

# Ekklesia Study Starter

## “Reformation: Preparing for Ekklesia”

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### Introduction

Company of the Committed  
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- 1.) **The Necessity of Commitment** – you must have a people who know what needs to be done and be willing to do it
- 2) **The Call to Enlistment** – Those who submit themselves to the season of preparation and building
- 3) **The Vocation of Witness** – A people who declare and do in seasons that contradict future expectations
- 4) **The Strategy of Penetration** – strategies employed to establish Kingdom influence in designated regions
- 5) **The Criterion of Validity** – Developing an unmistakable presence of the Lord’s ekklesia in a region
  - Change is Coming

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

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Matthew 3:1-3 KJV 1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, 2 And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. 3 For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Esaias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

- There is a people who can only hear in the wilderness
- There is the declaration of a new government
- Preparation is of the ‘way’ – the process by which this will be implemented
- Make straight paths – clear the path from the old into the new

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### Reformation Spirit and Mentality Patterns of John the Baptist

- 1.) The release of an entirely new dimension of ministry and a break with the traditions of the old
- 2) Reformation points the way to a greater order
- 3) Reformation is not subject to current trends
- 4) Reformation brings a higher level or rank into the earth and becomes the **bottom indicator** of a **new standard**
- 5) Reformation creates a new level of spiritual intensity in the Kingdom
- 6) Kingdom refinement is a reformation characteristic

### Part 2: How Reformation Comes

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- Reformation occurs when a people make a conscious decision to change the predictable outcomes of their future.
- Under normal conditions, the present is a direct product of the combination of circumstances and events that have been experienced in the past, and forms the platform for creation of future reality and experience.
- Discern between what was sin – and what was ignorance

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- Whenever a people, looking forward into the future, come to the realization that their present reality is no longer accurate or capable of fulfilling the purposes of God, then new patterns must be sought out from biblical patterns.

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- New patterns are articulated by apostles and prophets.

- Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit; (Ephesians 3:5)
- New patterns often demand breaking from traditional patterns and systems

### **PART 3: THE CONCEPT OF REFORMATION**

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- Reformation requirements
- Romans 12:1-2 KJV 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
  1. Intentional transitions to new mentalities
  2. Greater expectations and faith levels

3. Fresh revelation from the Word of God for more powerful performance of the purposes of God in the earth.

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- Reformation requires the conscious choosing of a preferred destination; it does not occur automatically.
- Reformation does not overtake the unaware or the unperceptive; it requires obedience, courage and understanding.
- A Reformation is first ordained in heaven and received by prophetic people in the earth but must be built by activities of sacrifice, joy and persistent proclamation.

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- Reformation comes to the earth through the pathway of persecution, resistance and extreme hindrances from Pharisee positions established within the body of Christ itself.
- Acts 14:21-22 KJV 21 And when they had preached the gospel to that city, and had taught many, they returned again to Lystra, and to Iconium, and Antioch, 22 Confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God.
- Resistance is often the validator of a reformation in process
- Resistance seeks to maintain a stronghold within the framework of the status quo
- First declaration relating to the ekklesia suggests the reality of resistance

- Matthew 16:18 NKJV 18 "...and on this rock I will build My [ekklesia], and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

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- Positions are established by the enemy to block the advance of the Kingdom in the hearts and minds of men. They will not allow you to enter nor will they enter in themselves.
- Matthew 23:13 NKJV 13 "But woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you shut up the kingdom of heaven against men; for you neither go in yourselves, nor do you allow those who are entering to go in.

#### **PART 4: PREPARING TO SHIFT**

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- Reformation comes to the earth through the pathway of persecution, resistance and extreme hindrances from religious systems
- Religious systems are defined as well established structures within the Body of Christ with a vested interest in the status quo.
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- Resistance validates that a reformation in process – What is being resisted? By who?
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- John the Baptist – his life and message introduced the advent of a new reformation
- His life shifted traditional expectations
- His message – “Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand” – introduced a new order
- This was the set up of a massive shift from the structural order of the Law to the spiritual order of Divine Grace.

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- John the Baptist set the stage for Jesus
- Luke 3:15-16 KJV 15 And as the people were in expectation, and all men mused in their hearts of John, whether he were the Christ, or not; 16 John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

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- Jesus demonstrated the Kingdom to set the stage for introducing His ekklesia
- Matthew 9:35 KJV 35 And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.
- John 14:12 KJV 12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.
- Life will never be the same: permanent changes are about to be made.

## PART 5: HEARING A NEW SOUND

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

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- Reformation does not occur automatically. Choose to pursue the place
- Reformation does not take the aware by surprise
- Reformation requires obedience, courage and understanding.
- A Reformation is first ordained in heaven and received by prophetic people in the earth but must be built by activities of sacrifice, joy and persistent proclamation.

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- All the spiritual landscape will change after John.
- Reformation realigns the present to accurately connect to the future
- ‘This is that...’ upgrades old paradigms
- Matthew 5:21-22 KJV 21 You have heard that it was said by them of old time...22 But I say unto you...
- Jesus declared a shifting from letter of the law to the spirit of the law
- A new relationship between heaven and earth is being prepared
- The Life of John the Baptist became a recalibration point

- Priesthoods, sacrifices, cleansings, structures, regulations, and complete understandings of historical events, which have been given by God to a people for nearly two thousands years will instantaneously shift and become aligned with the new.

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- John cried out for repentance – a necessary requirement to align with earthly presence of the Kingdom
- A prophetic demand was placed on dry and disconnected bones in the wilderness
- Ezekiel 37:4-5 KJV 4 Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:

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- A prophetic demand was placed on dry and disconnected bones in the wilderness
- That set in motion a process to reveal a people who were not a people in this new season
- Alignment precedes strength – bone to his bone
- Strength produces definition – flesh, muscle, skin
- Definition reveals capacity – great army

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- Like ekklesia is today, the new prophetic frequencies of John the Baptist have never been heard on the planet earth, and the hearts of and minds of men struggle to comprehend this new personality, the new message, and the new demand of God.
- Romans 10:18 NKJV 18 But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."
- Sound = OT qav NT phthoggos, ftong'-gos – musical note – sound
- Words travel through sound
- Words are structured sound

## PART 6: WHAT JOHN THE BAPTIST CAN TEACH US

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

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- Resistance validates that something is changing

- Jesus first declaration relating to the ‘Gates of Hades’ reveal the futility of resistance by the enemy

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- The sound of ekklesia is rising in the earth
- Romans 10:18 NKJV 18 But I say, have they not heard? Yes indeed: "Their sound has gone out to all the earth, And their words to the ends of the world."
- Sound = OT qav NT phthoggos, ftong<sup>l</sup>-gos – musical note – sound
- Words travel through sound
- Words are structured sound
- 1 Corinthians 14:7-8 NKJV 7 Even things without life, whether flute or harp, when they make a sound, unless they make a distinction in the sounds, how will it be known what is piped or played? 8 For if the trumpet makes an uncertain sound, who will prepare himself for battle?
- Lets take a look into the life and experience of John to find **patterns** that will help us to navigate the transition taking place in the earth today

- You should not be caught off guard
- What may seem to be calamity to others is clarity to you

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- Two people can hear the same thing and have completely different conclusions
- Moses spent 40 days with God – Joshua camped somewhere between Moses and the people who grew anxious in Moses absence
- Exodus 32:17-18 NKJV 17 And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." 18 But he said: "It is not the noise of the shout of victory, Nor the noise of the cry of defeat, But the sound of singing I hear."
- Proximity creates clarity
- **TO UNDERSTAND EKKLESIA – GET CLOSE TO THE LORD**

**PART 7: MORE INSIGHTS FROM JOHN THE BAPTIST**

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- His birth signaled a shift in tradition
- Zachariah 'wrote' John's name before he spoke it
- Luke 1:59-63 NKJV 59 So it was, on the eighth day, that they came to circumcise the child; and they would have called him by the name of his father, Zacharias. 60 His mother answered and said, "No; he shall be called John." 61 But they said to her, "There is no one among your relatives who is called by this name." 62 So they made signs to his father--what he would have him called. 63 And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, saying, "His name is John." So they all marveled.

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- What was written gave voice to change
- Luke 1:64-67 NKJV 64 Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, praising God. 65 Then fear came on all who dwelt around them; and all these sayings were discussed throughout all the hill country of Judea. 66 And all those who heard them kept them in their hearts, saying, "What kind of child will this be?" And the hand of the Lord was with him. 67 Now his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying:

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- John is a prophetically introduced order that broke with the naming traditions of the traditional family past.
- The assembled family wanted to call him by his mute fathers name but it was not to be so.
- There is no one among his relatives who is called by that strange new name, John, which was given by heaven.
- All the relatives marveled at the naming, so too are the patterns of Reformation

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- It is named from Heaven and at its appearance, its identity seems to be not of the traditional order of the church.
- Its names vocabulary, terminology, and spiritual patterns seem to be strange to all the hearers, but its identity is given by God.
- As with Zacharias at the naming of John, if the fathers who have become mute and ineffective in the prophetic proclamation of a new thing coming into the earth, accept and receive the new identity from heaven and speak its new name into the earth, they will receive utterance, prophetic power and a fresh activation to new levels of ministry.
- God does not want to destroy or sideline the fathers of previous moves, but he wants to reignite them.

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- The declaration in the wilderness was necessary as to declare in the city would have been muted by the sound of religion
- There are ‘ears to hear’ in the wilderness
- Matthew 3:1-3 NKJV 1 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'

**PART 8: A NEW PARADIGM**

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- The birth of John the Baptist introduced a shift in the traditions of the past
- Ekklesia is doing the same thing – even as many are trying to keep it contained in the church system
- Since the reformation that began with Martin Luther the 16<sup>th</sup> century, there has been a progressive building towards this season

- The difference is that other truths were added to the church system, where as ekklesia itself is a new paradigm

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- This is the DAY OF THE SAINTS
- God’s people are being activated and released into the earth to do the ‘work of ministry’
- Ephesians 4:11-12 NKJV 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,
- The ministry gifts have been restored, and there is a general knowledge of their existence in the Body of Christ, but...

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- They have been pigeon-holed into a system that DID NOT exist when Jesus gave them into the earth
- There were no ‘apostolic networks’ – ‘prophetic services’ – ‘evangelical programs’ – ‘pastors were not the preeminent gift’ – ‘and teachers didn’t design doctrine to fit denominational views
- They were divine gifts given to equip the saints so that THEY could do the work of ministry
- The work of ministry was not limited to tasks that perpetuated or served the ‘church’ – simply because the church did not exist at that time

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- Challenge to re-read the book of Acts
- You cannot find what we do as church today without reading our contemporary experiences into scripture
- The gatherings around Solomon’s Porch, or when Peter and John went to the temple for prayer – cannot be construed as a first century version of ‘going to church’
- POINT: Ekklesia was introduced 16 centuries before King James had it mistranslated as church

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- We have lived with the framework of the mistranslation so long, that ekklesia feels out of place
- The Holy Spirit highlighting ekklesia is like John the Baptist birth – long held traditions are being challenged
- The true release of the saints demands a dismantling of the system that has contained them for 400 years
- It is not enough that you leave Egypt – Pharaohs army has to be destroyed

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- HOW DO PEOPLE TRY AND CONTAIN YOU?
- They attempt to define you according to their paradigm
- Matthew 3:7-8 NKJV 7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance,
- Proof of repentance is in manifested alignment
- ‘I can’t hear what you say – for watching what you do’

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- Mark 11:28-33 NKJV 28 And they said to Him, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority to do these things?" 29 But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one question; then answer Me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things: 30 "The baptism of John--was it from heaven or from men? Answer Me." 31 And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" 32 "But if we say, 'From men' --they feared the people, for all counted John to have been a prophet indeed. 33 SO THEY ANSWERED AND SAID TO JESUS, "WE DO NOT KNOW." AND JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID TO THEM, "NEITHER will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

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- John stayed on message
- Matt 3:11 I indeed baptize you in (with) water because of repentance [that is, because of your changing your minds for the better, heartily amending your ways, with abhorrence of your past sins]. But He Who is coming after me is mightier than I, Whose sandals I am not worthy {or} fit to take off {or} carry; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

## PART 9: THE PURPOSE OF JOHN THE BAPTIST MESSAGE

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness
- The first word, of the first message after 400 years of silence was **REPENT**
- The core emphasis to the new things to come is repentance.

- Repentance is the access point into the Kingdom

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- Salvation through Christ Jesus is critical to all of us, however at the time of John the Baptist message, Christ had not yet died for our sins.
- John declared Jesus as one greater
- John 3:30 He understood the necessity to decrease to that Jesus could increase
- John 1:29 NKJV 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

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- Repentance was linked to aligning with the kingdom
- The word repentance comes from “metanoeo” from the root meta (after) and noeo which means “to think”
- Be intentional and deliberate about changing the way you think about where you are and realize that you are not where you should be
- The purpose of declaring the kingdom is to alert you that you can enter into it

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- Repentance is a mental exercise that involves a definite change of thinking that results in changed activity and behavior.
- Repentance involves the faculties of understanding, the will and definite action.
- Repentance is the structured approach to long term and permanent change from revelation of the new demands of God
- Repentance is the mature interaction with heavens will in the earth.

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Let’s review John the Baptist message:

- The Lord is coming, his way must be prepared
- Necessary and deliberate action has to be taken if the new thing has to arrive accurately – repent change the way you think and what you do.
- He declared something mightier is waiting to download which will bring a greater manifestation of light and power.

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- The greater has come and the message of John the Baptist has fulfilled its purpose
- Many religious systems are still locked in John’s message and have not entered into the Kingdom
- They preach the message of Apollos
- Acts 18:25 NKJV 25 This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John.

- The impact of a stunted message is far reaching causing many to never grow beyond expecting something that is already here.
- Paul had to help some who had embraced Apollos incomplete message
- Acts 19:3-4 NKJV 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus."

## PART 10: WHAT DID YOU COME TO SEE?

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- April 5, 1992, we held the first service of the ministry my wife and I founded – John 3:16 Ministries
- The building was packed with over 150 people and I preached a message entitled ‘What Did You Come To See?’
- John was hearing about Jesus while he languished in prison. He wanted to know if Jesus was the one he had been proclaiming or whether they should be looking for someone else

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- Matthew 11:2-6 NKJV 2 And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples 3 and said to Him, "Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?" 4 Jesus answered and said to them, "Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: 5 "The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. 6 "And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me."

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- The validation of Jesus was the manifestation of kingdom activity
- It is the manifestation of kingdom activity that will validate the ekklesia
- Proclamation without manifestation perpetuates the status quo
- Offense is the fruit of pride and false measurement
- Old patterns must be interrogated by new structures ‘What did you come to see?’

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- Matthew 11:7-9 NKJV 7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? 8 "But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.
- The reed shaken in the wind – a man in soft clothing – and a prophet reflect religious mindsets that must be challenged
- Ekklesia does not align with old patterns which usually are corrupted fruit of man-made traditional thinking

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- Transitioning into ekklesia is not like a reed shaken by the wind of popular opinion or unstable doctrine
- Ekklesia is an apostolic / prophetic restoration of divine intent that brings the mind, resources, and greater grace of God for future positions.
- Ekklesia brings into the earth that which is not or cannot be accessed by church systems or mindsets
- Ekklesia introduces the future into the now by releasing the powers of the world to come

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- A true reformation is not clothed in soft garments – not appropriate for the wilderness
- Soft garments suggests the selling out of true spiritual positions for religious elevation (Kings Houses) or popularity.
- Camels hair – garments appropriate for the work of ministry

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- Preconceived images of religious positions shift to align with kingdom design
- Incorrect patterns corrupt functions – create offices with duties more than purpose – all ministry gifts will be recalibrated to become accurately aligned and functioning properly
- Hebrews 1:1-2 NKJV 1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
- Functions decrease so that Christ can increase, and purpose can be released

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- Matthew 11:9-15 NKJV 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!
- Understand why John the Baptist was the transition into the day of the saints

## PART 11: PROPHETIC REALIGNMENT

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- John challenged three mindsets
- Theological – Religious – Prophetic
- First, reed swayed by the wind.
- Transitioning into ekklesia is not like a reed shaken by the wind of popular opinion or unstable doctrine
- Ekklesia is a restoration of divine intent that brings the mind, resources, and greater grace of God now in order to align with future positions.

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- Ekklesia brings into the earth that which is not or cannot be accessed by church systems or mindsets
- Ekklesia introduces the future into the now by releasing the powers of the world to come
- Second, a true reformation is not clothed in soft garments – not appropriate for the wilderness
- Soft garments in the wilderness suggest a system completely out of alignment with its environment.
- Soft garments suggests that what is 'seen' is more important than what is done

- Soft garments suggests the selling out of true spiritual positions for religious elevation (Kings Houses) or popularity.
- **Mark 12:38-39** NKJV 38 Then He said to them in His teaching, "Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, love greetings in the marketplaces, 39 "the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts,

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- **Matthew 23:5-7** NKJV 5 "But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the borders of their garments. 6 "They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, 7 "greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.'
- Preconceived images of religious positions shift to align with kingdom design

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- Incorrect patterns corrupt functions – create offices with duties more than purpose – all ministry gifts will be recalibrated to become accurately aligned and functioning properly
- Hebrews 1:1-2 NKJV 1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;
- Functions decrease so that Christ can increase, and purpose can be released

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- Matthew 11:9-15 NKJV 9 "But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. 10 "For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

## PART 12: TRANSITIONING BY THE WORD

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- John challenged three mindsets
- Theological – Religious – Prophetic
- First, reed swayed by the wind of popular opinion or unstable doctrine
- Ekklesia is a restoration of divine intent that brings the mind, resources, and greater grace of God now in order to align with future positions.
- Second, a true reformation is not clothed in soft garments suggesting a system completely out of alignment with its environment.

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- Understand why John the Baptist was the transition into the day of the saints
- John is more than a prophet
- John performed no miracles like Elijah and Elisha
- He wrote no books of scripture
- He is not recorded to have mighty visions like Ezekiel. Yet he was considered to be more than a prophet?

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- Matthew 11:11-15 NKJV 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!
- Malachi 4:5-6 NKJV 5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 6 And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."
- The prophetic message of both Elijah and John the Baptist was alignment
- John the Baptist aligns all prophetic voices with Jesus Christ

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- Jesus showed all prophetic voices pointed to Him
- Luke 24:27 NKJV 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.
- Hebrews 1:1-2 NKJV 1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, 2 has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

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- This reformation demands a response as it broke with tradition and called into question everything that was incorrect.
- Luke 3:7-9 NKJV 7 Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, "Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? 8 "Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 9 "And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

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- Every sphere of life is impacted by the entrance of the Kingdom
- The kingdom cannot manifest outside of righteousness
- John the Baptist message to repent because the Kingdom was now available had to be demonstrated in practical lifestyles
- Luke 3:10-11NKJV 10 So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?" 11 He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."

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- Luke 3:12 Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" 13 And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you."
- Luke 3:14 NKJV 14 Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."
- It did not require miracles or supernatural (both are still valid) demonstrations to have an impact on the people.

## PART 13: THE SET UP

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- John challenged three mindsets
- Theological – Religious – Prophetic
- A message not swayed by popular opinion – doctrinal insecurity
- Like the revealing of ekklesia it proclaims in the now what is necessary for the world to come.
- You cannot view old systems as being accurate when they are out of alignment with its environment – soft clothing in the wilderness

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- John the Baptist performed no miracles like Elijah and Elisha - he wrote no books of scripture - he is not recorded to have mighty visions like Ezekiel. Yet he was considered by Jesus to be more than a prophet?
- This is critical for understand why John the Baptist was a type of transition necessary to reveal ekklesia and enter the Day of the Saints

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- Matthew 11:11-15 NKJV 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

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- The last move of God becomes the floor on which the next move will stand
- We are experiencing a definite departure from the levels of the old order and we will never return.
- Reformation marks an elevation from the previous standard. Elevated to what?
- The minimum standard of the ekklesia and the operational level of the believers are being pushed upward in this day of reformation so that even the least in the Kingdom will be greater than John.

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- Rather than do miracles – John the Baptist preached repentance because a new kingdom – a new government – a new order – a new dimension is coming into the earth
- He declared a decrease in one dimension in order to submit to a greater dimension
- Prior to John the Baptist, God spoke to the fathers through the prophets – but in this shift God is speaking to us by His Son - the Word who was in the beginning with God
- Everything we do is activated by the Word of His power

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- The minimum standard of the ekklesia and the operational level of the believers in it are being pushed upward in this day of reformation so that even the least in the Kingdom will be greater than John.
- The responses to the people, the tax collectors and the soldiers reveal that practical lifestyle precedes the supernatural lifestyle
- This is the precursor to understanding why the least in the Kingdom is greater than John the Baptist

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## PART 14: DIVINE ALIGNMENT

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- John challenged three mindsets
- Theological – Religious – Prophetic
- A message not swayed by popular opinion – doctrinal insecurity
- Like the revealing of ekklesia it proclaims in the now what is necessary for the world to come.
- You cannot view old systems as being accurate when they are out of alignment with its environment – soft clothing in the wilderness

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- The entrance of John the Baptist into the earth reveals a pattern that helps us to see what God is doing in the earth today.
- **Luke 1:13-14 NKJV** 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. 14 "And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.
- Many live with expectation that there is something new and greater coming

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- **Luke 1:15-16 NKJV** 15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. 16 "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.
- The advent of the new – ekklesia – shall change lifestyles as it will not fit into traditional patterns
- Many ‘in Israel’ will turn – suggesting a revival that begins within the places of traditional worship – the church system

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- **Luke 1:17 NKJV** 17 "He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,' and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
- This is what Jesus said about John the Baptist – if you receive it – he is that Elijah that was to come first
- The ‘Elijah pattern’ brings alignment so that people can receive the Lord
- 'to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children

- Generational alignment – connecting the dots between what was prophesied and what we are entering
- ‘and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just
- Error will be undeniable – a season that comes to create a clear line of demarcation
- to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."
- The ‘Elijah pattern’ brings alignment so that people can receive the Lord (and His intent)

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- **Luke 1:18-19 NKJV** 18 And Zacharias said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is well advanced in years." 19 And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings.
- The angel came as a result of Zacharias prayers (Vs 13), yet Gods timing to release new patterns often come when we believe we have no capacity to do anything

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- **Luke 1:20 NKJV 20** "But behold, you will be mute and not able to speak until the day these things take place, because you did not believe my words which will be fulfilled in their own time."
- What we say in a time of transition is critical.
- When you are critical to the purpose of God – at times your voice will be muted – what you see in your spirit cannot be articulated. People look at you in bewilderment
- **Luke 1:24-25 NKJV 24** Now after those days his wife Elizabeth conceived; and she hid herself five months, saying, 25 "Thus the Lord has dealt with me, in the days when He looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."
- She was not hiding in shame – ‘the Lord dealt with me’ to remove reproach’
- Often when you are pregnant with something new – the people can be your greatest distraction

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- Many have been pregnant with this thing in their spirit
- This new baby that would not bear the name the traditional name ‘church’ but will have a new name ‘ekklesia’
- Many have not felt they had the capacity to do anything about what they have known in the spirit
- Until now – there has been a divine muting – an inability to articulate what was taking place internally

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- **Genesis 1:26-27 NKJV** 26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.
- **Genesis 1:31 NKJV** 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.
- **Luke 1:26 NKJV** 26 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth,

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- Timing is critical – we are in the right time – when a people of God is being birth
- In the sixth day man was created – in the sixth month the Son of Man was conceived
- **Galatians 4:4 NKJV** 4 But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law,
- **John 1:1-2 NKJV** 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God.
- **John 1:14 NKJV** 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

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Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

**Matthew 11:11-14 NKJV** 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.

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- Jesus declaration that John the Baptist was the greatest prophet is linked to those who are in the kingdom he was declaring
- The least of those in the kingdom exceed him
- John did nothing supernatural like the prophets before him – or the nothing supernatural like the ‘least in the kingdom’ after him – yet Jesus said there was no greater prophet

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- Being the least in the kingdom suggests a new dimension
- Where were people prior to John the Baptist? If they were not in the kingdom, where were they?
- The answer to this is discovered in understanding the message of the prophets before John

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- Luke 24:27 NKJV 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.
- John 5:39 NKJV 39 "You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.
- The New Testament saints had only Old Testament text to learn from

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- Everything they had pointed to Jesus, but John preached something fresh and new – that a new kingdom order was immanent – and the alignment through repentance was necessary
- And whenever you have a kingdom – there must also be a king prompting John to voluntarily decrease so that Christ could increase in His role as king

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- Matthew 11:12 NKJV 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force.
- The violence suffered took place during the season of John’s proclamation of the kingdom
- Violence suggest the battle between what was and what is coming

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- When you have something of value – people will do what is necessary to attain it
- 1Samuel 2:35-36 NKJV 35 'Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind. I will build him a sure house, and he shall walk before My anointed forever. 36 'And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and say, "Please, put me in one of the priestly positions, that I may eat a piece of bread.'"

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- 1Samuel 2:35-36 NKJV 35 'Then I will raise up for Myself a faithful priest who shall do according to what is in My heart and in My mind.
- The 'faithful priest' is the High Priest of our profession – Jesus Christ
- John 5:19 NKJV 19 Then Jesus answered and said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son also does in like manner.

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- I will build him a sure house,
- 1 Peter 2:5 NKJV 5 you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.
- and he (the faithful priest) shall walk before My anointed forever.
- There is a group identified that the faithful priest will lead through out eternity – the saints of God – you and me

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- 36 'And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left in your house will come and bow down to him for a piece of silver and a morsel of bread, and say, "Please, put me in one of the priestly positions, that I may eat a piece of bread.'"
- Those who are suffering in a wrong place will desire what is in the correct place. They recognize it is the priestly office that survival becomes possible
- Luke 16:16 NKJV 16 "The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.

## PART 16: THE LEAST IN THE KINGDOM

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

**Matthew 11:11-14 NKJV** 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.

- Jesus declaration that John the Baptist was the greatest prophet is linked to those who are least in the kingdom he was declaring
- The least of those in the kingdom exceed him
- John did nothing supernatural like the prophets before him – or the nothing supernatural like the ‘least in the kingdom’ after him – yet Jesus said there was no greater prophet

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- Why did the prophets like Elijah, Elisha and Ezekiel do more miracles than John the Baptist?
- **Hebrews 6:5 NKJV** 5 [in every season there are people who] ...have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,
- Old Testament expressions were limited to a selected few – the New Testament expressions are given to a people

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- The least 'in the kingdom' suggests a people who are outside of the dimension John the Baptist walked in
- Because they are greater it suggests that John the Baptist was in a lesser realm. Why?
- This greater dimension would be filled with a people who would live and function as Kingdom citizens in the earth with its rights and privileges

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- This new dimension is the place where Jesus would align and restore a people in the original intent of the Father
- Genesis 1:26-28 NKJV 26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion...27 ... God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

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- 28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion..."
- The message of repentance – turning from old mindsets – relinquishing old systems was critical to calling attention to the greater dimension – the kingdom

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- Genesis 1:28 Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion...
- The message of repentance – turning from old mindsets – relinquishing old systems was critical to bringing a people into the divine intent of the Father
- The kingdom is what Jesus taught repetitively

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- The events at Caesarea Philippi make more sense in this progression
- John the Baptist who did no miracles preached a message that had to manifest in practical expressions
- When he answered the people, the tax collectors, and soldiers – he did not tell them to do miracles – but to live and do right

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- John the Baptist voluntarily decreased in order for Jesus Christ to increase
- Jesus continued the message of repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand – He also read a key portion of Isaiah [61] and declared it was fulfilled – specifically in Him.
- That was a shock and a shift in the religious mindset that resulted in anger

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- Acts 10:38 NKJV 38 “...God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.
- Jesus mission was not to contain the expression of the kingdom but to restore and expand it
- Luke 10:9 NKJV 9 “... heal the sick there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’

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- The least in the kingdom was being prepared through Jesus Christ. They would be a people identified by Christ – ‘as He is so are we’
- The declaration of His ekklesia was not happenstance. The very nature of the Lord’s ekklesia centers around being an expression of the kingdom
- Ekklesia is a people of spiritual authority and power in the kingdom

## PART 17: REFORMATION BY SEPARATION

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

**Matthew 11:11-14 NKJV** 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 "And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come.

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- John did nothing supernatural like the prophets before him – or the nothing supernatural like the ‘least in the kingdom’ after him – yet Jesus said there was no greater prophet
- He was in the wilderness in camel skin – eating locust and wild honey. He was not attractive but the people came to him

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- John did nothing supernatural like the prophets before him – or the nothing supernatural like the ‘least in the kingdom’ after him – yet Jesus said there was no greater prophet
- He was in the wilderness in camel skin – eating locust and wild honey. He was not attractive but the people came to him
- Reformation attracts those seeking truth

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- Matt 3:10 And already the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- Reformation is a message of separation and refinement in the Kingdom necessary to produce greater effectiveness of the work of the Lord among his people
- Productivity is an expectation for every believer – dormancy is not acceptable

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- Matthew 13:40-42 KJV 40 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. 41 The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; 42 And shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.
- Jesus clearly taught that there are offensive, lawless and rebellious elements in the Kingdom that must be removed in order to produce and release the true glory of God through his people.

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- Matthew 13:43 KJV 43 Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.
- For a season the wheat and the tares were allowed to grow together but the principle of light and darkness being separated would soon manifest
- Genesis 1:4 KJV 4 And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.
- From the 1<sup>st</sup> day of creation there was a clear line of demarcation between light and darkness.

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- The ax being laid at the root – gathering and burning the tares – plucking out an offensive eye or cutting off an offensive hand suggest the graphic level required to enter into the kingdom of light
- Ekklesia is the Lord’s duly authorized representative of the Kingdom of Heaven. To attempt to represent the Kingdom with entities without the authority to do so is a form of Sceva-ism
- The ekklesia is recognized by both the Lord Jesus Christ who is the King of the kingdom, and the demonic realm that opposes Him
- 
- The shining forth of the righteous is key to the end time purposes of God.

- You cannot shine until darkness is evident
- The line between ekklesia and the church system is becoming more evident. This is the season we are in now
- God’s people must recognize what He desires – not what makes men comfortable

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## PART 18: EKKLESIA PROVIDES SOLUTIONS

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- Isaiah 60:1-5 KJV 1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee. 3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. 4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side. 5 Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

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- The line of demarcation is to reveal the righteous
- The righteous are those accurately aligned with the purposes and intent of the Father – this is not a saint vs. sinner scenario
- To accept or reject ekklesia in this season impacts capacity as a believer – not whether or not a person is a believer

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- Isaiah 60:1-5 KJV 1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee. 2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people:
- Darkness for a season seems larger than the light. It covers the earth – but is the necessary precursor for others to see the glory of the Lord on you.
- When darkness is the norm – light seems out of place – light feels wrong to those who are comfortable in dark places

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- Vs 3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.
- There is usually an internal deficit in a person that prompts them to search for ways to fill the void.
- Those outside (Gentiles) and those in authority (kings) will be drawn to the light in you – but if you have no solutions you will no different from the other religious ideologies.
- Acts 3:6 KJV 6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

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- Isaiah 60:4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see:
- This is a season of discernment. People are crying out for solutions. Unrest, personal deficiencies and loss, pain, and sickness often exposes that there are hearts looking for answers.
- “Such as I have...” we cannot give them what they can get from the world – the church system.
- Silver and gold represented an easy way out. It was a way to justify one’s heart by giving, but simultaneously would leave the lame man in the same condition

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- Ekklesia must provide solutions that exceed the norm. We have the keys of the kingdom of heaven that gives us supernatural solutions to matters concerning mankind.
- Luke 10:8-9 KJV 8 And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you: 9 And heal the sick that are therein, and say unto them, The kingdom of God is come nigh unto you. – produce solutions

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- Isaiah 60:5-8 reveals that those who are accurately aligned become a magnet that will draw those in need. People – resources – and systems will find ways to attach themselves to your light.
- Light is always revealed in dark and void places. The ekklesia cannot be intimidated by the environment
- The ekklesia has been equipped with the tools. Opposition has been defeated in advance. Authority has been granted to legislate heavens intent into the earth. Why wouldn't people in need be drawn to our light

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## PART 19: THIS IS YOUR SEASON

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- Reformation produces a reformed people.
- The principle is that for the things of God to advance, it takes a people with a like mentality.
- God never does anything new unless he first updates the mentality of the people to walk hand in hand with his purposes.
- Man had no aversion to his capacity to fulfill his role until after he had sinned. Sin shifted our sight from God's ability to our inadequacy

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- Genesis 3:1 Adam and Eve hid themselves in fear
- Exodus 4:10 Moses slow of speech
- Joshua 1:9 Joshua had to be told to be courageous
- Judges 6:15 Gideon saw himself as the poorest of the poor
- Jeremiah 1:6 Jeremiah saw himself as begin too young

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- Paul could have allowed his past to disqualify him from ministry
- 1 Corinthians 15:9-10 NKJV 9 For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.
- Recognizing your past is not the same as using it to determine your capacity in Christ
- You 'background' and your past are located behind you. The residue of past failures can only survive on the strength you give them.

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- What do I do when others constantly bring up my past, and hold it against me?
- Acknowledge – denial suggest you may still carry the weight of the past - stay in the light – let it remain under the blood of Christ
- Romans 8:38-39 NKJV 38 For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, 39 nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. [notice the past is not on the list as it can separate you from Christ]

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- If necessary, disconnect – those who dwell on your past will rarely support you in route to your destiny. Be willing to adjust your relationships
- Move on – stay focused on where you are going – not where you are
- Some laws of the land and past activities carry a residue that you can't disconnect from [felony conviction, children out of wedlock, divorce, bankruptcy].
- Seek the Lord as to how these can be calibrated within your assignment

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- 10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain;
- To focus on your inability is to suggest that God does not know what He is doing. He called you - knowing you
- But I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me.
- Your response is to do all – in spite of your background or past – to labor knowing you can do all things through Christ which strengthens you

## PART 20: THE REFORMING MANTLE OF THE EKKLESIA

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- Reformation produces a reformed people.

- The principle is that for the things of God to advance, it takes a people with a like mentality.
- God never does anything new unless he first updates the mentality of the people to walk hand in hand with his purposes.
- Man had no aversion to his capacity to fulfill his role until after he had sinned. Sin shifted our sight from God's ability to our inadequacy

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- Our first battle is internal – we see our shortcomings and elevate them above God's command – we feel we don't have the capacity to carry it out
- Second, we deal with those who remind us of our failures and shortcomings
- Then there is a third area – external realities

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- When God calls out a people to represent Him – He is well aware of the environment they are to serve in.
- Light was introduced into a dark and void atmosphere
- Man was placed in a garden that was surrounded by territories that needed to be subdued
- Ekklesia was birthed in a world that needed policies of the Kingdom of Heaven brought into it
- Wherever you are – God has placed you there to impact that place with His glory, dominion and power

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- Luke 7:31-35 KJV 31 And the Lord said, Whereunto then shall I liken the men of this generation? and to what are they like? 32 They are like unto children sitting in the marketplace, and calling one to another, and saying, We have piped unto you, and ye have not danced; we have mourned to you, and ye have not wept. 33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. 34 The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners! 35 But wisdom is justified of all her children.

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- Reformation always begins in an environment that is filled with hostility, manipulation and control.
- Reformers are first given the ability to see the environment from the Lord’s perspective – it is more than see what is wrong – it is seeing Kingdom solutions as though they were already in place
- Reformers execute divine strategies in the earth that reveal previously unseen dimensions of God – dimensions that are resisted by current systems
- Ekklesia is a reforming entity

The children are creatures of immature perceptions, shallow demands, petulant spirits, and wicked hearts.

They are religious people controlled by Pharisee spirits that strongly oppose the advance of the boundaries of the Kingdom Experience.

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- The children are creatures of immature perceptions, shallow demands, petulant spirits, and wicked hearts.
- They are religious people controlled by Pharisee spirits that strongly oppose the advance of the boundaries of the Kingdom Experience.
- They demand that reformers be bound to the conformity of the times and be limited to a range of predetermined and predictable responses.

- The children say, I play; you dance – I weep; you cry
- This generation wants to control the entire pattern of spiritual response on the earth.

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- This generation demands to be the only initiator of all spiritual activity and will not tolerate any deviance from their set patterns – this allows them to control the spiritual narrative and manipulate it to fit their desires
- The prophetic spirit of the reformer breaks the set activity of the times - it stands against conformity and is able to be the architect of a new set of rules for Kingdom advancement
- It is not intimidated by the marketplace of the immature. - It is both creative and pioneering, it cuts against the culture of its own time recognizing neither the flute nor the lament

## PART 21: PREPARATION FOR BEING A REFORMER

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- Reformation produces a reformed people.
- God never does anything new unless he first updates the mentality of the people to walk hand in hand with his purposes.
- Man had no aversion regarding his capacity to fulfill his role until after he had sinned. Sin shifted our sight from God’s ability to our inadequacy

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- Our first battle is internal – we see our shortcomings and elevate them above God’s command – we feel we don’t have the capacity to carry it out
- Second, we deal with those who remind us of our failures and shortcomings
- Then there is a third area – external realities - the environment you are called to serve often contradicts and is hostile to change

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- God spoke light into a dark void world
- The Land of Canaan was already occupied by people serving other gods
- John the Baptist proclaimed a message of repentance for the Kingdom is at hand to a world blinded by tradition and compromise
- Paul preached that the Gentiles were heirs in Christ to people steeped in thousands of years of Judaic exclusivity

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- Martin Luther proclaimed the message of salvation by grace through faith to a world steeped in religious and pagan systems
- Today ekklesia is being introduced in a world where ‘church’ and all its systems is the norm
- This is the first stage of the Holy Spirit establishing **THE DAY OF THE SAINTS** – where untold millions of believers will be released to impact the earth as God’s vice-regents under the sole headship of Jesus Christ
- Opposition surfaces when current systems are challenged
- Opposition usually comes from those with a vested and beneficial interest in the current system

- When they disapprove of you – or don't understand you – they attempt to define you – once they define you – they attempt to control the narrative about you

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- Luke 7:33-35 KJV 33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil. 34 The Son of man is come eating and drinking; and ye say, Behold a gluttonous man, and a winebibber, a friend of publicans and sinners! 35 But wisdom is justified of all her children.
- You lose your message when you try to adjust –to refute or accept - the definition others have of you.

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- This spirit attempts to distort the purposes of God by wrongly defining every possible move of God.
- It labels every legitimate reforming move of God as a cult and its teachings as heresy
- It takes advantage of the lack of understanding among the majority of people
- Nothing you do will satisfy it.
- Those teaching ekklesia must release what they know – search out what they don't know – and trust God to manifest what He desires in the earth

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- There are six things you must commit to as a reforming who is pursuing the understanding the Lord's ekklesia
- 1. Commit to prayer. Without seeking the Lord for every step we work in vain. Except the Lord builds – we labor in vain
- 2. Commit to the Word of God. Preaching is good, but discovery produces growth. Search Acts 17:11

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- 3. Commit to sharing Christ. The lack of evangelism is not a result of laziness, but rather a lack of confidence. I am not ashamed of the Gospel Jesus Christ
- 4. Commit to gathering with believers. Covenant is critical and must be nurtured. Intentionally break the Sunday to Sunday 'go to church' mindset and seek to live life with other believers.
- 5. Commit to expecting the supernatural. Miracles should be the norm – not an event for believers. Signs follow believers
- Committed to endure
- The Lord knows the way of the upright their inheritance is forever
- Satisfied and not ashamed

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- 6. Committed to endure.
- Psalms 37:18-19 KJV 18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. 19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.
- He knows your 'days'
- What you have is eternal – inheritance forever

- You will not be ashamed being counter cultural
- You won't lack when world systems fail

## PART 22: WHAT THE PROPHETS SAID...

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- There are six things you must commit to as a reforming who is pursuing the understanding the Lord's ekklesia
- 1. Commit to prayer.
- 2. Commit to the Word of God.
- 3. Commit to share Christ
- 4. Commit to gathering and building covenant
- 5. Commit to the supernatural
- 6. Commit to endure trials

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- Psalms 37:18-19 KJV 18 The LORD knoweth the days of the upright: and their inheritance shall be for ever. 19 They shall not be ashamed in the evil time: and in the days of famine they shall be satisfied.
- He knows your 'days'
- What you have is eternal – inheritance forever
- You will not be ashamed being counter cultural
- You won't lack when world systems fail

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- Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

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- **Isaiah 9:6-7** For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. 7 Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

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- **Daniel 2:44** And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.
- Babylonian, Medes/Persian and Greek empires preceded this point
- This is the time of the Roman Empire

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- The qahal translated as ekklesia had existed in some form through all these empires among the Jews, but it wasn't until the Romans assimilated it that it became a mode that reflected divine intent
- It had evolved into being an arm of the Roman government with specific authority and powers to act in its behalf
- Jesus did not accidentally use this word – it was purposeful. It painted a picture of expectations in the minds of those who heard Him.

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- Jesus could have said He would build His temple or synagogue, but neither would have reflected what the prophets had declared.
- ...and the kingdom shall not be left to other people – temple or synagogue would have made the Jews believe they had exclusive rights
- **1Peter 2:10** In times past, you were not a people, but now YOU ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD – who have obtained mercy
- The prophets declared you

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- The restoration of ALL THINGS is necessary for there to be an accurate expansion of the Kingdom through the ekklesia
- **Ephesians 3:9-11** And to make all men see what is the fellowship o the mystery, which from the beginning of the world has been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ. To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in the heavenly places might be known by the ekklesia the manifold wisdom of God. According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord

## PART 23: ARE YOU WILLING TO BE A REFORMER

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- There are six things you must commit to as a reforming who is pursuing the understanding the Lord’s ekklesia
- 1. Commit to prayer.
- 2. Commit to the Word of God.
- 3. Commit to share Christ
- 4. Commit to gathering and building covenant
- 5. Commit to the supernatural
- 6. Commit to endure trials

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- The desire to reform demands a shift how you respond to world systems – how you think – and what you believe
- **Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And do not be conformed

to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

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- **Romans 12:1-2** I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
- Endurance of trials is only possible with accurate alignment – YOU present your body a living sacrifice
- Luke 9:23 Then He said to them all, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

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- Your cross is voluntary – it is not imposed upon you. It is not hard times you may be going through. It is a sacrificial commitment to give your life for Christ.
- The strength of becoming a reformer is not in what you live for – it is what you are willing to die for. When you see beyond what is into what is to be
- The picture of what is to be is painted in your spirit by the Holy Ghost

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- **John 16:13** "However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.
- The desire to attain what is before you must be stronger than your current place
- **Hebrews 12:2** looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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- The desire to reform demands a shift how you respond to world systems – how you think – and what you believe
- **Galatians 6:14** But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.
- **1John 2:15** Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

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- The desire to reform demands a shift how you respond to world systems – how you think – and what you believe
- **Romans 12:1-2** ...be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- Transformation begins in your mind. Your outward actions exposes how you think. You will never rise above your thoughts

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- Let's not allow New Age practitioners, self-help gurus, and other religions to cause us to shy away from this biblical truth
- **Proverbs 23:7** For as he thinks in his heart, so is he. "Eat and drink!" he says to you, But his heart is not with you.
- **Luke 6:45** "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

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- The desire to reform demands a shift in how you respond to world systems – how you think – and what you believe
- **Romans 12:1-2** ...that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.
- Proving the tri-part will of God can only happen when your thoughts and actions recalibrate your sight to see it – as good, acceptable and perfect

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- Good is not a result of worldly approval. It is good because of its purpose to impact the world
- Acceptable is your posture. His will requires a voluntary alignment regardless of the cost
- Perfect speaks to the completeness of His will. God’s will considers all factors –known and unknown to us

## PART 24: THE DAY OF THE SAINTS

Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19 Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: 21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

- **Matthew 16:18-19** "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My [ekklesia], and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- Reformation culminates in a time of reformed presence. It is the manifestation of the ‘to’ within the ‘from to’ dynamic.

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- We are in the early stages of the **DAY OF THE SAINTS**
- 2010 brought teaching of Market Place ministry – but within context of ‘church as we know it’
- The Day of the Saints is when untold millions of believers will be equipped and released to impact the earth from the Kingdom of Heaven
- This is the next major reformational move of the Holy Spirit and reveals why ekklesia is so important to understand

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- Jesus declaration to build His ekklesia was the 'from' point.
- It was before He was crucified in order to save man from sin and redeem man back to God's divine intent.
- It was before He rose from the dead establishing Him as King of kings and Lord of lords with all power in heaven and earth His hand.
- It was before Pentecost when the Holy Spirit would come to empower believers

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- It was before Paul was saved – remember the Jesus confronted Saul on the road to Damascus, was the same Jesus at Caesarea Philippi
- It was before Paul would effectively assimilate the Gentiles into the Body of Christ and establish the framework for governing order within the congregations
- Jesus declared He would build His ekklesia at a point where He only had 12 disciples and a few others who followed Him from time to time

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- For 300 years after Pentecost – the ekklesia was forming in its infancy
- Question: If it did not have the potential to disrupt the influence of hades in the earth, why was it so brutally fought?
- KEY: Isaiah 9:6 ...it is the government that would be upon His shoulder
- What took place when Christianity became the state religion was in fact assimilation of the Lord’s emerging ekklesia into a man-made government

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- For 1200 years the ekklesia was encased in a system totally foreign to its inception.
- In 1517 that began to unravel with Martin Luther’s 95 Thesis. It was a theological challenge but fell short of being a structural challenge – the people were still encased in a foreign system
- In 1611 another attempt was made to completely eliminate ekklesia – when King James ordered the mistranslation of ekklesia to church

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- If what Jesus said at Caesarea Philippi did not carry some eternal potency, why would so much effort be made to hide or diminish it?
- Ekklesia expresses the intent of the Father for His people in the earth.
- Ekklesia is the place of empowerment. Hades is declared to be powerless against it. The keys of the Kingdom of Heaven is entrusted to it. The authority to bind and loose is given to it.

## PART 25: THIS IS YOUR DAY

- **Acts 3:19-21 KJV 19** Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; 20 And he shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: **21 Whom the heaven must receive (and retain) until the times of [reformation] of all things**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.
- We are in a rapidly evolving prophetic season

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- That which the prophets have spoken is finding life in this generation. Don't disconnect yourself from this fact. The Word of God is finding places of manifestation. You are one of those places.
- Reformation culminates in a time of reformed presence. It is the manifestation of the 'to' within the 'from to' dynamic.

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- **Matthew 16:18-19** "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My [ekklesia], and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. 19 "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."
- Declared before the crucifixion – Pentecost – the reformation, etc.
- What Jesus is building is becoming evident in this season.

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- We are in the early stages of the **DAY OF THE SAINTS**
- 2010 brought teaching of Market Place ministry – but within context of ‘church as we know it’
- **The Day of the Saints** is when untold millions of believers will be equipped and released to impact the earth from the Kingdom of Heaven
- This is the next major reformatinal move of the Holy Spirit and reveals why ekklesia is so important to understand

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- Ekklesia is what Jesus declared He would build, and what God is restoring to the earth today in order to fulfill His purpose from the beginning
- Ekklesia has been around from old Testament times, but the Holy Spirit is highlighting it in this season. Just like the Kingdom was prophesied in Old Testament times, it wasn’t until the season of the Roman empire that it was released to every man through Jesus Christ. The Romans had everything in place so that the concepts of both the kingdom and ekklesia was understood

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- This is the next major reformatinal move of the Holy Spirit and reveals why ekklesia is so important to understand
- **Acts 17:26 NKJV** "And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings,
- Nations exist in the seasons appointed by the Father.
- The fact that you live in this era suggests two things:
  1. This generation has everything thing necessary to restore ekklesia

- Within this era, all the concepts, tools, systems are in place and ready to be used to further the eternal purpose of God in the earth
- Ekklesia will be a disrupter of current systems and will redefine religious concepts in order to align them with the heart of the Father

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- 2. You have the capacity understand the restored concepts being released into the earth and the ability to do something with the tools available in this season.
- Your life may appear like a speck in the greater scheme of things, but it is no accident that you live in this era.
- See yourself as an instrument of divine purpose. Lives will be changed because of you. Families restored because of you. Neighborhoods and cities will be impacted because of you.