fathom shutting it all down. I seriously wondered if I was going insane. Maybe all the attacks and criticism regarding my public apology had gotten to my head and I was mentally unstable. The financial loss and further criticism were more than I could fathom. In a moment of desperation, I decided to make a phone call to a mother in the faith whom I knew had been praying for me through this entire process and led an established ministry herself. Surely she could talk me out of what I believed God was asking me to do.

“This is the way of the Cross, Jeremiah, and exactly what God is asking you to do,” she exclaimed with joy and laughter. On the other end of the phone I nervously laughed and then bawled my eyes out.

“Really?” I said. “You bear witness that I should shut down this ministry and start all over again?”

“Absolutely,” she said. “It’s no longer about you and your ministry. God is clearly asking you to birth an end-time movement in the earth that is going to touch a generation. If you do not let this die, what God is calling you into will never live.”

**“If you do not let this die, what God is calling you into will never live.”**

## **TERMINATING JEREMIAH JOHNSON MINISTRIES**

In March of 2021, I made the public announcement. I was officially terminating “Jeremiah Johnson Ministries” with all of its followers. In the days that followed we lost tens of thousands of dollars in monthly partner support and millions of followers online. The vitriol and hate mail intensified. The newspaper articles kept circulating. I was cancelled from so many conferences and churches that it was deeply embarrassing. Several pastors whom I had close relationships with over the years flat out told me, and I quote, “If you want to come minister at our church and speak on eternal realities, we are not interested. However, if you would like to come and prophesy about politics and current events, we would love to have you back this year.”

While many might expect that I would experience great discouragement and despair after shutting down our ministry and receiving the untold number of attacks and death threats, what actually initially happened was the exact opposite. By getting offline and completely focusing on eternal realities, I began to experience a realm of joy and relief in greater measure than I ever experienced in my entire life. I chose two passages of Scripture to focus on every day—Isaiah 6 and Revelation 4. In the months that followed, I became completely disoriented to be reoriented. I was given grace to become more familiar with a vision of God on the throne and the supernatural activity that surrounds it than I had previously been with politics and current events. It was liberating to say the least.

## **FREEDOM FROM WITCHCRAFT**

As unusual joy filled my life in March, April, and June of 2021. I do not want the reader to think the road was not also tumultuous. On July 21st of 2021, I was invited to share at the National Prophetic Summit in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The hosts asked me to share about the criticism I had endured and what God was revealing to me through it.

After I testified and attempted to get off the stage, a group of the prophets present rose from their seats and met me on the steps. They asked me to get back on stage as they wanted to pray for me. I was surprised by

their spontaneous action. As they began to pray, they declared that the power of witchcraft would be broken off my life and ministry. They said the way the Charismatic movement responded to my public repentance was totally uncalled for. “All the curses, death threats, and spiritual attacks have to cease,” they said. Immediately, my body began to respond to their declarations and I hit the floor. I wept and shook violently. One of the women who came up actually grabbed my face as I lay on the floor crying and said, “You are not a false prophet and I bind the spirit of shame over you right now. You will not believe these lies any longer.” Another prophet said, “I see your prophetic mantle rejuvenating and coming back to life.”

After all of this unexpected deliverance and breakthrough taking place on the floor, Bishop Joseph Garlington, a well-respected African American leader in the global Church, came forward and sang a song over me. It was called, “I Will Restore.” He then prophesied over me that the national attacks on my life and ministry were broken and that I would not only recover what I had lost but would gain even more because of my posture of humility and heart of repentance.

**“God truly gives grace to the humble but resists the proud.**

## **A NEW MAN EMERGES**

As I left the meeting that night totally shocked and blessed by what had taken place, another prophet ran up and reminded me that this all took place on the twenty-first day of the seventh month of 2021. He then quoted Haggai 2:1, 5-9 which says:

*In the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the hand of Haggai the prophet: “... Fear not. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the Lord of hosts. The latter glory of this*

*house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts” (ESV).*

The next morning, I woke up in the hotel not even feeling like the same person. I called my wife early and said, “Honey, something has happened. I have been delivered from the spirit of witchcraft and feel one thousand pounds lighter.” It’s honestly hard to give language to what happened to me. Although God gave me grace and joy through the process in the early months of 2021, the attacks and curses we had endured over a six-month period were severe and had taken an enormous toll on me. In fact, I did not fully realize just how demonic what we had gone through really was until the following morning. Looking out the hotel window that morning, it was as if color returned and I was seeing clearly for the first time in months.

I am eternally grateful to that group of prophets who sprang into action and declared life over me. I hope to have the opportunity to do the same for another brother or sister walking out their own God-ordained process in the days ahead. When I returned to our headquarters in Charlotte the following day and shared with my staff what had happened, we immediately recognized what we had all been battling as a team and prayed together.

## **HE WORKS ALL THINGS TOGETHER**

Could God use an inaccurate prophecy, a public apology, demonic witchcraft attacks, and becoming the national laughingstock of so many to humble me, chastise me, and refine my focus to exactly where He wanted it to be? Did I need to taste the success of human platforms and fame for over a decade, only to realize in the end that they are nothing compared to the Wedding Altar that God is preparing in the earth for His Son Jesus? Is being a friend of the Bridegroom really enough?

In the words of John Loren Sandford:

The budding prophet will be thrashed, beaten, humiliated, scorned, laughed at, and rejected; he will fall into error and arise—only to fall again, until, in every part of him, like

Nebuchadnezzar, he knows—with grass in his mouth—that the “Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will” (Dan. 4:3, RSV).<sup>1</sup>

What you will read in the chapters ahead is more than information; it is impartation. It is the real-life journey of a man who was given an international platform that garnered the attention of millions with public prophecies concerning politics and current events and in early 2021 was asked to radically obey the voice of God and shut it all down. A man and his following had to die so that a movement and a global Wedding Altar could be birthed in the earth.

My prayer is that the mistakes I have made along my spiritual journey and the revelation God is giving me about the Wedding Day would refresh and bless many. God truly gives grace to the humble but resists the proud. In the words of King David in Psalm 119:67, “*Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word*” (NIV). It was the kindness and goodness of God that led me toward personal and national repentance. May He and He alone receive the glory, attention, and praise in the years ahead. Now, let’s get started on our journey learning about the Wedding Altar and God’s eternal storyline being revealed in these exciting and turbulent days in history.

## NOTE

<sup>1</sup>. John Loren Sandford, *The Elijah Task* (Lake Mary, FL: Charisma House, 2006), 6.

## CHAPTER 2

### THE WEDDING ALTAR

**T**here are over four hundred references to altars in the Bible. They were elevated structures where sacrifices were offered either to the one true God Yahweh or false gods in the land. Altars represent places of consecration and are oftentimes built as a way to memorialize what God has done or said. Mighty men such as Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, and Gideon all built altars and worshiped God after very unique encounters with Him.

When altars were built to false gods, it was always a sign that Israel had fallen into national rebellion and idolatry. Moral decline began to set in, and the judgment of God was near. Up out of this apostasy rose prophets and kings such as Elijah, Josiah, Gideon, and Hezekiah who were mantled to tear down these wicked altars and repair the altar of the Lord.

In other periods of history, God Himself commanded that an altar be built as a way to help future generations not forget His mighty deeds and miracles (see Deut. 27:4-7; Exod. 30:1). In the New Covenant, we are invited to present ourselves as living sacrifices that are pleasing to the Lord (see Rom 12:1). In other words, our hearts now become the altar by which we will choose to either turn to the Lord or forsake Him.

## **MY ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS CHRIST**

In late 2018, I began to seek the Lord concerning His will for my family and me. In my time of prayer and seeking God, I was actually asking Him what my fivefold ministry call really was. With successful church planting and traveling in my background, was I a prophet, apostle, or pastor? How would this answer determine my future?

I remember it like it was yesterday. Suddenly, bright light filled my bedroom and Jesus Christ appeared before me. He was radiating the most purifying light I had ever seen. He was indeed the most beautiful human being I had ever laid eyes on. For the first time in my life, I fully understood how to accurately describe the fear of the Lord instantly. The fear of the Lord is beauty that makes you tremble. Jesus Christ was so extraordinary, so exquisite, so pure, so filled with light that all I could do

was tremble in His presence, recognizing what filled His being was far from what filled mine.

A.W. Tozer accurately summed up my encounter with the Son of Man decades earlier when he wrote and said, “When we really experience Jesus Christ we learn astonished reverence, breathless adoration, awesome fascination, and lofty admiration. The reverential fear of the Lord mixed with love, fascination, astonishment, admiration, and devotion is the most enjoyable state and the most purifying emotion the human soul can know.”<sup>1</sup>

**“The fear of the Lord is beauty that makes you tremble.**

As Jesus walked toward me and I began to tremble, He uttered words that will forever mark me. He said, *“Jeremiah, many know the Lamb who went to Calvary, but few know the Lion who is returning to devour His Father’s enemies.”* I nodded and He continued, *“I am calling you and I am telling you that I am raising up end-time messengers all over the earth who will help prepare My Bride for My Second Coming. You must build a Wedding Altar and invite My Bride to say, ‘I do.’ Can I entrust you with this mandate?”* I wept and said, “Yes, Lord!” Jesus then turned around and walked right through my wall and vanished before my eyes.

This dramatic encounter launched me on a journey to discover what exactly this “Wedding Altar” would look like. In the days that followed my experience with Jesus Christ, I began to understand that God was raising up end-time messengers—friends of the Bridegroom like John the Baptist who are going to give their lives to persuading the Bride (the Church) to say “I do” down at the Wedding Altar where our coming Bridegroom King will return to marry us. And as I have personally testified in Chapter 1, perhaps God is also going to forbid many of His messengers from prophesying into politics so that their focus can be solely on eternal realities.

One further thought before we move on: I can only speculate, but perhaps John the Baptist himself became distracted in his forerunner calling. By meddling in the political affairs of King Herod, it cost him his head. What if John the Baptist would have stayed on mission to prepare the way of the Lord and just preached repentance? We may never know the

answers to these questions; however, I do believe that I ventured into a political lane that I was not called to run in and got my head cut off. I am so grateful for the mercy and grace of Jesus Christ in a New Covenant for second chances.

In the days that followed my encounter with Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit also began to specifically talk to me about the need for what He called “bridal revival” in the last days. Then there were the two dueling brides and an encounter with “another” Jesus! These revelations shifted my paradigm of the end times forever. The altar of baal is another subject that we will discuss in a later chapter. If you are hungry to help build the Wedding Altar that Jesus Christ is so worthy of, keep reading!

**“I ventured into a political lane that I was not called to run in and got my head cut off.**

## NOTE

- [1.](#) A.W. Tozer, *Whatever Happened to Worship?* (Camp Hill, PA: Christian Publications, Ltd., 1985).

## CHAPTER 3

# BRIDAL REVIVAL

Jesus is releasing a tangible groan in the earth. An ache, a longing, an unquestionable thirst and heart cry for His return. He has given us, His Bride, this groan as a gift to keep our hearts and spirits awake when they are prone to sleeping. He is actually inviting us to embrace the tension of living between His first and second comings! More than temporary revival, which is oftentimes focused on personalities and present hungers, there is a bridal revival reality coming upon this generation centered upon Jesus Christ and His return. It welcomes salvation, miracles, and deliverance—yet bridal revival seeks to feed the ache for eternity living inside the hearts of believers all over the world.

**“Are we willing to remain in the vulnerability of hunger at the heart level for years, continuing in the way of lovesickness even when disillusionment comes knocking on our door?”**

There are deep questions that we have to consider if we are going to steward bridal revival. Are we willing to remain in the vulnerability of hunger at the heart level for years, continuing in the way of lovesickness even when disillusionment comes knocking on our door and the fire of when we first got saved seems too extravagant and too extreme?

What about when the options set in, the responsibilities rise, the children come, and the cares increase? Will we fight for the simplicity of loving Jesus radically and press against the torrential wave that carries away so many from wholehearted consecration over the course of years?

When decades turn and years accumulate, will our lives be such that Jesus would say over our later years that love found its victory in us, and the steady tide of love became a mighty wave that no longer needed prodding but swept us effortlessly in its strength?

Oh, that bridal revival would abound and sweep over the global Church, burning within us in such a way that it does not diminish over decades but steadily increases until the day we see His face. In his book *Systematic Theology*, Wayne Grudem puts it this way:

Do Christians in fact eagerly long for Christ's return? The more Christians are caught up in enjoying the good things of this life, and the more they neglect genuine Christian fellowship and their personal relationship with Christ, the less they will long for his return. ...To some extent, then, the degree to which we actually long for Christ's return is a measure of the spiritual condition of our own lives at the moment.<sup>1</sup>

## THE WEDDING DAY

In my encounter with Jesus Christ in my bedroom, He said to me:

*For many years, My Bride has sought to consecrate herself before Me without My eternal storyline in mind. They have sought to fast, pray, and separate themselves from the world with only present hopes and desires of revival and awakening. However, in this generation I am releasing the "why" behind the "what": namely the Wedding Day. See, I am releasing a revelation of My pure and spotless Bride that will stand before Me one day so that My people might not grow weary and lose heart on their journey to become like Me. While a present focus on revival, personal holiness, and consecration will only last for a time, a vision of the Wedding Day will be the power behind bridal revival in the days ahead. There is a lovesickness that shall come upon My Bride that will give her doves' eyes. Pure and simple devotion to Me will be the mark of a consecrated Bride that will rise before Me in the last days.*

The truth is that Jesus Christ is coming back for a Bride in revival who has her heart set on not only encountering Him today but who yearns and longs for His Second Coming. *It is possible to be focused on temporary revival without ever being marked for bridal revival.* The difference is found in the emphasis on and zeal for eternity!

**"The difference is found in the emphasis on and zeal for eternity!"**

As I began to fast and pray into the Wedding Altar that God is inviting this generation to build in the earth and the need for bridal revival in the end times, He said to me:

*In the last days, there will be two dueling brides that will emerge—the Consecrated Bride and the Harlot Bride. The Consecrated Bride will marry itself to the Bridegroom King, the Man of War, and the Harlot Bride will marry itself to the world and look like Babylon.*

It is so important for the reader to understand this concept of the “two dueling brides” so that as deception increases in these last days we will be sober and alert as the Scriptures teach us. In fact, the first to speak of apostasy in the end times was the Lord Jesus Himself. He prophesied, “*At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people*” (Matt. 24:10-11 NIV).

In Second Thessalonians 2:3, the apostle Paul wrote to those who said that the coming of the Lord had already happened: “*Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition*” (KJV). Paul wrote to warn Timothy, his spiritual son, and said, “*Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons*” (1 Tim 4:1).

In this next chapter, we will now take a closer look at the two dueling brides and give ourselves to understanding their DNA so that we might walk in the truth and not fall away.

## NOTE

- [1.](#) Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994), 1093.

## CHAPTER 4

### THE TWO DUELING BRIDES

**T**he first bride that God showed me was what the Holy Spirit called *the Consecrated Bride*. In the midst of a tremendous and dark assault upon this generation, God is gathering a remnant who will be completely devoted to His Son Jesus. In Hebrew, the word *qadash*, used 172 times in the Old Testament, means “set apart.” It is translated into English as *consecration*. Paul urged believers in Second Corinthians 6:17 to “*Come out from them and be separate.... Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you*” (NIV).

The call to be consecrated, to be set apart, living holy and separated unto the Lord, weaves its way throughout the Old and New Testament. In Revelation 18:4, immediately before the Wedding Day of the Lamb and His Bride, John heard a voice from heaven that told believers “*Come out of her, my people, so that you will not participate in her sins and receive any of her plagues*” (NASB).

Clearly, the invitation to consecration has a solid foundation in the Word of God. In fact, it is a command.

## **THE NAZIRITES**

During the darkest and most turbulent days in Israel’s history, God raised up consecrated individuals like Samson, Samuel, and John the Baptist to shake His people out of complacency and confront idolatry in the land. These men were known as “Nazirites” because of their radical devotion to Yahweh. *Their commitment to deny themselves the legitimate pleasures of this life so that they might experience a greater measure of satisfaction in God set them apart from the rest of their generations.*

**“A radical consecration born out of encountering the jealous love of God in the same spirit of the Nazirites is our only hope in this current hour.**

A radical consecration born out of encountering the jealous love of God in the same spirit of the Nazirites is our only hope in this current hour. The lack of demonstrations of the power of God in the Church now is directly linked to our lack of consecration. God is going to pour out His Spirit

without measure to a consecrated Bride who chooses to live outside the spiritual mixtures of this world.

## **A PROPHETIC DREAM**

In a season of crying out to the Lord for the DNA that would mark the consecrated Bride, God gave me a dream in which Mike Bickle, Lou Engle, and Corey Russell gathered together.

In the dream, each man wore a T-shirt. Mike Bickle's T-shirt read "Shulamite," Lou Engle's T-shirt said "Nazirite," and Corey Russell's T-shirt proclaimed "Nasharite."

God immediately spoke to me in the dream and said:

*The consecrated Bride that is emerging in the earth will possess this three-cord strand that cannot easily be broken. The Shulamite anointing represents love and intimacy, the Nazirite anointing represents consecration and holiness, and the Nasharite anointing represents prayer and fasting.*

*The DNA of the consecrated Bride must be the marrying of intimacy, consecration, and prayer. It is out of those three realities that My kingdom will be displayed in fullness and power in the days ahead.*

## **THE SHULAMITE, NAZIRITE, AND NASHARITE**

The Shulamite bride in the Song of Solomon asks Solomon to "Kiss me with the kisses of your mouth, for you love is better than wine" (1:2). In other words, the Shulamite anointing resting upon the consecrated Bride will crave intimacy with Jesus over anything else the world has to offer because she has experienced a realm of encounter with Him that she cannot find anywhere on earth. A realm of lovesickness and romance unlike anything we have known before is going to rest upon the Church in the last days. Songs, sermons, and prophecies will be released that directly involve the wooing, longing, and aching of the Bride for her Bridegroom King to come.

The Nazirite calling had three vows attached to it—the cutting of the hair, drinking wine, and being around the dead were forbidden according to the law. The fire fueling this restrained lifestyle was measured in the heart behind these choices. The consecrated Bride will choose to abstain from many pleasures that the world offers in pursuit of a higher pleasure—the Presence and Person of the Bridegroom King.

The Nasharite anointing comes from a man named Daniel Nash. At the beginning of the Second Great Awakening in America, Daniel Nash, at 48 years of age, gave himself totally to pray for the meetings of revivalist Charles Finney.

Nash would enter towns and cities weeks before Finney’s scheduled awakening meetings and travail in the place of intercession and prayer that God might pour out His Spirit upon the meetings.

Once Nash entered a city and found only a dark cellar to pray ahead of time. Lying prostrate on the ground and groaning, he called on the name of the Lord and pulled heaven to earth. When Finney would arrive and begin the awakening meetings, Nash typically did not attend. He would continue praying in secret for souls and deliverance. Several hundred thousand souls were brought into the kingdom during the Second Great Awakening. Nash died in 1831. His gravestone reads:

DANIEL NASH  
Laborer with Finney  
Mighty in Prayer  
Nov. 17, 1775–Dec. 20, 1831

Nasharites are voices of deep prophetic intercession who shift regions and nations as they release the words and heart of God through prayer and fasting. Just as Daniel Nash committed himself as a voice of prophetic intercession, giving time and resources to the place of travail before Charles Finney, the messenger of awakening, would preach, even so God is releasing this anointing in the earth.

This Nasharite army in the earth will win heaven’s blessing and approval before revival and awakening meetings occur in cities and regions.

It is this colorful, vibrant, prophetic vision and brilliant description of the consecrated Bride that will cause Jesus, our Bridegroom King, to declare at the end of the age: “Arise and get ready now, for the marriage supper of the Lamb has come and the Bride has made herself ready.”

May we continue to understand that the power of our present commitment to revival and consecration must be fueled by this glorious picture of our Wedding Day as described in Revelation 19. Our Bridegroom King is declaring over us even now, “*You have ravished my heart, my sister, my bride; you have ravished my heart with one glance of your eyes*” (Song of Sol. 4:9 MEV).

## **THE HARLOT BRIDE**

The next bride the Holy Spirit revealed to me was what He called *the harlot bride*. He gave me five specific attributes regarding her. They are sexual immorality, drunkenness, tolerance, greed, and pride. James reveals the core of the harlot bride when he writes, “You adulteress, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God” (see James 4:4).

**“While the harlot bride may relate to Jesus as the Lamb, only the consecrated Bride also recognizes Him as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.**

Very simply put, the harlot bride loves the world and enjoys friendship with it. The consecrated Bride is in love with the Bridegroom and develops special friendship with the Holy Spirit. *While the harlot bride may relate to Jesus as the Lamb, only the consecrated Bride also recognizes Him as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.* Let’s look closer at these five attributes of the harlot bride so that we can examine our own lives and perhaps even the church assembly we attend to make sure we are not living in deception.

### **1. Sexual Immorality**

Sexual immorality is at the top of almost every list of sins in the New Testament. It is emphasized in the book of Revelation as one of satan’s

primary weapons against the Church in the end times (see Rev. 2:20; 9:21; 14:8; 17:1-4). If someone is continually and habitually engaging in sexual immorality and calling themselves a Christian, they are seriously deceived (see Rom. 6). Lifting our hands up on Sunday morning and pulling our pants down on Friday night is not okay. Heterosexual, homosexual, bisexual, and however else sexual you want to get, but if it's not in covenant as defined by the Word, then God doesn't bless it. He condemns it. It doesn't matter if someone attends a supernatural school of ministry, speaks in tongues and prophecies, their daddy's a preacher, or they're under some false grace teaching. If we are not saving ourselves for marriage, we are selling ourselves to the devil! The harlot bride will not only embrace heterosexual immorality but will also welcome homosexuality. It will be welcome in the pulpits and in the pews.

## **2. Drunkenness**

The harlot bride will have a very casual approach to drinking alcohol and this will cause many to stumble. Remember in the days of Amos, the prophet indicts the spirit of harlotry in spiritual leadership when he says, "*You made the Nazirites drink wine*" (Amos 2:12 NIV). There is a steady pressure and worldly culture that has infiltrated much of the global Church that welcomes casual drinking and even drunkenness. Paul warns in Ephesians 5:18, "*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit!*" (NIV).

## **3. Tolerance**

The harlot bride will be very relaxed in her approach to morality and biblical doctrine. It will place more emphasis on feelings and experience than the infallibility of God's Word. There will be a twisting of Scripture and a spirit of perversion that will fill the harlot bride and allow for wickedness and compromise in the house of God.

In 1959 it was Billy Graham who said:

Tolerance, in one sense, implies the compromise of one's convictions, a yielding of ground upon important issues. Hence, over-tolerance in moral issues has made us soft, flabby

and devoid of conviction. We have become tolerant about divorce; we have become tolerant about the use of alcohol; we have become tolerant about delinquency; we have become tolerant about wickedness in high places; we have become tolerant about immorality; we have become tolerant about crime and we have become tolerant about godlessness. We have become tolerant of unbelief.<sup>1</sup>

#### **4. Love of Money**

First Timothy 6:10 says, *“But if it’s only money these leaders are after, they’ll self-destruct in no time. Lust for money brings trouble and nothing but trouble. Going down that path, some lose their footing in the faith completely and live to regret it bitterly ever after”* (MSG).

The harlot bride will be governed by her love of money. She will sacrifice the truth of the gospel for pleasure and entertainment. The harlot bride’s leaders will fleece the sheep and be continually hungry for monetary gain. Revelation 18:3 says, *“The merchants of the earth have become rich by the wealth of her sensuality”* (NASB95).

#### **5. Pride**

The worst attribute of the harlot bride will be her pride. The harlot bride will glory in her perversion, drunkenness, tolerance, and harlotry. She will mock the consecrated Bride and persecute those who walk in humility and meekness. Revelation 18:7 says of her that, *“To the degree that she glorified herself...to the same degree give her torment and mourning”* (NASB95).

James 4:6 says, *“God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble”* (ESV). Prideful people deeply resent criticism. They are insecure and don’t know how to laugh at themselves. They crave constant praise, and in their own eyes they are extremely important. They cannot bear not getting credit for what they’ve accomplished, and they possess an insatiable need to prove themselves to everyone.

## **A TIME OF PERSONAL AND CORPORATE REFLECTION**

If you are reading this and are coming under the conviction of the Holy Spirit, I strongly encourage you to put this book down and began to dialogue with Him about what areas in your life need His transforming love. Hear the voice of your Father calling out to you today before it's too late, saying, “‘*Come out of her, my people, ’ so that you will not share in her sins, so that you will not receive any of her plagues*” (Rev. 18:4 NIV).

If you are attending a church where the leadership is more concerned with pleasing spectators and has not taken clear stands on biblical morality and doctrine, you are in great danger of being swept away into end-time apostasy. Please pray about whether you need to make an exit from that assembly or move you and your family geographically to a city or region where there are saints and leaders who are the consecrated Bride and eager for the return of Jesus Christ.

In the words of David Wilkerson, “Where you attend church and the teaching that has your heart is a very serious matter. The mark of a seduced Christian is that they are constantly carried about seeking some new and sensational teaching. They run from church to church, conference to conference, and have no root or foundation. The ears of such people are always itching to hear something entertaining, something new, and something pleasing to their flesh. This appetite is dangerous and will end up leading millions into apostasy in the last days.”

## NOTE

- [1.](#) Billy Graham, *Hear My Heart* (New York: NY: Howard Books, 2014), 123-124.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **BEWARE OF ANOTHER JESUS**

I am deeply compelled by the Holy Spirit to share a very unusual encounter I had about six months after Jesus Christ appeared in my bedroom in 2018. I know in my heart that there are those reading this right now who are in danger of end-time deception and need the help of the Holy Spirit to open up your eyes to the truth.

I received a prophetic dream one night where I thought Jesus Christ was appearing to me again, but as I drew closer I instantly realized it was not Him—it was an imposter!

I grabbed him by the throat and said, “Who are you?” With dazzling eyes and a type of glaring seduction that I will never forget, he said, “I’m another Jesus.” I immediately let him go and he began to laugh—a bone-chilling laugh that went through my spine.

For some reason, I began demanding what his marching orders were. Where was he going and why?

With anger he said, “I can only go where I’m welcome and not where I please because the Son of Man has restrained me.”

I said, “Who would ever welcome you into their midst?”

He began to laugh again, a deep belly laugh, and said, “I’m currently making my way all over the West Coast. Many of the churches there love me. They also love me in the lecture halls of America in the East where they openly debate theology. And most of all, I am readily welcome on many worship teams in America. They just love for me to write the songs and lead the people in false baal worship.”

## **WORSHIPING A FALSE JESUS**

It should be deeply alarming to us all that a false Jesus has not only infiltrated many Bible colleges and seminaries in America but also worship teams who are leading the people into baal worship. In my book *Houses of Glory*, I shared out of Ezekiel 44 and out of an experience I had at a church several years ago that will help give us further prophetic insight into what the Holy Spirit is revealing in this hour.

In Ezekiel 44, verses 6 and 7, God says, “*Enough of all your abominations, O house of Israel, when you brought in foreigners,*

*uncircumcised in heart... to be in My sanctuary to profane it, even My house” (NASB95). It’s important to understand that when God brings cleansing, He always comes to the priesthood first—the leadership of God’s Church.*

The Levites had allowed foreigners to come into the sanctuary of God. These were unfaithful and unauthorized priests and, as such, were an abomination to God. Yahweh repeats His objection to the Levites in verse 8: *“And you have not kept charge of My holy things yourselves, but you have set foreigners to keep charge of My sanctuary” (NASB95).*

### **FOREIGNERS LEADING WORSHIP**

As I read Ezekiel 44, I was overcome with grief. God is saying the exact same thing to the church leadership of the 21st century: “You have invited and welcomed individuals into My house to lead and minister who are not circumcised in heart!”

The Lord recalled to my memory an incident that had happened several years ago. I had been invited to observe the services of a large church. The pastor wanted me to spend a day with his church and then share with him any prophetic insights the Lord may have given me. I sat through their five Sunday services and met with him afterward. “Jeremiah,” he asked, “what do you think about what you witnessed today?”

“Sir, to be honest with you,” I began, “in terms of excellence, I do not believe your worship team missed one note and your sermons were as polished as I have ever heard. However, there was no real tangible glory of God that marked any of what was done today.” He was flabbergasted. I looked at him and asked, “Do you know if any of the members of the worship band up on stage are even saved? They looked and sounded like professionals to me.”

“They are the finest musicians we could hire,” he responded, “and we pay each one of them 500 dollars every Sunday to play for our services.”

“Okay,” I agreed, aware I was on sensitive ground, “but have you ever asked if they are saved and have had a life-changing encounter with Jesus

Christ? Do you know that they are not actively living in sin?” The pastor stared at me. I continued.

“So if they are not saved, whose presence exactly are they leading the congregation into every Sunday? Sir, you have brought foreigners into the house of God who are not circumcised in heart. God is not pleased with your actions and you need to repent.” He showed me the door and asked me never to return.

## ENTERTAINMENT CHURCH

Francis Chan speaks to what he describes as an “entertainment spirit” that has overtaken the harlot bride. According to Chan:

The benchmark of success in church services has become more about attendance than the movement of the Holy Spirit. The “entertainment” model of church was largely adopted in the 1980s and '90s, and while it alleviated some of our boredom for a couple of hours a week, it filled our churches with self-focused consumers rather than self-sacrificing servants attuned to the Holy Spirit.<sup>1</sup>

The harlot bride thrives on entertainment. The consecrated Bride craves intimacy. The harlot bride is willing to trade purity for popularity, gifting and talent for the fresh anointing. The harlot bride is in bed with the spirit of compromise and mixture and it is being exposed in the worship movement today. The consecrated Bride will not settle for any other lover than her glorious Bridegroom King. She will lock eyes with Him and go to war for the soul of her nation. High praise and intense intercession will fill the belly of the consecrated Bride. A new breed of worship leader and team is being birthed in the last days. They will lead the masses into a revelation of who Jesus really is. Bridal revival is going to break out and strengthen the Bride in the midst of intense religious persecution.

**“Bridal revival is going to break out and strengthen the Bride in the midst of intense religious persecution.**

To this day, I am still processing this terrifying encounter with another Jesus, but I believe it is time for many of us, though it might be difficult, to start coming to grips with the truth that there could be another Jesus writing many worship songs in America. There could be another Jesus walking in our lecture halls at Christian and liberal universities debating theology. We could be attending a church that the Holy Spirit would consider the harlot bride, and we need to remove ourselves right now. The very words of Jesus Christ Himself in Matthew 24:24 should be enough to sober any of us up from our slumber. He said, *“For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect”* (KJV).

The Holy Spirit is calling on the global Church to consecrate themselves in this hour and embrace bridal revival. The worship movement must be purified. He is sounding the alarm on end-time deception and exposing the harlot bride and another false Jesus. In His great love He is warning us of the things to come so that we might walk in the truth and not be deceived. We must give ourselves to serving the God of the Bible and not the God of our imaginations. Our Bridegroom King is coming. Are you ready?

## NOTE

- [1.](#) Francis Chan, *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit* (Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2009), 15-16.

## CHAPTER 6

# THE RETURN OF OUR BRIDEGROOM KING

**I**t has truly been shocking how many in the younger generations have never heard one single message on the return of Jesus Christ. I was recently preaching on the Second Coming at a meeting in North Carolina and many youth came forward under great weeping and travail. As I ministered to them and prayed for them, they said their heart was burning and had never heard a message on eternity. As I travel around the country, older saints approach me with tears in their eyes testifying that they grew up hearing messages on heaven and hell and the return of Jesus Christ but it has been decades since that occurred. Despite the message of Jesus's Second Coming being brand new to many young people these days or a long forgotten subject to older saints, we must turn to the Word of God to find our foundation. What we find should sober us up quickly.

The truth is that Jesus Christ was the preoccupation of the first-century Church. Reflection on His beauty, zeal for His name, and an eager expectation of His return consume page after page of the New Testament. *In fact, Jesus Christ is the crucial end-time subject matter.* Without the correct knowledge and understanding of who He is, the pressures upon the earth prior to His return will be unbearable for many (see Isa. 33:6).

We all have to ask ourselves, “If longing for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ was normative in the early Church of the New Testament, then why and what currently keeps believers from longing for His return and studying what the Scriptures say concerning it?” Bible scholar Wayne Grudem cuts to the heart of the matter when he writes, “The degree to which we actually long for Christ’s return is a measure of the spiritual condition of our own lives at the moment.”<sup>1</sup>

**“Jesus Christ is the crucial end-time subject matter.**

## **THE HUSBAND OF ISRAEL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

We discover in the Old Testament that God describes Himself as a Bridegroom Husband:

*For your Maker is your husband, the Lord of hosts is His name; and your Redeemer is the Holy One of Israel; He is called the God of the whole earth (Isaiah 54:5).*

*“And it shall be, in that day,” says the Lord, “that you will call Me ‘My Husband,’ and no longer call Me ‘My Master.’ ...I will betroth you to Me forever; yes, I will betroth you to Me in righteousness and justice, in lovingkindness and mercy. I will betroth you to Me in faithfulness, and you shall know the Lord” (Hosea 2:16, 19-20).*

Only the language of betrothal expresses the intensity of affection that God has for us as His people. His heart and desire for us should captivate our hearts and wake us up out of our apathy and complacency.

*As the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you (Isaiah 62:5).*

*Return, O backsliding children...for I am married to you. I will take you, one from a city and two from a family, and I will bring you to Zion (Jeremiah 3:14).*

God wanted Israel to know that the covenant between Him and them was not a service agreement but a marriage union. His love and jealousy over us is real and tangible.

## **THE BRIDEGROOM KING IN THE NEW TESTAMENT**

It's fascinating to realize that in the New Testament Jesus Christ refers to Himself as the Bridegroom. Let's read it here:

*Then the disciples of John came to Him, asking, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but Your disciples do not fast?” And Jesus said to them, “The attendants of the bridegroom cannot mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them, can they? But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast” (Matthew 9:14-15 NASB95).*

Jesus is telling the disciples that right now while He is walking the earth, it is too much of a glorious and exciting time for the friends of the Bridegroom to fast, but when He is taken away, then there will be a time of longing, aching, yearning, and desperation. And those days Jesus prophesied about are upon us now even in the 21st century.

I believe Jesus is revealing His leadership strategy in this passage. It consisted of establishing a team of disciples who were pierced, struck, fascinated, and in love with Him. After He died and rose from the dead, they willingly labored to establish His kingdom, which cost them their lives. It's called love-sickness. Song of Solomon 8:6 rightly says that there is a love stronger than death. This is the kind of deep commitment that will permeate the consecrated Bride.

**"It's called lovesickness. This is the kind of deep commitment that will permeate the consecrated Bride.**

The apostles and first-century Church spoke with great affection of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Their passion, desire, and sacrifice were fueled by their longing to see the return of their Friend and Bridegroom, Jesus. Let's look at some specific examples in the New Testament. Acts 3:19-20 says:

*Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before.*

We must recognize that the present message of repentance that Peter preached was directly connected to the future return of Jesus Christ. I encourage you to read the passage again slowly. Let's look at First Peter 1:6-8. It says:

*In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold*

*that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, whom having not seen you love.*

I don't want the reader to miss again what Peter is declaring. He is connecting the rejoicing in present trials to the future return of Jesus Christ! When is the last time you heard a message that connected present suffering to eternal glory? So little, and yet it is so biblical! Titus 2:11-13 says:

*For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.*

Paul called the Second Coming of Jesus Christ the Church's blessed hope. He directly connected the call to holy living to the return of Jesus Christ. What will happen if the emphasis on holiness and repentance in the Church gets connected to the preparation of the Bride for our glorious Wedding Day when Jesus Christ returns? Second Timothy 4:8 says:

*Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.*

Paul, at the close of his life, declared that a crown of righteousness awaits all who long for and love the return of Jesus Christ. There is a present-day move in the global Church to set aside the importance of the Lord's return and focus on only the kingdom coming now through us. This emphasis on the "now" of the kingdom has done much good to remove passivity from the Church.

However, emphasizing the "nowness" of the kingdom at the exclusion of Christ's return was *not* a practice of the apostles and early Church. Their

writings were clear. We are to long for His coming *and* live now in such a way that hastens His return. Second Corinthians 5:1-5 says:

*For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.*

The Holy Spirit yearns inside of us for the return of Jesus Christ. There is actually a greater cry than the cry for present revival. There is a deep ache on the inside of us that longs for our resurrected bodies! What if the focus in many of our revival circles on present-day moves of God is actually disconnected from the return of God? This is why we desperately need bridal revival in the last days!

**“The Holy Spirit yearns inside of us for the return of Jesus Christ.**

Revelation 22:17 speaks of a time when the Holy Spirit and the Bride will be in unity in their desire for the return of Jesus Christ and His rule and reign in the earth.

*The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price (ESV).*

The eternal cry of our hearts as believers is, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

## **ASKING THE HARD QUESTIONS**

After we have just read so many Scriptures in the Old and New Testament concerning Jesus Christ as our Bridegroom King and His Second Coming, then we have to ask ourselves this: “If longing for the appearing of Christ was normative in the first-century Church, then what keeps believers in the 21st century from longing for His return and studying Scriptures concerning it?” My friend Allen Hood has some excellent insight here.

**1. Misconception: Studying the end times will distract us from fulfilling the Great Commission.**

The truth is that sound doctrine always promotes biblical action. A correct view of the end times will always lead us to a passion for the harvest! If Jesus Christ is returning, then we must have an urgency in our hearts for all our lost loved ones and those who will perish in the world.

**2. Deception: Jesus told us not be overly concerned with the end times.**

Matthew 24:36-37,42 says:

*But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. ...Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming.*

In its proper context, Jesus is actually pointing to the fact that *because* we do not know the hour of His return, it should produce a watchful spirit and an active posture of discerning the times and seasons. In deception, people use these verses to empower the very thing that Jesus is speaking against! We must continually ask the Holy Spirit to lead and guide us into all truth.

**3. Accusation: This worldly spirit mocks the return of Jesus Christ.**

Second Peter 3:1-4 says:

*Beloved, I now write to you...that you may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us, the apostles of the Lord and Savior, knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days,*

*walking according to their own lusts, and saying, “Where is the promise of His coming?”*

Again, Peter goes on in verses 10-12 and says:

*But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? (KJV)*

**4. Humanism: An obsession with the temporary devalues eternity.**

*For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth (2 Timothy 4:3-4 KJV).*

So many have a distorted view of the Second Coming of Christ because they crave the temporary pleasures of this life and do not understand how glorious the appearing of Jesus really is. In dangerous cases, they have bought into full preterism, which is heresy. This false doctrine says that Jesus Christ has already returned.

## **THE ETERNAL CRY**

I believe God wants to mark those reading this right now with a supernatural lovesickness. He wants to awaken an eternal cry in our hearts that far surpasses ordinary Christianity or even a temporary longing for revival. He wants to break the power of any deception, misconception, and spirits of accusation. He wants to raise up friends of the Bridegroom, end-

time messengers who will herald His return. He is preparing a Wedding Altar in the earth and bidding His Bride to come say “I do.” Are you ready?

**“He wants to awaken an eternal cry in our hearts that far surpasses ordinary Christianity or even a temporary longing for revival.”**

## NOTE

- [1.](#) Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 1093.

## CHAPTER 7

### FRIENDS OF THE BRIDEGROOM

Jesus said in Matthew 19:12, “*For there are eunuchs who have been so from birth, and there are eunuchs who have been made eunuchs by men, and there are eunuchs who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven. Let the one who is able to receive this receive it*” (ESV).

It was an ancient Near Eastern custom to surround the royal women with eunuchs so that these slaves and servants would not be tempted to violate or sleep with the women. The castration of the male servants and slaves was seen as a method to protect that which was pure and had been set apart for the throne. Jesus said in Matthew 19:12 that there are those who have made themselves eunuchs for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

I believe the modern-day eunuchs who have made themselves so for the sake of the kingdom of heaven are the true friends of the Bridegroom God is calling forth in this generation. These men and women will be known as “protectors of the Bride” rather than violating her. The present-day merchandizing, commercializing, and monetizing of the word of the Lord has become deeply grieving to the heart of God. The Holy Spirit recently whispered to me, “*This generation is more addicted to an online algorithm than they are to following My whisper.*” When we become more focused on reaching people rather than intimacy with Jesus Christ, we are in danger of subtle idolatry.

We must never use the Bride of Christ for our own pleasure and entertainment. She is not one that we should ever prey upon but rather seek to pray over her with the heart of the Bridegroom. As friends of the Bridegroom, we must realize we are actually serving another man’s wife! The way we treat the Bride and speak to her is a sobering reality that must be embraced. Friends of the Bridegroom are mantled with a holy jealousy for the Bride. They are laid-down lovers who are willing to deny themselves the legitimate pleasures of this life for a higher degree of satisfaction in the Bridegroom.

The Holy Spirit is commissioning friends of the Bridegroom who will awaken the Bride to the riches of Christ’s glory and expose the coming deception of the evil one. Three times in Matthew 24, Jesus highlights the number-one strategy of satan in the last days—deception. The apostle Paul

was emphatic concerning how to avoid deception—we must love truth and abide in the person and doctrines of Christ (see 1 Tim. 4:16; 2 Tim. 3:10-15).

We need end-time messengers who will unmask dangerous deception that seeks to undermine essential biblical truth.

The Bride is presently consumed with many things other than Jesus, yet this is about to change. His full glory will no longer be concealed, for God is arranging an end-time scenario that will clearly demonstrate the glory of His Son over every opposing passion. Friends of the Bridegroom who proclaim Jesus Christ and all of His glory are one of God’s primary answers to the end-time deception sweeping the body of Christ (see Isa. 40:3). It was A.W. Tozer who said, “The essence of idolatry is the entertainment of thoughts about God that are unworthy of Him.”<sup>1</sup> One of the primary assignments that friends of the Bridegroom have is to help the Bride recognize and receive the Bridegroom when He comes through the accurate knowledge of who He is.

**“We need end-time messengers who will unmask dangerous deception that seeks to undermine essential biblical truth.”**

Friends of the Bridegroom are fiery heralds who will help usher in revival to the Bride centered upon the knowledge of God and the return of Jesus Christ. These men and women are burning and shining lamps who love to devour the Word of God. They are committed to proclaiming the truth of Jesus Christ as taught in the Scriptures and not the counterfeit Jesus of progressive culture.

Friends of the Bridegroom will walk in a strong prophetic spirit. True prophetic preaching is saturated with the knowledge of God, which confronts vain imaginations and carnal ideas regarding His greatness (see 2 Cor. 10:3-5). True prophetic preaching confronts Earth with heaven in that it shatters false paradigms concerning the knowledge of God and directs listeners to the heart and revelation of who God is (see 2 Cor. 10:3-5). The central issue of spiritual warfare is the knowledge of God. The Bride is powerful when she grows in the knowledge of God. Satan assaults the

knowledge of God by blinding people's eyes to it (see 2 Cor. 4:4). Lack of the knowledge of God is what breeds strongholds.

Friends of the Bridegroom bring the Bride into greater depths of understanding the splendor and majesty of Jesus Christ. They are anointed to unveil the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ to a generation (see Eph. 3:8). The knowledge of Jesus Christ is not only the means of salvation for the lost, but it is also the means of sanctification for believers. It is absolutely necessary for the global Church to be rooted in true wisdom based on the person and work of Jesus Christ in order to bear the coming pressures prior to His return.

## **THE MINISTRY OF JOHN THE BAPTIST**

John the Baptist came through a priestly lineage, yet the word of the Lord came to him in the wilderness. He came with a message of repentance and fulfilled the prophecy spoken by Isaiah in chapter 40. John the Baptist chose to exchange the religious robes that were passed down to him for a life of prayer, fasting, and the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the same way that God raised up this man to prepare the earth for Jesus Christ's first coming, so He is raising up another generation of end-time messengers who are preparing the earth right now for His Second Coming. These are the friends of the Bridegroom who will rightly represent Him to the Bride and help her get ready.

In John 3, an argument breaks out between the disciples of John the Baptist and a Jew. His disciples bring him word that Jesus Christ is baptizing and *all* are coming to Him. I imagine in this moment that there is this religious invitation being given to compete with Jesus over who can baptize the most people. Perhaps there is even an opportunity to grow jealous and slander Jesus because of the size of His ministry.

**“He is raising up another generation of end-time messengers who are preparing the earth right now for His Second Coming.**

The answer that John gives to his disciples in this critical moment, I believe, it is a true blueprint to the friends of the Bridegroom that God is

raising up in this hour. Rather than engage in religious competition, jealousy, and growing a ministry, these spiritual eunuchs for the kingdom of God are going to walk in the same spirit and heart as John the Baptist.

*John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing, unless it has been given to him from heaven. You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him.’ He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom’s voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease. He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all” (John 3:27-31).*

## **THE SEVENFOLD BLUEPRINT**

There are seven keys here that John the Baptist gives to spiritual eunuchs about how they should function in the kingdom of God. Let’s look at them more deeply.

### ***1. A man can receive nothing, unless it has been given to him from heaven.***

John understood that his assignment and commissioning as an end-time messenger did not come from going to school and getting a degree. He was interested in promoting his ministry or agenda. In essence he declared, “I can’t be bought by religion because what I carry isn’t mine!”

### ***2. You yourselves bear witness that I said, “I am not the Christ, but I have been sent before Him.”***

John knew his place as a forerunner messenger. At the height of his ministry when the crowds were growing and religion gave him an opportunity to take center stage, he declared, “I’m not your Savior!”

### ***3. He who has the Bride is the Bridegroom.***

John knew that the Bride was not his! The Bride (those he ministered to) belonged to the Bridegroom Jesus Christ. He recognized his calling was

to steward another man's wife. Religion is always seeking to tempt men and women to take credit for and possession of what belongs to God.

***4. The friend of the Bridegroom stands and listens for His voice.***

John begins to give language to one of the primary functions of friends of the Bridegroom. These are individuals who stand and listen for the voice of the Bridegroom. They devote much of their life to the secret place and are not led astray by the voice of religion beckoning them into performance and entertainment.

***5. The friend of the Bridegroom rejoices greatly and finds exuberant joy because of the Bridegroom's voice.***

John found his worth, value, and satisfaction in the voice of Jesus Christ. When prophetic voices are not trained in hiddenness, they constantly crave visibility. They hunger to be commissioned when they need to be consecrated. They seek to find their voice on a stage while men applaud rather than in the wilderness being affirmed by God.

**“When prophetic voices are not trained in hiddenness they constantly crave visibility.”**

***6. He must increase, but I must decrease.***

John the Baptist was mantled with a spirit of humility because he knew his role and where to find his source of joy and satisfaction. He sought to take the low road rather than the high seat at the table. Friends of the Bridegroom always find ways to decrease as the increase of the government of Jesus follows them in their assignment.

***7. He who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is from the earth and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.***

As a friend of the Bridegroom, John's primary calling was to testify of the Christ. When given an opportunity to play religious games of competition and rivalry, he humbled himself. He knew he was of the earth and Jesus Christ had come from above.

## THE CALL

Friends of the Bridegroom are emerging in every sphere of society with an express assignment to confront Christians regarding their boredom with God. These burning and shining lamps will cry out to a dry religious system and say, “What injustice have you and your fathers found in God that you walk so far away from Him and chase emptiness and yourselves became empty?” (see Jer. 2:5). These prophetic messengers will be filled with the knowledge of God and restore awe and wonder back to the Bride.

They will be oracles of righteousness and messengers gripped by repentance. Their convictions will be fierce, their consecration intense, and their love for Jesus Christ pronounced. Friends of the Bridegroom will enjoy great seasons of prayer and fasting. They will always sing one octave too high for the religious.

Are you a friend of the Bridegroom? I believe that you are. Allow the Holy Spirit to come comfort, encourage, and strengthen you on your journey in these last days. You are not alone. The Bridegroom is coming and seeks a Bride who has made herself ready. We are the Bride as our identity, but we are friends of the Bridegroom in our function. Do not lose heart. Though the anti-Christ spirit rages on the earth, our coming King will reign victorious as clear prophetic voices emerge who are mantled to unmask deception and establish this generation in the Word of God.

### NOTE

- [1.](#) A.W. Tozer, *The Knowledge of the Holy* (New York, NY: Harper & Row, 1961) 11.

## **CHAPTER 8**

# **TEARING DOWN THE ALTAR OF BAAL**

In Judges 6, Gideon had an incredible encounter with an angel who called him forth as a mighty warrior in his generation. Although Gideon did not consider himself qualified to lead, God saw something in him that had destiny all over it. As Gideon began to consider this divine invitation from above to impact his nation, the first assignment he was given was regarding an altar that was built in the land. Let's read it in Judges 6:25-26:

*Now on the same night the Lord said to him, "Take your father's bull and a second bull seven years old, and pull down the altar of Baal which belongs to your father, and cut down the Asherah that is beside it; and build an altar to the Lord your God on the top of this stronghold in an orderly manner" (NASB95).*

I want you to put yourself in Gideon's shoes for one moment. First of all, he is totally unsure that he is even capable of leading his nation to victory over the Midianites. Second, his very first assignment before he even faces off against the enemy of Israel is tearing down the altar that his own dad built in his front yard! What? Deciding that the only way to carry out the Lord's instruction to him is by nightfall, Gideon takes ten men and destroys the altar his father had built to baal and cuts down the Asherah next to it. What is the response of his home town when they wake up and find out that their altar has been destroyed? "Bring out Gideon that he may die!" What a start for a man who would eventually lead a small chosen army to defeat the Midianites and bring Israel out of captivity.

As I look across the landscape of the global Church today, I believe there has never been more of an urgent need to build a Wedding Altar for Jesus than now. However, I sadly recognize too many altars that have also been built to baal as in the days of Gideon. These altars have been erected to the gods of religious control and performance. On top of them stand Christian celebrities who sadly glory in their titles, online followings, and the money that pads their pockets every year. Like Gideon, I also see thousands and thousands of friends of the Bridegroom hanging in the shadows, feeling they are unqualified to do anything about what they know is grieving the heart of God in their generation.

**“God is raising up end-time messengers who are going to confront in love and tear down the altars of baal in their nation.**

God is raising up end-time messengers who are going to confront in love and tear down the altars of baal in their nation that their fathers have built to religious control and performance and establish the Wedding Altar of the Lord with fresh fire and zeal.

## **THE CONTROL SPIRIT**

One night a man named Mike Bickle, who is the founder of IHOPKC, was preparing to minister to five thousand pastors in the United Kingdom. As he was seeking God the day of the meeting, the Holy Spirit said to him, *“I have a controversy with the leadership of this nation. No one with a control spirit will experience My power.”*

Faithful to the word of the Lord, Mike shared it from the platform that night and watched as hundreds of pastors responded to the altar call and, in his own words, “The leadership began to writhe on the ground like snakes as demons began to come out of them. It was the most supernatural work of the Holy Spirit I have ever seen in the Lord’s zeal to confront and deliver leaders from religion and control.”

## **THE CONTROVERSY**

Allow me share a prophetic dream I had years ago that will help enlighten our hearts to the altars of religious control and performance that have been erected and must be torn down in our generation.

In the dream I found myself in a large stadium full of thousands of people. Worship began and waves of God’s presence filled the gathering. As I scanned the crowd, many expressions of worship began to break out. In one section, people were totally knocked down under the power of God. In another section, every single person was under great travail and weeping uncontrollably. In another section, I noticed everyone had ballet costumes on and were dancing before the Lord. In yet another section, people were lying prostrate on their faces trembling before the Lord.

I made my way down to the front of the stadium near the stage where the manifest presence of God was so strong that I began to shake. Suddenly, an intense commotion began to break out in the crowd. Before I knew it, I found myself in the middle of a great controversy.

Here was the controversy:

I noticed hundreds of church leaders who were yelling and trying to get on the stage. They said, “We put this meeting on. It is time for the preaching! Haven’t you read our lanyards around our necks? They say, ‘Leadership’!” The leaders were being prevented from getting on the stage by a large crowd of people.

Suddenly, a large and very bright angel appeared in the stadium. This angel said in a loud voice to the leadership, “Your lanyards and titles are not given by God, but by man. You are given over to a control spirit and not the Holy Spirit.” After this, the fear of the Lord struck both the leadership and saints who had gathered.

When the tension of the controversy reached its height, I began to prophesy to the stadium in the dream and say, “The days of church leaders controlling the spiritual atmosphere of gatherings will begin to be contested. For God shall raise up a new kind of leader called, ‘Holy Spirit facilitators.’ Under the Old Covenant people would gather around a man or woman who might *lead* them. In the New Covenant, however, people are called to be influenced by men and women who know how to *follow the Holy Spirit*. There must be mass repentance in the land from church leadership toward worship leaders for treating corporate gatherings like a drive-thru and not a holy convocation, says the Lord.” Then I woke up.

Consider the words of Smith Wigglesworth concerning the gathering of saints:

Any assembly that puts its hand upon the working of the Spirit will surely dry up. The assembly must be as free in the Spirit as possible, and you must allow a certain amount of extravagance when people are getting through to God. ... If you want an assembly full of life you must have one in which the Spirit of God is manifested.<sup>1</sup>

## **THE RELIGIOUS SPIRIT**

I absolutely believe in order in the global Church, but order is designed to facilitate life. I absolutely believe in form, but form is designed in the kingdom of God to give birth to power. I believe an altar of religious control and performance (baal) was built in many nations in the '80s and '90s. A megachurch movement and mentality was adopted that fostered a performance model of church that was more focused on attendance and large offerings than the movement of the Holy Spirit. An unhealthy emphasis on fivefold ministry titles was embraced and the saints were robbed of their inheritance as the priesthood of all believers.

If these statements sound extreme, take into consideration a conversation I had with Rick Joyner, founder of Morningstar Ministries, who like Mike Bickle has over fifty years of church leadership experience and has authored over fifty books. Here is what he said to me in a conversation in 2018: “After more than fifty years of full-time ministry around the world, I would say 90 percent of the Church in America is controlled by the religious spirit and not the Holy Spirit.”

**“Order is designed to facilitate life.**

As senior elders in the body of Christ, the experience that Mike Bickle had in the UK and the words of Rick Joyner should cause us all to weep and cry out to God in deep repentance. The altars of baal built across the land to religious control and performance must come down.

Friends of the Bridegroom just like Gideon are going to emerge to challenge the religious control that has dominated church culture for far too long. They won't have to look far because these altars of baal have been erected in their neighborhoods and cities. Some of them have been built by family members.

## **RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS**

Where the religious traditions of men govern the Church, everything is scripted, preplanned, and methodically carried out. There is no room for

anything spontaneous, Spirit-filled, or shifting in the service because those actions cannot be controlled or predicted. A clock on the wall manages what takes place in the house of God because it's more about a religious performance on a stage than it is creating a place where the Spirit of God can move among His people.

The religious traditions of men thrive on what can be controlled, predicted, and expected. They require individuals who crave the pleasure of man more than the pleasure of God. The addiction to a stage and the applause that it brings is what props up these modern-day altars of baal where the harlot bride thrives.

The ministry of the Holy Spirit and those who love Him is the number-one enemy of the religious traditions of men. He brings unpredictability, spontaneity, and fresh fire that the consecrated Bride loves. When friends of the Bridegroom refuse to follow a religious script, it makes those who thrive on religious control and performance irate!

## **DON'T TABERNACLE THE GLORY**

In Mark 9, Jesus is transfigured before three of His disciples, and when Elijah and Moses appeared Peter said, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; let us make three tabernacles, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

The three disciples in this moment of time encountered perhaps the single greatest manifestation of the glory of God in human history witnessing Moses, Elijah, and Jesus together. They recognized the significance of the moment by declaring, "It is good for us to be here," but they failed to understand how to steward the moment by attempting to tabernacle (to place restraints, limitations, and religious structures) upon the glory of God in their midst. Peter's seemingly innocent idea or suggestion to make tabernacles was rejected by the Lord.

How many times has the glory and power of God manifested in our midst and at church services, only to be quenched and driven away by our desires as human beings to control, contaminate, and constrict the movement of the Holy Spirit among us? Hear the word of the Lord today—God does not want to be tabernacled; He just wants to be hosted. He is tired of being produced. He just wants to be introduced!

**“He is tired of being produced. He just wants to be introduced!”**

Friends of the Bridegroom are rising in the earth who will simply host the glory of God when it manifests. They will wisely steward bridal revival by understanding that to put their hands upon what God is doing could cut short His intended purposes and plans.

## **MAKING THE SHIFT**

In order to help build a Wedding Altar for Jesus Christ on top of these religious strongholds of control and performance in the land, we must be committed to shifting our gaze away from men on stages and begin to behold the beauty of the Lord. I believe God loves it when altars are built upon threshing floors. In fact, I prophesy that we are reaching a threshing floor moment in the global Church. God is inviting His people into a new era where the religious traditions of men, which are focused on control and performance, are going to fall.

There is a freedom and liberty coming to the consecrated Bride like we have never seen before. Pure worship is going to break out in neighborhoods, coffee shops, beaches, and outdoor gatherings. Dancing and the joy of the Lord are going to overtake many corporate gatherings. Religious control and worship teams performing on a stage to get their carnal needs met will not satisfy the longing in this generation’s heart for the real, authentic Jesus. It’s time to break away from the harlot bride and her baal worship. The mixture, man-worship, and entertainment spirit produce a false Jesus movement that must be exposed in the last days.

Arise Gideon! Arise friends of the Bridegroom! It’s time to help get the Bride ready. You must choose to build a Wedding Altar for your King rather than another religious monument to a man. Do not delay. Jesus is coming soon!

## **NOTE**

1. Smith Wigglesworth, “The Active Life of the Spirit-filled Believer,” accessed August 29, 2021, <http://www.smithwigglesworth.com/sermons/misc4.htm>.

## CHAPTER 9

# THE THRESHING FLOOR

In April of 2021, I was awakened in the middle of the night with a prophetic word for a church I was ministering at in South Carolina. I grabbed the pen and paper next to my bed and quickly wrote down what I heard the Holy Spirit so clearly say to me. I immediately recognized that this word was not only for this church, but it was a global prophetic word that needs to be weighed and tested by many. Here it is:

*For the enemy intended My house to become a showroom floor, but know this day that My house shall become a threshing floor! For my winnowing fork is moving throughout My house and I have been removing the chaff from the wheat. For My house shall not be a place where gifted individuals and people with money are put on display like cars on a showroom floor. No, in this house every knee will be bowed and every head will be turned to His Majesty on High.*

*For there shall be no competition in My house. No longer any rivalries or positioning for a space and a place. I seek a people who will posture themselves before Me in great anticipation of future glory. For there shall be a glory that will rest on My house that will come, but it will not come without a price. For there have been heavy casualties, yes, even needless casualties of war, yet you must trust me in these days that less is much, much more.*

*Finally, out of the abundance of the mouth, the heart speaks. So be careful and listen very carefully to the words that are uttered in this house. For I will hold accountable those who have spoken idle words, and I will deal swiftly and expose many hearts. Just as the coals of cleansing and forgiveness touched the lips of Isaiah My servant, so I will rain down cleansing coals on this threshing floor—this house, says the Lord.*

This prophetic word came so clearly to me in the middle of the night that I was deeply stirred to press into the heart of God concerning it. What really is a threshing floor? Could God be exposing the plans of the religious spirit in this generation to turn many churches into nothing more than a showroom floor where gifted individuals are worshiped and steal the glory that only Jesus Christ deserves? How serious is God about confronting baal worship?

## THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THRESHING FLOORS

The threshing floor is a significant symbol in the Bible, which is mentioned both in the Old Testament and in the New Testament. In the Old Testament, the threshing floor is used in the daily agricultural lives of men. It is a flat surface, usually smooth, which is used during the harvest of grains. This space was used before equipment and machinery were invented. It was used to separate the grains from the chaff by manual separation. Threshing floors were in danger of being robbed by enemies (see 1 Sam. 23:1). For this reason, someone always slept on the floor until the grain was removed (see Ruth 3:7).

The New Testament says in Matthew 3:12, as it is written, “*His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire*” (NIV). Jesus prophesied to all those who would listen that God has a winnowing fork in His hand and He will separate those who are bearing fruit and those who are not in His kingdom.

**“God wants to build Wedding Altars on the threshing floors of many churches and ministries across the globe.**

I believe that God wants to build Wedding Altars on the threshing floors of many churches and ministries across the globe. This invitation is holy, sacred, and serious. It’s important that we look at three specific examples of threshing floors in the Bible to help us better understand what God is inviting the Bride into in this hour.

### ***1. Threshing floors are full of revelation and bridal identity.***

The story of Ruth is an incredible example to the Bride of Christ of the power the threshing floor reveals. Ruth was to go to the threshing floor and wait for Boaz to finish tending to the barley, and then lie down for the night at Boaz’s feet. In this culture, this was a symbol of longing—to be redeemed by Boaz. It is written in Ruth 3:2-8 and 14:

*“Tonight he will be winnowing barley on the threshing floor. Wash, put on perfume, and get dressed in your best clothes. Then go down to the threshing floor, but don’t let him know you are there until he has finished eating and drinking. When he lies down, note the place where he is lying. Then go and uncover his feet and lie down. He will tell you what to do.”*

*“I will do whatever you say,” Ruth answered. So she went down to the threshing floor and did everything her mother-in-law told her to do. When Boaz had finished eating and drinking and was in good spirits, he went over to lie down at the far end of the grain pile. Ruth approached quietly, uncovered his feet and lay down. In the middle of the night something startled the man; he turned—and there was a woman lying at his feet!*

*So she lay at his feet until morning, but got up before anyone could be recognized; and he said, “No one must know that a woman came to the threshing floor” (NIV).*

Please notice that the threshing floor is a place where you lie prostrate before a Redeemer. Unless Ruth lies down at the feet of Boaz, he does not recognize her intentions. Women who lay for the night in the same room with a man would be automatically considered a wife, so Boaz and Ruth were married.

Ruth represents the Bride and Boaz represents the Bridegroom. The threshing floor is a place of bridal identity and revelation of our Kinsman Redeemer, Jesus Christ.

## ***2. Threshing floors host divine judgment and the fear of the Lord.***

In Second Samuel 6, David decides to disobey the Lord and bring the Ark of the Covenant back into Israel on a cart rather than on the shoulders of men as the law had commanded. Even though his intentions might have been well meaning and a tremendous celebration is going on in Israel, it is at the threshing floor of Nakon that God strikes down Uzzah and fear and trepidation strikes David and all of Israel. Let’s read it:

*When they came to the threshing floor of Nakon, Uzzah reached out and took hold of the ark of God, because the oxen stumbled. The Lord's anger burned against Uzzah because of his irreverent act; therefore God struck him down, and he died there beside the ark of God. Then David was angry because the Lord's wrath had broken out against Uzzah, and to this day that place is called Perez Uzzah (2 Samuel 6:6-8 NIV).*

Please take note that David could carry on in disobedience to Yahweh *until* Uzzah reached the threshing floor. As soon as he was on the threshing floor, divine judgment fell upon him and he died. When Wedding Altars are established on threshing floors, there will be no room for other lovers. The Bridegroom is full of holy jealousy for the Bride and He will not allow harlotry and religious games.

**“When Wedding Altars are established on threshing floors, there will be no room for other lovers.**

### ***3. Threshing floors facilitate intercession and sacrifice.***

David sins greatly before the Lord. He chooses to number the people, and Gad the prophet approaches him and exposes his sin. God gives three options of judgment that David can choose from. A great plague breaks out in Israel and seventy thousand men die. When the angel of the Lord stretches out his hand to destroy Jerusalem, David cries out and pleads with the Lord.

In mercy, God speaks to David: *“Go up, erect an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite”* (2 Sam. 24:18 NASB). David quickly approaches Araunah to purchase his threshing floor to build an altar to the Lord and is told he can have it for free. David refuses this offer and says, *“How can I sacrifice to the Lord that which costs me nothing?”*

Please take note that this threshing floor that David built an altar upon would later become the site of the Temple (see 2 Chron. 3:1). It was holy and set apart. The place where God relented divine judgment would become the very place He would fill with divine glory and sacrifice in the years ahead.

## **WEDDING ALTARS ON THRESHING FLOORS**

Excitement fills my heart as I dream about Wedding Altars being erected all over the earth as the Bride makes herself ready for the return of Jesus Christ. I see end-time messengers, friends of the Bridegroom like John the Baptist who are going to invite the Bride to say “I do” as the Bridegroom approaches. However, I really do see that these Wedding Altars can only be erected on threshing floors where the message of repentance and even divine judgment is declared if necessary. We desperately need the fear of the Lord to be preached again in corporate gatherings. As altars built to baal are torn down and exposed, bridal revival is going to fuel first love for Jesus and a deep repentance from man worship and religion.

Too many of our churches are becoming filled with people who are spiritually starving while being stuffed with every physical comfort and pleasure imaginable. An addiction to video games, sports, and entertainment threatens any real desire and appetite for God.

Progressive church leaders have become obsessed with inventing new ways to attract people’s attention. We have replaced the power of God’s Word with a convenience-driven, seeker-friendly church culture. A celebrity spirit has caused many ministers to spend more time, energy, and money expanding their sphere of influence rather than building the real kingdom of God.

**“We have replaced the power of God’s Word with a convenience-driven, seeker-friendly church culture.”**

In the midst of this worldwide crisis in the Church, I’m convinced showrooms that display gifted individuals to be celebrated and worshiped are being replaced with prayer and throne room-type gatherings where the Bride will lay prostrate before the Bridegroom King Jesus. There will be a hungry remnant of saints and leaders who will emerge in this generation who love the Word of God and treasure the beauty of Jesus Christ. They will be wholly fascinated by the God of the Bible and lovesick for the Second Coming of our King. New worship songs and deliverance from devils will become normal on threshing floors where Wedding Altars are

built. The consecrated Bride will not only know Him as the Lamb but also as the Lion of the Tribe of Judah.

*“The Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’”* (Rev. 22:17). Will you join with them today and prepare your heart for this drastic shift that God is releasing all throughout the earth? May the threshing floors be laid and the Wedding Altars be built all for the glory of Jesus Christ.

# CHAPTER 10

## MARKED FOR ETERNITY

I see a generation hungry to practically and experientially apply the message of eternity to their lives, marriages, and families. Theological debates over the last several decades concerning when the tribulation is going to take place don't appear to be bearing much fruit in the global Church. Spending countless hours arguing over the symbols in the book of Revelation and how they relate to world events seems to instill way more fear in the people of God than it does an eager expectation of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. Where is the joy, where is the excitement, where is the realistic and hands-on approach to helping the Bride get ready for the Bridegroom? Why are we not spending more time helping friends of the Bridegroom who work in every sphere of society prepare those around them for eternity? A few more anointed preachers are simply not the answer to these questions!

I also see a generation of Christians who have been deeply deceived into believing that if they are not employed by a church or ministry, they have somehow settled for less than what God has called them to. If they do not spend countless hours in a prayer room or on a mission field, they are out of God's will. For many, they believe that only those who can be marked for and by eternity are preachers and missionaries. This is a completely false paradigm and must be deconstructed.

The truth is that we are living in an unprecedented time in history when the need for voices to emerge with biblical convictions in *every* sphere of society has never been greater. Now is the time for doctors, teachers, business owners, and marketplace individuals to be equipped concerning the end times and what God is inviting all of us into in these last days. God wants to mark the entire global Church for eternity!

**“The need for voices to emerge with biblical convictions in every sphere of society has never been greater.**

Yes, the Holy Spirit is currently marking entrepreneurs, business owners, and marketplace workers for eternity like never before. We must do away with the stinking thinking that only those called to paid ministry by a religious organization can be used by God to change the world around

them. This is the furthest thing from the truth and is crippling millions of Christians from being mobilized into the harvest fields of work, marriage, and family.

## **A PROPHETIC DREAM AND WORD**

I recently had a prophetic dream in which God said to me, “A *second wave of the prayer movement is coming to the global Church.*” When I inquired about the meaning of this, the Holy Spirit said to me that the second wave will involve a heavy emphasis on the workplace, marriage, and family.

When I woke up from this dream, I began journaling, and the Spirit of God said to me:

*I have come to break the yokes off this generation concerning what they think ministry should look like. For in these days, I am releasing an uncommon people who will operate in an uncommon anointing that will allow them to function in uncommon spaces and places. I have a controversy with My people and it is this—they take issue too easily with the gifts I have placed in their life, and because they are not often shiny, nor do they glitter, they reject them and act as if they have no real value.*

*I shall do a new thing in this generation, but behold it really is the ancient paths! For did I not give Eve to Adam in the garden of Eden and command them to be fruitful and multiply? Have I not always desired and intended to expand My rule and reign in the earth through healthy marriage and family? Yet My people long for a harvest in the earth at the expense of the harvest I desire to bring to their own home. They long to be used in a greater capacity in a church or ministry organization while never realizing the very field and vocation I have placed them in is their ministry.*

*I want to talk to you about part of the harvest that is coming in the earth. For it will not be found in a church building but in neighborhoods, business sectors, coffee shops, homes, school systems, and most importantly in marriages and families. I repeat, an uncommon anointing that will allow my people to function in uncommon places and spaces will fall upon this generation. Even as I raised up Joseph and gave him a space and a place in Egypt, I am raising up a Joseph company in the earth that will invade the digital, governmental, and marketplace arenas in the earth with My creativity, glory, and favor.*

*I have come to lift the yokes off of your necks, oh My people. Lay down the call to what you think full-time ministry must look like and open up your eyes to your marriage, family, and the mundane this day. For the talent that I have given you is not small but exceedingly great in My eyes, says the Lord.*

## **ONE LESSON IN THE PANDEMIC**

One of the many lessons that the global Church learned throughout the COVID-19 era was that there was way too much dependence upon church buildings and preachers for spiritual life and not enough emphasis being placed on the responsibility that parents have to steward their homes in a godly manner. Almost overnight, church services around the globe were shut down and millions of Christians did not know what to do. Rather than praying, worshiping, reading the Bible together as spouses and families, and evangelizing a fear-stricken world around them, many gave up their faith. This travesty was a direct result of decades of consumer Christianity that has flourished and is totally unbiblical. The mission of the Church is to make disciples and empower those receiving the gospel to spread the good news in the world around them—regardless of their chosen career path.

**“The mission of the Church is to make disciples and empower those receiving the gospel to spread the good news in the world around them—regardless of their chosen career path.**

## **THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS**

In Matthew 25, Jesus tells a parable that I believe speaks to the root issue of why many in this generation do not believe they can be marked for eternity, even working a secular job as a married man or woman. He said:

*For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves and entrusted his possessions to them. To one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. The*

*one who had received the five talents immediately went and did business with them, and earned five more talents. In the same way the one who had received the two talents earned two more. But he who received the one talent went away and dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.*

*Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. The one who had received the five talents came up and brought five more talents, saying, "Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have earned five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter the joy of your master."*

*Also the one who had received the two talents came up and said, "Master, you entrusted two talents to me. See, I have earned two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful slave. You were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter the joy of your master" (Matthew 25:14-23 NASB).*

I believe the man with the one talent represents many who work in the marketplace. Many of them do not believe that they can actually be an effective minister of the gospel and prepare their friends and family for the Second Coming of Jesus because they work a 9-5 job. This wrong perception of what God has given them and who they understand God to be causes them to become poor stewards of their life and calling. They view television preachers and individuals employed by churches and ministries as those having the five and two talents when they could not be more wrong. The truth is that those who work secular jobs have more of an opportunity to share the gospel and demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to the world around them than most ministers would ever dream of!

### **THREE AREAS OF FOCUS**

One of them most practical ways we can prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus is by loving our spouses and family members in a way that pleases

God. Being marked for eternity affects the way I spend my finances. If Jesus Christ is returning, I have to give an account for all the people and possessions God has entrusted me with in my lifetime. Specifically, I believe God wants to mark *marriages*, *families*, and the *mundane* for eternity. He wants to kiss these three areas of our lives that we just can't see Him in.

**“Those who work secular jobs have more of an opportunity to share the gospel and demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ to the world around them than most ministers would ever dream of!”**

The days of the weird lady who is convinced Jesus is coming back tomorrow and this somehow gives her the license to not have a healthy marriage, family, and share the gospel in the workplace are over. The days of the charismatic guy who spends twelve hours a day reading the book of Revelation yet neglects his marriage and family must come to an end. Jesus Christ really is pleased with those who recognize eternity was meant to change us before it ever touches the world around us.

### **A PRAYER OF RELEASE**

I'm convinced that many reading this chapter need to be released from a dream, vision, or desire that you have had in your heart for years concerning you being employed by a church or ministry that has convinced you that this is the only way you can ever fulfill God's call on your life. I'm also certain that many reading this who are involved in paid Christian ministry need to strongly consider making a healthy marriage and family way more of a priority in your life than before. We need the help of the Holy Spirit to sort these issues and concerns out. Are we being good stewards of the gifts He has given us—especially the people closest to us?

*God, we come before You right now and ask for Your mercy and grace in this time of need. I ask that You would heal marriages and families that have been disregarded because someone thought the call to ministry was more important. I lift*

*my voice for those who have believed the lie that they can't be marked for eternity because they work in the marketplace.*

*Father, we are asking that You mark us for eternity today, and may we prepare—no matter our vocation and calling—for Your Son's Second Coming. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.*

## **CHAPTER 11**

# **A PROPHETIC WORD FOR THE DAYS AHEAD**

In Daniel 7, the prophet receives a troubling dream of four demonic beasts. Each of them had a certain function and assignment. In verse 15 Daniel says, *“As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and the visions in my mind kept alarming me”* (NASB). There is no doubt that what Daniel saw coming to his nation and in the future would cause many of us to tremble. As I peer across the global Church landscape today and interact with many saints and leaders in my travels, fear, concern, and worry are gripping tens of thousands concerning the demonic warfare they see raging in their nations.

Daniel clearly reveals the strategy of the devil in verse 25 when he says, *“And he will speak against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One”* (NASB). Make no mistake, whether it be a global pandemic, the explosion of human trafficking, the unfathomable number of abortions in the world every year, or personal issues in marriage and family, satan is launching an all-out attack upon the saints of God and looking to wear them down into silence and complacency concerning his lies and trickery. He would love nothing more than a distracted harlot bride settled into a state of complacency and mixture. The devil fears a consecrated Bride who is marked for eternity, plundering hell in every sphere of society and populating heaven with an end-time harvest of souls.

## THE ENEMY IS RAGING

On the night of May 30, 2020, I was in intense intercession and travail concerning what I perceived was some kind of demonic principality that had been unleashed in the United States during the global pandemic. Around 2 am, a demonic entity appeared right before me in an open vision. This type of encounter has only ever happened one other time while I was ministering in Canada in 2015. I have always engaged in this type of spiritual warfare while asleep and dreaming prophetically, but rarely if ever to this degree while awake.

**“The devil fears a consecrated Bride who is marked for eternity, plundering hell in every sphere of society and populating heaven with an end-time harvest of souls.**

This demonic entity had a visible and deep scar underneath its right eye, but it also had the ability to mutate, or rather, change forms. I watched this “being” morph several times right in front of me, yet the gash below its right eye remained. It pointed its finger right in my face and said, “I exist to deceive the whole world. Just as there are forerunners in the kingdom of God that go before the Son of Man, so I am a forerunning spirit in the kingdom of darkness that has been sent before the coming of the man of lawlessness.”

From my divine commissioning from the Lord Jesus Christ in my bedroom in 2018, when He instructed me to raise up end-time messengers, until this very night, I had never considered that *satan was also raising up an end-time army of messengers to lie and deceive the entire world*. I was startled when this demonic entity communicated this to me, but I never felt intimidated or afraid.

It continued, “The scar underneath my right eye has come at the hands of the praying Church, for many of them in this hour have begun to detect our true plans and purposes to disrupt systems, divert attention, and release chaos in the land.”

Whenever the strategy of the devil is exposed, we need to pay attention so we can target these areas in prayer and defeat his schemes.

1. Disrupt systems
2. Divert attention
3. Release chaos

At this point in the encounter, the hair on my body was standing straight up. I had never been told anything like this at length by a demonic entity. I questioned if this was even theologically correct.

Suddenly, all I can describe is the authority and mind of Christ came upon me and I pointed my finger back at this demon and demanded, “Who is the source behind your power and influence? Why are you here?”

It began to laugh hysterically, a sound that still taunts me, and with great rage this demon answered and roared, “The media!”

I fixed my gaze upon it and said, “You devil that has come to deceive the whole world through the media and is being exposed right now, I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to reveal your agenda!”

With a sneer it began to manifest a foul spirit, and the first wave I smelled was FEAR. I saw the coronavirus spreading across the whole world and the spirit of fear attached to it. The second wave of stench the demon manifested was HATE, and I saw the cities on fire and racism escalating. The third wave that came was GREED, and it was the strongest of all the smells.

In that moment of time, by way of Holy Spirit revelation, I understood that what we are witnessing in the 21st century—beyond a global pandemic, racism, abortion, and terrorism—is a diabolical and sinister agenda called “greed.”

*Satan is effectively weaponizing the media and it is causing mass division and destruction in the global Church. He is unleashing an anti-Christ spirit in the earth through the media that has an agenda to release mass fear, hate, and greed.*

Many in the world are being held hostage right now by demonic forces preparing the way for the man of lawlessness. There is so much deception being spread through the media that now we must understand what we are “seeing” and “hearing” on the news and social media is a simple diversion from the real truth! This is why First Peter 5:8 says, “*Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour*” (NASB).

## **THE REMNANT IS RISING**

As the enemy continues to rage in the nations of the earth, specifically using the media as a weapon of mass destruction and division, we must not forget what this demonic entity said: “The scar underneath my right eye has come at the hands of the praying Church, for many of them in this hour have begun to detect our true plans and purposes.”

We are truly living in an era in the earth where now is not the time to run and hide. Now is the time for the remnant to arise and shine. This is not

the hour to check out and grow apathetic. This is an hour to check in and get radical for Jesus Christ. *The answer to a compromised world is a consecrated Bride full with fiery love for her Bridegroom King.* The need to be marked for eternity and focused on building Jesus a Wedding Altar for His return is urgent. A harvest of souls awaits a consecrated Bride who is ready to offer hope and love to a lost world.

We read earlier how troubled Daniel was after receiving the dream concerning the four demonic beasts. He knew satan wanted to wear down the saints, yet everything changed in verse nine of chapter seven when the prophet says, *“I kept looking.”* These perhaps could be the most important three words in this last chapter. It is so easy to focus in these last days on the strategies of the devil and how much evil is overtaking our world. Many Christians love to get on social media to further spread hate, fear, and division. However, the consecrated Bride must be faithful, like Daniel was, *“to keep looking.”* The lion of the tribe of Judah is coming!

**“Now is not the time to run and hide. Now is the time for the remnant to arise and shine.**

As Daniel was faithful to keep searching, what did he see? The Son of Man and the Ancient of Days being given dominion over *all* people that humanity might serve and worship God. Daniel then saw the greatness of the kingdoms being handed down to the saints!

It is the remnant, the end-time consecrated Bride who is going to rule and reign with Jesus Christ forever.

Truly, the enemies of God will be made His footstool very soon (see Ps. 2). This is something to rejoice about! Jesus is going to right every wrong. The plans of the devil can only be carried out for a little while longer. God seeks a remnant in the earth who are going to openly challenge evil in every sphere of society, not run away from it. We need lawyers, doctors, and marketplace Christians to live out biblical convictions and welcome coming persecution with joy because their eyes are set on the Wedding Day.

We must understand that a correct view of the end times will always lead to a passion to see the Great Commission fulfilled. The message of

eternity and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ is not license to grow fearful and develop an escapist mentality but rather should fuel excitement and passion in the heart of the consecrated Bride.

## JESUS IS RETURNING

The stage is being set around the globe for the greatest collision between light and darkness we have ever known. What an incredible time to be alive in the earth! *If the book of Acts describes the power of the Holy Spirit released through the early Church, then the book of Revelation describes the power of the Holy Spirit that will be released through the end-time Church.* A glorious and radiant consecrated Bride is being invited down to the Wedding Altar to say “I do” by a generation of end-time messengers, friends of the Bridegroom who are lovesick for Jesus Christ.

As the anti-Christ spirit rages in the world around us and the consecrated Bride rises to extend the borders of Jesus’s kingdom across the earth—what is God’s response to the chaos and confusion? Psalm 2:4 says, *“He who sits in the heavens laughs, the Lord scoffs at them. Then He will speak to them in His anger and terrify them in His fury”* (NASB).

**“If the book of Acts describes the power of the Holy Spirit released through the early Church, then the book of Revelation describes the power of the Holy Spirit that will be released through the end-time Church.**

The truth is that God is neither intimidated nor surprised by the schemes of the devil. The nature of satan is actually fear and anxiety because he knows where he is headed very soon—the eternal lake of fire. My encouragement in this great and late hour to the Bride of Christ is to not grow weary, anxious, nor fearful. Guard your mind and heart concerning how much time you are spending on social media and the news. *Satan has made it very clear that one of his number-one strategies in these last days is to weaponize the media and cause chaos and division, especially in the Church.* We must live our lives in light of eternity constantly.

If you realize you are numbered with the harlot bride, now is the time to repent and flee. I assure you there is a remnant consecrated Bride in every

city and nation in the earth. May we “keep looking” and longing for the appearing of our glorious Bridegroom King. And in the waiting, may we love our spouses, families, and friends sacrificially and build Jesus Christ the Wedding Altar He is so worthy of. The final harvest of souls is upon us.

Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus! The Wedding Altar awaits You!

*Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords (Revelation 19:11-16 NLT).*

# ABOUT JEREMIAH JOHNSON

Jeremiah Johnson is the founder of The Altar Global, a movement of Christians who share a common urgency and desire for the return of Jesus Christ and the preparation of the Bride for that glorious day. He is also a bestselling author of multiple books and travels extensively throughout the United States and abroad as a conference and guest speaker. Jeremiah has been a guest on many popular Christian television and radio shows such as Daystar, TBN, GodTV, Sid Roth's *It's Supernatural!*, and The 700 Club. He currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he oversees The Altar School of Ministry and greatly enjoys equipping end-time messengers in every sphere of society.

For more information, go to

[www.thealtarglobal.com](http://www.thealtarglobal.com)

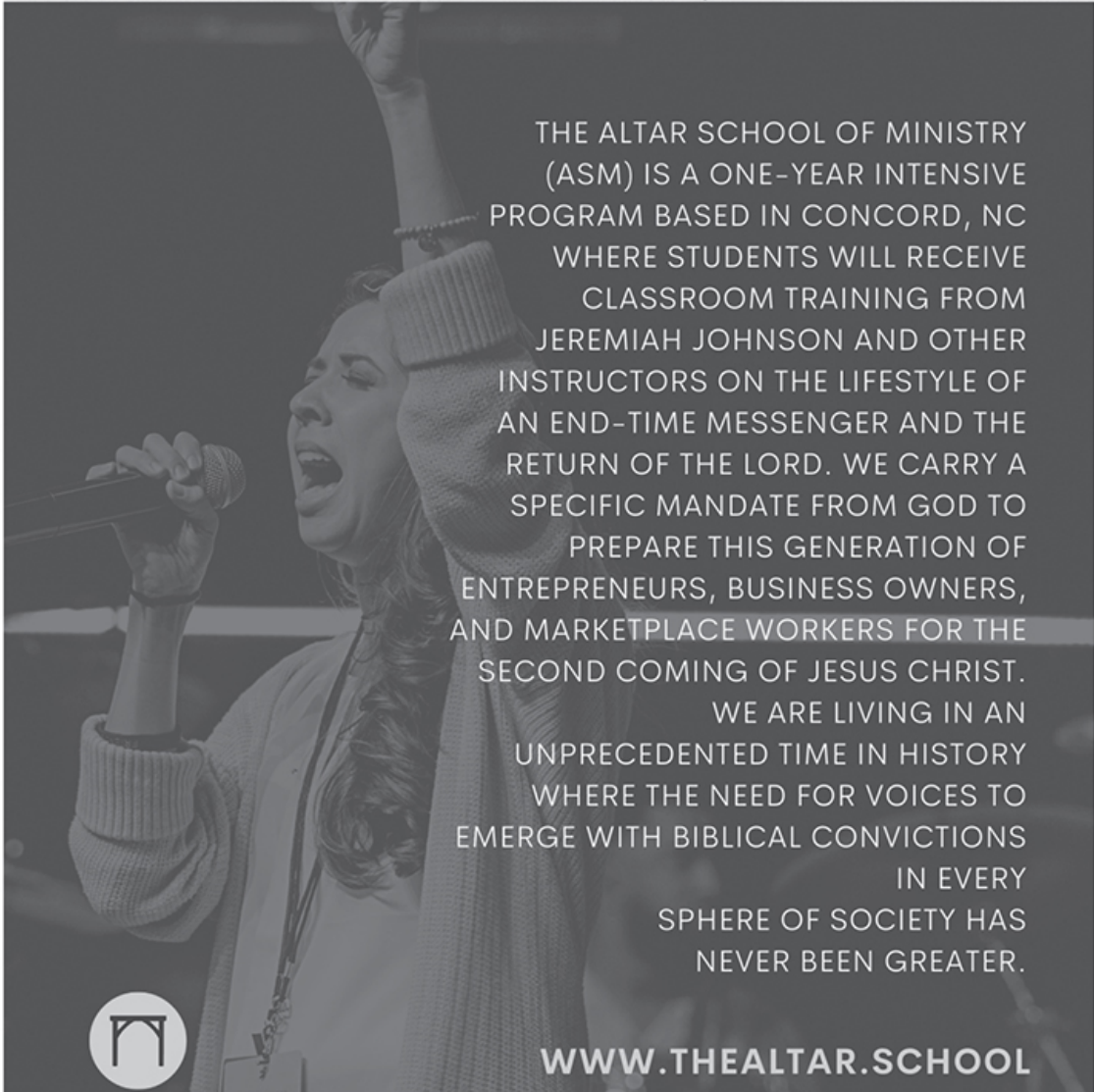
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WE ARE LIVING IN AN UNPRECEDENTED TIME IN HISTORY WHERE THE NEED FOR VOICES TO EMERGE WITH BIBLICAL CONVICTIONS IN EVERY SPHERE OF SOCIETY HAS NEVER BEEN GREATER.



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# WHO WE ARE

## *THE ALTAR GLOBAL ...*

IS A MOVEMENT OF CHRISTIANS WHO SHARE A COMMON URGENCY AND DESIRE FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS CHRIST AND THE PREPARATION OF THE BRIDE FOR THAT GLORIOUS DAY.

## *OUR CORE VALUES ...*



### **BRIDAL REVIVAL**

JESUS CHRIST IS COMING BACK FOR A BRIDE IN REVIVAL WHO LONGS FOR HIS APPEARING (MATTHEW 25).



### **END-TIME MESSENGERS**

WE EQUIP AND RELEASE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN MARKED BY ETERNITY INTO EVERY SPHERE OF SOCIETY (JOHN 3)



### **HARVEST OF SOULS**

THE EARTH HAS NEVER BEEN MORE RIPE FOR AN END-TIME HARVEST. THIS GENERATION MUST BE REACHED BY THE ETERNAL REALITIES OF HEAVEN AND HELL (MATTHEW 28).



### **MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**

ONE OF THE PRIMARY WAYS WE READY OURSELVES FOR THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST IS BY LOVING ONE ANOTHER AS JESUS LOVED THE CHURCH AND GAVE HIMSELF UP FOR HER (EPHESIANS 5).



### **SALVATION OF ISRAEL**

ISRAEL IS A CENTRAL THEME OF GOD'S ETERNAL STORYLINE FOUND ALL THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE. THIS MAGNIFICENT TRUTH IS UNFOLDING IN THESE LAST DAYS (ISAIAH 19).

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