

2020: THE DECADE OF A GREAT HARVEST VISION SUNDAY, PART ONE

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January 12, 2020

TEXT: Isaiah 60:1 “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. ⁴ Lift up your eyes round about and see; They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, And your daughters will be carried in the arms. ⁵ Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you.”

INTRO: Sue and our family came out to LA in 1984 from the Washington D.C. area because of a prophetic call. I had a dream in 1982 where an African American appeared to me and said, “God is calling you to LA, for there will be a great harvest in LA.”

I believe, for many reasons, America will see a great revival and a great harvest beginning with this year.

We need to be like the sons of Issachar who knew the times that they were living in and what to do about it. **1 Chronicles 12:32 Of the sons of Issachar, men who understood the times, with knowledge of what Israel should do...** You would not wear summer clothes in wintertime. You would not act like a 12-year-old and play video games when you are a 50-year-old. We are not just starting a new year, or a new decade, but a new era, a new season.

This morning I want to share generally what I am sensing God is saying and doing in this new season for the Church in America. Next week, I want to share more specific vision and strategy for HRock Church as the Lord is leading us to go after the harvest.

I. 2020 IS THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT REVIVAL

A. THE CHURCH IS FIRST REVIVED



1. Isaiah 60:1 “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.”

2. 1 Peter 4:17 For *it is* time for judgment to begin with the household of God...

3. We have been in an unprecedented revival and harvest globally, especially the global south. But I believe that a new wave of revival has been swelling since 2016 that will crash upon the Church in two ways: **GREATER HOLINESS AND GREATER POWER.**

4. 2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

5. Personal Holiness: “You shall be holy as I am holy” (1 Peter 1:16).

B. A CHURCH REVIVED BRINGS IN A GREAT HARVEST OF SOULS

1. Isaiah 60:1 “Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. ² For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”

2. The glory comes first, and then nations will come to our light.

3. We are going from glory to glory, and that is why the Bible says that the “harvest is at the end of the age” (Matthew 13:39).

4. At the end of the first century, there was one Christian for every 450 people.

5. Today, one in seven is Christian, and that is not including the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox church. It is harvest time in the USA.

6. Habakkuk 2:14 “For the earth will be filled With the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, As the waters cover the sea.”

7. Revelation 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth passed away, and there is no longer *any* sea.

C. WHEN A MASSIVE HARVEST COMES IN, SOCIETY IS TRANSFORMED

1. Isaiah 60:3 “Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”

2. “The harvest is among the poor, but transformation takes place through kings.” C.P. Wagner

3. 1738: Before the Great Awakening was called the Gin Age. 25%. Reformation of good manners. Morality (**Whitfield, John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards**) **1807: Slave trade ends, 1833: Slavery outlawed.**

4. **William Wilberforce** (Sarah, let's have pictures of these leaders)

II. FOUR LESSONS LEARNED FROM PAST REVIVALS

A. REVIVAL SUCCESS CAN LEAD TO TERRIBLE FAILURE

1. I am talking about losing your first love, as sins of pride can manifest. One can become influenced by modernity and materialism.

2. For example, Korea and China. The Church in Korea started to decline as the nation prospered. The rural believers in China are moving to major cities like Beijing and Shanghai, and they are leaving the church because of newfound prosperity.

3. A word about the “prosperity gospel.” We believe in prosperity with a purpose.

4. John Wesley gave away 98% of his money and kept 2%, which was still substantial because of the royalties that he made on over a hundred books that he published.

B. THE CHURCH HAS TO MOVE BACKWARDS BEFORE IT CAN MOVE FORWARDS

1. **Acts 3:19 “Therefore repent and return, so that your sins may be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord; ²⁰ and that He may send Jesus, the Christ appointed for you, ²¹ whom heaven must receive until *the* period of restoration of all things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets from ancient time.”**

2. Some call this “Restoration theology.” How God restores truth in revival.

3. E.g. The Reformation: justification by grace through faith. Azusa Street Revival: Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

4. Bishop Bill Hamon teaches in his book *The Day of the Saints* that God has been restoring the Fivefold Ministry. In the 50s, God was restoring the office of the Evangelist. 60s, the Pastor. 70s, Teachers. 80s, Prophets. 90s, Apostles.

C. REVIVAL SPREADS THROUGH APOSTOLIC NETWORKS

1. Richard Collins, a sociologist at Penn State University, writes that in order to change culture, it takes networking with like-minded people. E.g. Gay activist in the book *After The Ball*.

2. The Clapham Group during the First Great Awakening.

3. Eric Metaxas asked, “Who are some of the apostles that God raised up in church history and what apostolic network did they start?” John Wesley and The Methodist Class Meetings. A.B. Simpson.

4. Aimee Semple McPherson, Four Square Church.

5. Redeemed Church of God of Nigeria.

6. Brother Chan and the house-church movement of China.

D. THE GREATEST DARKNESS IS BEFORE THE GREATEST LIGHT OF REVIVAL

1. Isaiah 60:2 “For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the Lord will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you. ³ Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.”

2. 1738: Before the First Great Awakening was called the Gin Age.

3. CHINA IN 1948.

4. Today, what is going on in America.

III. 2020 IS THE DECADE OF GREATER PERSONAL FAVOR AND FINANCIAL BREAKTHROUGH

A. Isaiah 60:4 “Lift up your eyes round about and see; They all gather together, they come to you. Your sons will come from afar, And your daughters will be carried in the arms. ⁵ Then you will see and be radiant, And your heart will thrill and rejoice; Because the abundance of the sea will be turned to you, The wealth of the nations will come to you.”

1. 2 Chronicles 20:20 They rose early in the morning and went out to the wilderness of Tekoa; and when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, “Listen to me, O Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, put your trust in the Lord your God and you will be established. Put your trust in His prophets and succeed.”

2. Haggai 2:7 “‘I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord of hosts. ⁸ ‘The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,’ declares the Lord of hosts. ⁹ ‘The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,’ says the Lord of hosts, ‘and in this place I will give peace,’ declares the Lord of hosts.”

CONCLUSION: Call to Greater Consecration.