

Revelation of the Sons of God

Adapted from Kings and Judges of the Earth by Sunday Adelaja

The World is Waiting

Rom 8:19-22 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now.

The whole world suffers by the power of sin and corruption. They are subjected to vanity and futility. Some suffer badly through sickness and poverty. Others suffer from others do to them, while some others suffer from their own mistakes. We sometimes think only the poor suffer and we don't know how to witness to the rich. But everyone has a need, in fact many needs – in finances, in health, in family and relationship, in handling worries, in dealing with bad habits, in finding meaning of life, in overcoming pressures of life, in achieving their dreams, in forgiving others, in forgetting the past, in getting up from failures, and so on ... you name it. They have needs in this current life; they have even greater needs for their eternal lives. You should look around to your surroundings one more time ... and see how empty lives are without God. You have the answer and you need to tell them. In the other perspective, they know they need something. And, they are waiting for you to tell them.

Who Will Show the Way?

Now the Bible says that they are waiting for the revelation of the sons of God. Why? Because only God can answer all these needs. Only God in our Lord Jesus Christ can fill one's life with love, peace and joy. Only He can erase sins and break curses. He has the power to heal the sick, to break bondages, to raise the dead, to restore the broken, to lift up the fallen. He is the answer for all worlds' needs. But how could people know Him unless someone reveals Him to them? How could people find Him, unless someone shows the way? That is what we are supposed to do. When we are revealed to the world, we reveal the Way, the Truth and the Life – Jesus Christ.

Every Christian should experience and encounter 3 revelations.

One, when they receive revelation that Jesus is their Lord and Saviour. That's when they are saved and born again. **Two**, when they realize that it is not them who live but Christ lives in them. That's when flesh dies and spirit lives; old man put off and new man put on; self decreases and Christ increases. **Three**, when they get revelation that they must manifest Jesus Christ to the world.

Disciples of Jesus experienced this. They came to Jesus. Then they followed and learned from Jesus. Finally they were sent by Jesus. Paul on the road to Damascus asked "Who are you, Lord?" Later on he says "No longer I live, but Christ lives in me". Then he preached the Gospel to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout all the region of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that people should repent and turn to God, performing deeds in keeping with their repentance (Acts 26:20).

Why don't we? Some Hindrances

How can we do the same? First, we need to receive these revelations that God wants to manifest His glory through us. Then, we can just do it. A few weeks ago we talk about believe who you are in Christ. You are indeed the ambassador of Christ and God making his appeal through you. We implore everyone on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2Co 5:20).

But many of us do not go to the world and show God's love and demonstrate His power because of different hindrances. Many of them are related to the followings.

Don't worry about everyday cares. Worldly worries often hinder believers to go and hinder their missions. Jesus told His disciples, "You may take along a walking stick. But don't carry food or a traveling bag or any money. It's all right to wear sandals, but don't take along a change of clothes." (Mar 6:8-9). When we are busy with our cares, we can no longer be busy for the Kingdom of God. But when we put the Kingdom of God and its righteousness first, God will add to us what we need. This does not mean that we do not need to go to work. This means priority of life. We are first the ambassadors of God, His representatives to the world.

Don't put too much emphasis on personal reputation. What would people think if I talk about Gospel? Do I look weird if I bring up conversation of faith? Mar 6:11 says "If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way." It is alright that people do not welcome our message. In fact, in some cases, people may ridicule or mock us. But first of all, this is His commission to us that we must obey. Secondly, you should greatly rejoice for great is your reward in heaven. Sow the seed of Good News to people's lives. You never know which heart will respond to God. Some may have hard hearts but others may have good hearts. And what a great joy to see one more person coming to Jesus!

Don't be afraid of what you want to say. Take the step of faith and God will reveal to you what to speak. You may be a new Christian or have been a believer for many years. It does not matter. You just witness sincerely and trust Holy Spirit to touch people's heart. It's not about how convincing you speak; it's the work of Holy Spirit to convict sin and to reveal Jesus to their hearts.

Don't worry about God not doing anything. The power is not from you. The power is from God through you as you obey. Sometimes we face people with difficulties, even great difficulties – families about to break down, terminal illnesses, financial failure close to bankruptcy. You feel that you should pray for them, but you think ... what if they get worse after my prayer. We should pray in faith. But, it is not your prayer or your faith that is most important. It is your obedience to God's Word so that He can fulfill His promises. That is the most critical part that you must do.

Mar 16:20 [ESV] And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

Mar 16:20 [MSG] And the disciples went everywhere preaching, the Master working right with them, validating the Message with indisputable evidence.

Many have given similar testimonies. In the situation that seems impossible, in the surrounding people who do not know God, in our limitation in prayer and faith, as we obey, the miracles happen. Just say: "I am a believer. May I bless you and pray for your need?" If they say yes, just pray ... God will do the rest.

Everyone in the world needs Jesus. They are subjected to futility. Only one thing can deliver them – when the sons of God are revealed, when believers arise and when Christians live for their calling – go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Closing

Reveal yourself – and reveal Jesus through you. Take up your calling, don't worry about too many things, walk by faith and obey His command. May this year we see great works of God in and through our lives. May this year we bring one more person to Jesus!