

CHÉ AHN MINISTRIES

HEAVEN ON EARTH PART THREE

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Sunday, November 18, 2018

FIVE-WEEK STUDY IN THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

REVIEW:

1. The theme of Ephesians can be summed up in one verse, **Ephesians 1:10** “...that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.”
2. “His plan was to sum up the whole cosmos in the king – yes, everything in heaven and on earth, in him.” Dr. Wright, N.T.
3. The book of Ephesians can be divided into two major sections. **Chapter 1-3 is our Heavenly Wealth in Jesus** and **Chapter 4-6 is our Heavenly Walk in Christ**. Keep in mind we are talking about heaven on earth and not when we die and go to a place called heaven.
4. Last week, I spoke about our heaven on earth destiny. Know your identity. Be continually filled with the Holy Spirit and walk in Christlike character and holiness.

APOSTOLIC MINISTRY BRINGING HEAVEN’S CULTURE TO EARTH

TEXTS:

1. **Ephesians 2:19** “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰ having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief *cornerstone*, ²¹ in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”
2. **Ephesians 4:11** “And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, ¹³ till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...”

INTRO: I just completed, by God's grace, my newest book, *Modern-Day Apostles*. What is an apostle?

“An apostle is a *Christlike* ambassador with extraordinary *authority*, called and sent out by Jesus Christ with a specific assignment to align the Church to bring *Heaven's culture to earth* and fulfill the mandate of discipling nations.”

GOAL: WE ARE TO BRING HEAVEN'S CULTURE TO EARTH: Five characteristics of the apostolic ministry.

I. APOSTLES ARE CALLED AND SENT BY GOD

A. *APOSTOLOS*- SENT OUT ONE, HE THAT IS SENT. Thayer's Greek Dictionary, “Sent as a representative of another. The representative derives his authority and power from the one who sent him.”

1. JESUS THE CHIEF APOSTLE SAID IN JOHN 20:21, “AS THE FATHER HAS SENT ME SO I SEND YOU.”
2. God chooses apostles. You do not choose to be an apostle. God calls you.
3. Luke 6:13, Jesus called and chose the twelve.
4. **Romans 1:1 “Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God...”**
5. 1976: Vision of a map of the world, called to the nations.
6. 1983: Ralph Mahoney.
7. December 1995: Cindy Jacobs, “You are not to join another network. I have called you to start and lead your own network. I have called you to be an apostle. You will be like Abraham, a father of many. You will have churches in every continent, says the Lord!”

II. APOSTLES BRING HEAVEN'S CULTURE TO EARTH

A. **Luke 6:13 “And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named apostles...”**

1. Why did Jesus call them apostles?
2. How did the Romans use the word *apostle*?
3. Roman apostles were responsible to Romanize the conquered territories. They were to bring Roman culture to earth.
4. The genocide that is taking place in Myanmar (Burma). The radical Buddhists that are in control of the government trying to wipe out the Kachin Christians and the Muslims.
5. But I do have a Kingdom and it does have a culture.
6. Jesus says in **John 18:36, “My Kingdom is not *from* (èk) this world.”**

7. In the Greek, most people translate this as His Kingdom is not of this world, implying that His Kingdom has nothing to do with this world but just the opposite. Yes, His Kingdom is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, but His rule (King and dominion) must permeate every aspect of society.
8. This is what it means to disciple a nation. To bring heaven's culture or Kingdom culture to every people group.

III. APOSTLES HAVE EXTRAORDINARY AUTHORITY

A. 1 Corinthians 12:28 "And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers..."

1. First- *Proton*- Strong's definition, "First, place, order of importance, first in rank, influence, honor, chief, principle."
2. **Matthew 28:18 "All authority has been given to Me."**
3. Authority to convene and declare. James in Acts 15:19, "Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God..."
4. Authority to bind and loose.

IV. APOSTLES ALIGN THE CHURCH FOR MINISTRY AND MATURITY

- A. **Ephesians 4:10 "The same one who descended is also the one who ascended above the heights of heaven, in order to begin the restoration and fulfillment of all things. ¹¹ And he has appointed some with grace to be apostles, and some with grace to be prophets, and some with grace to be evangelists, and some with grace to be pastors, and some with grace to be teachers. ¹² And their calling is to nurture and prepare all the holy believers to do *their own works of ministry*, and as they do this they will enlarge and build up the body of Christ. ¹³ These grace ministries will function until we all attain oneness in the faith, until we all experience the fullness of what it means to know the Son of God (*full knowledge of the Son of God*), and finally *we become one perfect man with the full dimensions of spiritual maturity* and fully developed in the abundance of Christ."**

Simmons, Brian. The Passion Translation New Testament.

1. **MINISTRY – Ephesians 4:12** – Align the church for the work of ministry.
2. **MATURITY – Ephesians 4:13** – Help the church come into maturity.
3. We saw that we are God's workmanship created for good works. But the good works that Paul emphasizes is Christlike character.
4. **Ephesians 4:20 "But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:**

22 that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, 23 and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.”

5. **Ephesians 4:13 “...till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ”**
6. It stands to reason if the apostle is to help the church to come into perfection, the apostle must lead by example and be Christlike.
7. Until we come into this destiny, we will always need the fivefold ministry.

V. APOSTLES AND PROPHETS ARE THE FOUNDATIONAL MINISTRIES OF THE CHURCH

A. Ephesians 2:19 “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

B. GOVERNMENTAL PROPHETS: Prophets who give governmental direction for a church, apostolic center or for an apostolic network

C. HOW DO APOSTLES AND PROPHETS WORK TOGETHER?

1. TheCall.
2. TheCall Korea.
3. TheCall San Francisco.

CONCLUSION: God is restoring apostles and prophets today to bring about His ultimate purpose of having heaven on earth!