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*from*  
**AGE to AGE**

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Understand the shift of the ages which occurred in 2012  
and how it affects you and learn what it takes to transition  
into God's prescribed future for your life

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**ERNEST~PAUL**

Author of "Unleashing *the* Sons of God" and "The Holy Unction"

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FreedomHouse   
P U B L I S H E R S

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First Words	4
Introduction	8
<b>Chapter 1</b>	
2012: The Great Year	10
<b>Chapter 2</b>	
Interpreting the Signs of the Times	13
<b>Chapter 3</b>	
Signs in the Heavens	18
<b>Chapter 4</b>	
Interpreting the Signs	22
<b>Chapter 5</b>	
Correct Interpretations	26
<b>Chapter 6</b>	
The Transitions	39
<b>Chapter 7</b>	
Divine Architecture	41
<b>Chapter 8</b>	
Dynamics of Transition	46

## (FIRST WORDS

### Ecclesiastes 3: 1-11

1 ¶ To everything there is a season, A time for every purpose under heaven:

2 A time to be born, And a time to die; A time to plant, And a time to pluck what is planted;

3 A time to kill, And a time to heal; A time to break down, And a time to build up;

4 A time to weep, And a time to laugh; A time to mourn, And a time to dance;

5 A time to cast away stones, And a time to gather stones; A time to embrace, And a time to refrain from embracing;

6 A time to gain, And a time to lose; A time to keep, And a time to throw away;

7 A time to tear, And a time to sew; A time to keep silence, And a time to speak;

8 A time to love, And a time to hate; A time of war, And a time of peace.

9 What profit has the worker from that in which he labors?

10 I have seen the God-given task with which the sons of men are to be occupied.

11 ¶ He has made everything beautiful in its time. Also He has put eternity in their hearts, except that no one can find out the work that God does from beginning to end.

**G**od created time.

Time God's workshop.

God accomplishes all of His purposes on earth within a timeframe. Time is God's container. Everything that will happen here on earth would be situated in a particular time. Time is what keeps everything from happening together at the same time.

Time is a power that manipulates everything under heaven, it is a facility deployed by God to manage earthly reality. Think about it, time is an awesome power. It empowers certain things to happen, forbidding other things. The difference between summer and winter is nothing but time. The same mango tree in your compound begins to blossom in spring and to die in autumn. It is time that is working upon it. There are things that could not be done in the yester-years no matter how badly we wanted them done, disempowered by time. Many of those things are today's realities. Time!

Changes occur when time changes. And it is God that changes the times and the seasons. *“And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding”* Da 2:21 (KJV)

God changes the earth by changing the times. *“And You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but you remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But you are the same, and Your years will not fail.”*

'Like a cloak YOU will fold them up' the writer of Hebrews says. How instructive. It is God that rolls away the ages. See what Hebrews 11:3 says:

*'By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so*

*that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible' (NKJV)*

*'by faith we understand the ages to have been prepared by a saying of God, in regard to the things seen not having come out of things appearing'. (YLT)*

*By faith it is clear to us that the order of events was fixed by the word of God, so that what is seen has not been made from things which only seem to be. (BBE)*

The scripture above tells us that the worlds (aeons, or 'ages') were framed or constituted, demarcated, partitioned off, given boundaries by God's words. Ages were compounded by a declaration of God's intent. When the divine intent or word of God is fulfilled, the age that houses that word passes on. So it has been in times past and so it is now. 1Cor. 2: 6 speaks of the 'wisdom of a reclining age' and Eph. 3: 7 speaks of 'the ages to come'. Ages come and ages go and with each passage earthly life is radically altered.

We are presently experiencing a shift of the ages. What that means is that we are passing from one age to another. This is a major transition that would redefine life as we know it.

We are in a transition period.

The old world is dying. A new world is being born. And we have been elected to live in changing times. But it is for a purpose.

The task of this generation is to midwife the new age. We are not supposed to be torn apart by the changing global and historic context, nor are we to get relegated into the past, rather, our task is to welcome and receive the coming realities and ensure that things proceed according to God's will.

This is only possible when we understand what in the world is going on, for only then can we effectively position ourselves to act wisely.

This book will help you to understand the changing times and

hopefully inspire in you the need to transition from your current spiritual location to God's next bus stop. Amen.

# Introduction

## PROPHETIC MINISTRY

**W**hen we speak of prophetic ministry, people immediately relate the very term 'prophetic' to incidents, happenings, and dates, etc relating to the future. That is, they think instantly of the predictive dimension of prophetic ministry and limit the whole function to that conception.

Prophetic ministry or *function*, going far beyond mere events, occurrences and dates, is the ministry of spiritual interpretation. Prophecy is spiritual interpretation. As Austin Sparks puts it, "It is the interpretation of everything from a spiritual standpoint; the bringing of the spiritual implications of things, past, present and future, before the people of God, and giving them to understand the significance of things in their spiritual value and meaning.

That was and is the essence of prophetic ministry." It is the presentation of things especially from the standpoint of divine interest. Prophetic ministry must necessarily transcend the sheer mere exercise of a gift to the ability of a mortal to tap into God's wisdom to decode the meaning of things happening all around us. Just this morning I heard a young pastor utter with so much pain and concern, "We do not even know where we are at and what is happening..." The crying need of our time is for a prophetic ministry. There never was a time when there existed so extensively the need for a voice of interpretation, when conditions needed more the ministry of explanation as today.

The purpose of prophetic ministry is to impart vision. Averse to spiritual blindness it represents 'eyes' to the Body; its primary pre-occupation is with the Body of Christ coming into illumination so we can walk in light (wisdom).

# Chapter One

## 2012: THE GREAT YEAR

**M**y interest in the year 2012 was first stirred when several months ago I received a special email from my friend, Deji Abodunde, with whom I had not been in touch in quite a while. Here is an excerpt from that email:

Over the last few weeks I received a number of prophetic revelations from the Lord about 2012 and its significance for the church in Nigeria. As I started to write this message I was about to title it “The Year of Great Transition” assuming it was the most appropriate heading for what I had been shown but the Lord corrected me and said it was meant to be “The Great Year of Transition.”

When I sought to understand why the emphasis was on the year and not the transition I was told that there was a greater significance to the TIMING of the transition than of the transition. It will be a year when the Lord will accomplish in the church worldwide many of the things that are crucial for its last day ministry, of which this transition is only a part. However for the CHURCH in NIGERIA this TRANSITION is the MAJOR part.

That set me thinking: *what is so great about the year 2012?* Is it merely because the number 12 is the number associated with the apostolic? I think not. I knew however that if the Lord says it is a great year then we had better grasped the significance of it so we

can respond accurately to what the Lord would be saying and doing.

## Timing is Very Important

In the divine economy it is not just events and divine purposes that are important to God. The timing for these events is likewise significant. So many believers do not seem to understand or appreciate the value, importance and significance of spiritual timing, and yet the Bible is replete with countless examples that underscore how much God is particular about times and seasons. Ever wondered why Jesus was killed on the day of the Passover Feast? Has it occurred to you that it was on the day of Pentecost, the second Jewish Feast that the Holy Ghost came down to Earth? What about Apostle Paul saying that God sent Jesus in the 'fullness of time'? Or of Apostle Peter saying that the heavens must retain the Lord until the 'times of restoration'? Now consider the following scripture:

*“He answered and said unto them, when it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather; for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky but ye cannot discern the signs of the times.”* Matt. 16:2,3.

Jesus says in effect, in the morning, the color red in the sky bears one meaning and in the morning the color red in the sky bears a different meaning. Timing makes all the difference: the colour red set against the backdrop of the rising sun releases a reality different from when the color red is set against the backdrop of a setting sun.

My interest in seeking to know about the year 2012 was further roused after I received a document from a friend of mine in one of the foremost apostolic networks in the world. This global network has for nearly 20 years been proclaiming realities pertaining the restoration and activation of true apostolic ministry, the evolving shapes of the *Ecclesia* and the emerging Kingdom order as the

church of Christ presses towards the Finish of all things.

This document told that they have come into a season in which that for which they've existed would be realized. They are persuaded that it is the culmination of the process of God birthing, transforming and leading them through vicissitudes of time over the last 20 years. The anticipated date for arrival at what they defined as the 'plain of Confluence' is spring of 2012. Why 2012?

Again through another rather dramatic event which I hold to be divinely orchestrated the Lord finally brought my mind to settle upon the issue. He had been seeking to get my attention. So I began to inquire about 2012 and did not even need to look too far before I stumbled upon some of the most amazing facts relating the great year, 2012.

#### WHO IS INTERESTED IN 2012?

I found to my amazement that it isn't only the Lord who is interested in the year 2012: the Illuminati, the Free Masons, the New Age Movement, the Mayas, the Hopis, the Verdes, to name a few, are likewise either passionately interested in the year 2012 or have some form of concerns, interests and/or agenda for the year and the events that will take place during this period.

## Chapter Two

### UNDERSTANDING THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES

**“***He answered and said unto them, when it is evening, ye say, it will be fair weather; for the sky is red. And in the morning, it will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and lowring. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky BUT YE CANNOT DISCERN the signs of the times.”*

Matt. 16:2,3 (emphasis added by me)

*“And God said, let there be lights in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night; and let them be signs (and) tokens (of God's providential care) and (to mark) seasons, days and years...”* Gen. 1:14,15 AMP.

*“We see not our signs: neither is there any among us that knoweth how long”*  
Psa. 74:9

Quite often God's people waste spiritual resources and miss divine opportunities simply because of ignorance - because we do not know what is happening and therefore how best to respond.

Luke 19:41-44, records of how Israel lost big time by simply missing her season of transition.

*“Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation.”*

These words came to pass in A.D.70, when Titus' army overran Jerusalem, slaughtered all the descendants of Aaron, sacked the city, destroyed the temple and brought the glory of the ancient kingdom to an end. It was needless. Jesus said it would happen because the Jews did not recognize 'especially in this their day'...

It was John Paul Jackson that said there are moments in history when a door for massive change opens and great revolutions, for good or for evil, spring up in the vacuum created by those openings, and in those divine moments key people, groups and even nations who are able to step into that portal become the pivot of history, determining which way the door would swing.

The men of Issachar were men who had understanding of the times; therefore they knew what Israel ought to do. I believe the Lord would not have us to be ignorant of the nature of the coming times. If we do not define the times the heathen will define it for us. If we cannot interpret the signs as well as the events of the coming year the ungodly will give us interpretations that may govern our responses and lead us off the track.

Christianity was forged in the anvils of Jewish culture. The early church took shape within the boundaries of Judaism. Through Abraham and Moses God gave the Jews a custom fraught with symbols and practices that speak of higher spiritual realities. Decoding and interpreting signs as a means of receiving spiritual direction has always been part of Jewish culture. Apostle Paul said Jews seek for signs while the Greeks are more impressed by wisdom.

Both Scriptures and history reveal that God communicates His thought to mankind both verbally and nonverbally. He speaks through numbers and colors; He likewise speaks through signs or symbols. In Isaiah 7 God says to King Ahaz, 'ask for a sign.' The man said 'no, I do not want to tempt the Lord'. Then the prophet said "The Lord Himself, of His own initiative, shall give you a sign..."

Jesus spoke of *the sign of the Son of man* appearing in the sky, preceding the coming of the Son Himself. (Matt. 24)

In the Psalms we quoted above Asaph the singer laments, “We’re having difficulties recognizing our signs.” But ‘seeing’ the signs is only half the problem solved. Interpreting what is seen is equally vital. In Matthew ‘Wise men’ from the East came to seek the baby Jesus. They said they’d seen His star in the east. They saw a sign and accurately interpreted it. They are called ‘wise men’. Upon what is their reputation for wisdom based? We credit people with wisdom if they have ability to understand times and season. In recent times men like Bill Gates and Warren Buffet have gained a reputation for wisdom because they have an almost uncanny sense of the times.

In Matt.24 (quoted above) Jesus rebukes the Pharisees for their inability to recognize *the signs of the times*. Times have corresponding signs, and it is our duty to both discern these signs as well as accurately interpret them.

Here is an event recorded in Acts 2. It is the day of Pentecost. There are devout Jews present in Jerusalem from all over the world. Suddenly a sound, as of a mighty, rushing wind, is heard coming from heaven. It heads for the storey building where a handful of believers had gathered to hold a prayer meeting. As soon as the sound entered the room the Lord gave them a sign. ‘*And these signs shall follow them that believe. . . they shall speak in tongues*’ (Acts 16:17) and ‘*Thus [unknown] tongues are for a [supernatural] sign.*’ (1Cor. 14: 22 AMP.)

The Jews out in the streets can ‘see’ the sign (for they heard the disciples speak in all the languages of the earth represented there) but cannot accurately decode it. They do not know what this all means, so they interpret this sign based on their limited understanding. “They are drunk on wine”, they concluded. Peter

and the rest of the crew come on the scene and Peter begins to help them interpret the sign. He says, “These men are not drunk *as ye suppose...*” The truth is that they are in deed drunk, but not 'as ye suppose.' They are drunk on the Spirit. Then he activates prophetic scriptures in the book of Joel, the second chapter, to define the moment and give accurate perspective to what was currently happening.

Earthly folks often see the sign but cannot interpret it accurately. In recent times the folks in the world have seen signs in the heaven (sky) that they've not been able to interpret correctly.

# Chapter Three

## SIGNS IN THE HEAVENS

### Stars Are For Signs

**P**erhaps before going ahead to narrate the signs relating 2012 it would be wise for us to say one or two things relating the nature of the signs.

We must remind ourselves that everything in creation has its origin in Christ. He is before all things and in Him all things hold together. All things were made through Him and without Him was made not one thing. God created all things through Christ, for Him and unto Him. The twenty four elders which are before God's throne croon: "For thou hast created all things and by thy will they are and were created." All things owe their concept and idea to realities within Christ.

We must also bear in mind that God is the changer of times and seasons, as Daniel discloses in Dan.2:21. The writer of Hebrews likewise reveals that the worlds (ages or dispensation) derive their boundaries in God's word. In the physical the change in times and seasons may be effected through a scientific discovery, such as the discovery of stem cell; a technological breakthrough such as the birth of internet, through wars, rise in terrorism or whatever means God's wisdom so commissions, but in the final analysis it is God who changes times and seasons.

As a matter of facts in Genesis, the first chapter, God is seen creating lights (the sun, moon and stars) and setting them in the expanse of the heavens to separate the day from the night, and to 'be signs {and}tokens ...and to mark seasons, days and years...' (AMP.)

The psalmist reveals in Psa.8:3 that God ordained (commissioned) the moon and stars in the sky. In Psa. 147:4 the psalmist also reveals that God calls all the stars by their names. In Job 9:8, Job describes God as the one who made Arcturus, Orion, and Pleiades, and the chambers of the south. Furthermore in Job 38:31, God Himself begins to boast about these marvelous creations. He says: "*Canst thou bind the sweet INFLUENCES of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion? Canst thou bring forth Mazaroth in his SEASONS? Or canst thou guide Arcturus with his sons?*" God also asks Job if he can know the ordinances of the heavens (recall Psa.8:3 - 'the moon and stars which thou hast ordained') and if he could set their dominion in the earth.

I prefer the Amplified Bible's rendition of Job 38:32. "*Can you lead forth the signs of the zodiac in their seasons? Or can you guide [the stars of] the Bear with her young?*"

The Zodiac? Mmmm! Is that 'fear' I sense welling up in you? The average church folk are scared of things like stars and astronomy. Concerned only with our *personal relationship* with God our modern Pentecostal doctrine has no cosmology. There are certain pagan practices relating stars and horoscope that God detests, however, God is the creator of these entities and He made them for a purpose. Simply because the occult and misdirected scientists abuse the use of stars and heavenly bodies does not authorize us to 'throw away the water and the baby'. Ever wondered why Jesus calls Himself 'the Bright, Morningstar' in the book of Revelations?

The activities of the stars greatly affect human life in the earth.

God 'draws the curtain over the ages' through movements of stars. The Twelve astronomical houses (popularly called the zodiac) are like tabernacles that the earth resides in. some way or other they affect human life on the earth and are no doubts responsible for the change in seasons in the earth.

## What the Mayas and others Found Out

The Mayas are an ancient civilization of Central America who at their height between the 5th and 9th centuries AD, (roughly 1500 years ago) had one of the largest cities in the world and developed the most advanced mathematics and astronomy of their day. They've been referred to as the greatest time wizards of all time. They discovered the concept of zero a thousand years before anybody else did and developed a perpetually correct calendar far more accurate in many regards than both the Julian/Gregorian calendar and the Islamic calendar which are in use today.

1. The year 2012 is the completion of the ancient Mesoamerican Long Count Calendar Cycle developed by the Mayas. They were able to determine through this calendar that the Winter Solstice on December 21, 2012 ~ precisely at 11:11 AM Universal Time ~ marks the completion of the 5,125 year Great Cycle. The closing of this cycle is naturally followed by the start of a new cycle. 2012 therefore marks the point of transition from one world cycle to another.

2. 2012 is also considered the completion of the 26,000 year Precession of the Equinoxes cycle, and some say it also signifies the end of a 104,000 year cycle. The concept of the Precession is quite easy to grasp. "Due to a 'wobble' of the Earth on its own axis (like a spinning pot cover that wobbles as it slows down), the Earth very slowly changes its relationship to the great circle of the heavens, the familiar zodiac.

“Each morning, the sun rises against the backdrop of a constellation, or astronomical/astrological sign. The backdrop is actually constant, but due to the wobble of the Earth, the zodiac appears to move backward. The zodiacal sign against which the sun rises shifts, or 'precesses' very gradually.

“Over the course of 25,920 years, the sun at the equinox (about March 22 and September 22) 'precesses' or moves backward through the entire cycle of twelve astrological signs.

“This is what is responsible for the so-called Ages. It takes one-twelfth of 25,920 years or 2,160 years, for the sun to 'precess' or move backward through one sign. So, the Age of Taurus is followed by the Age of Aries, and then by the Age of Pisces and so on.

“At the moment, the sun rises against the last degrees of the sign of Pisces. Soon, it will rise against or 'in' the sign of Aquarius, signaling the dawn of the Age of Aquarius.

“To believers of the 'New Age' this event is of real significance. In fact, the term, *New Age* has taken hold because astronomically speaking it will be a new age” Geral Celente

3. On the Solstice of 2012 the Earth and the sun will come into precise alignment with the galactic centre.

There are a couple of other astronomical signs leading to the conclusion that we have entered a season of transition. "Both the Hopis and Mayans recognize that we are approaching the end of a World Age... In both cases, however, the Hopi and Mayan elders do not prophesy that everything will come to an end. Rather, this is a time of transition from one World Age into another." Joseph Robert Jochmans

**It's been asserted that this planetary moment has never existed before as it does right now with several time cycles closing in at the same time.**

## Chapter Four

### INTERPRETING THE SIGNS

**H**aving seen these signs the Mayas went ahead to interpret what these might mean based on their worldview, cultural beliefs and religious positions. Among several other predictions/prophecies they predict that 2012 marks a season of unprecedented transition based on or resulting in:

1. Reawakening of the Divine Feminine
2. An apocalypse
3. The Birth of a New World
4. Return to Ancient Wisdom
5. Alignment

#### 1. Reawakening of the Divine Feminine

There is an ancient Mayan glyph that depicts the transfer of the Staff of Power to the spirit of the Feminine. The signs represent a Feminine-based planetary transformation that is meant to shift planetary stewardship into the hands of the Feminine.

The Mayas link 2012 with the coming of the Redeemer (Paraclete) which one Rudolf Bultmann describes as an “eschatological event,” “the turning-point of the ages”. They believe this Paraclete is female.

“In a book published in 1887 titled 'The Mystery of the Ages' by Marie, Countess of Caithness (Page 316-317) the following

prediction appears:- “It was generally considered, at the turn of the next century, that the next Divine incarnation was about to come to earth and would be female, the advent of Divine Wisdom, or Theo-Sophia, and that the present age would be the age of making known all that which has been kept secret from the beginning.” - Geoffrey Godfrey, Knowledge of Reality Magazine 1996-2006

## 2. The Apocalypse

Wikipedia defines an Apocalypse (Greek: “lifting of the veil” or “revelation”) as “a disclosure of something hidden from the majority of mankind in an era dominated by falsehood and misconception. The word is derived from the Greek apokalupsis, a term applied to revelation or disclosure, to certain privileged persons, of what already exists, though hitherto it has been hidden, or only imperfectly known. So, what do New Age proponents propose would be revealed in this season?

John Major Jenkins, author of the book 'Pyramid of Fire', throws a little light on this. He says: “At any end-beginning nexus at the dawn of a new religion or a spiritual tradition you have this amazing opening. Revelations come down. There's a fresh awareness of what it means to be alive in the full light of history.” There is a really strong belief that 12-12-2012 marks the date when a portal would be open for humanity to 'evolve into the Spirit', meaning that there would be a radical shift in human consciousness by 12-12-2012.

The apocalypse has also been described as a process of becoming conscious of what we were hitherto unconscious of.

## 3. The Birth of a New World

The completion of several cycles also means the beginning of new cycles. The expression "end of the world" is actually the completion of one World Age Cycle, transiting into an emerging

New World Age to come. The term "world" can refer to a cycle; a period of time; a world age era.

“It is said that the world we are ending is the one that is dominated by materialism and ego consciousness; therefore it may be that the world to follow will be founded on different values that honor the spirit of the interdependence of all of life.

“There are ideas in the collective mind that assert that 2012 is bringing the "end of the world as we know it". Eden Sky

The Earth as a living entity will transcend to another level or frequency of consciousness and a new and special era will begin...

“There has never been so much possibility at our fingertips as there is right now. A new paradigm is trying to emerge in our world, through our hearts and minds, like a flower trying to grow through the cracks in the cement sidewalk. New comprehensions and new solutions are emerging in our collective journey - from new sciences, to new economic models, new healing modalities, new energy technologies, new educational models, new forms of conflict resolution, etc. These times of crisis are unifying us and catalyzing us to awaken to our personal and collective responsibilities in this one planetary equation.” - Sky

#### 4. Return to Ancient Wisdom

The natives also prophesy about the return to ancient wisdom: a call to submit to the authority of 'the oracle' or the 'Living prophecy' or some other pagan authority.

#### 5. Alignment

This thought is derived from John Major Jenkins' Galactic Alignment theory relating the sun and the earth's alignment with Galactic equator at the exact time of winter solstice - a rare astronomical reality which occurs once in 26,000 years. Quite

interestingly, the date and time for the Winter Solstice, 12/21/2012 and at 11:11am shows a pattern representing alignment. The entire date 12/21/2012 according to one form of numerology =  $1+2+2+1+2+0+1+2 = 11!$  Therefore the date is really 11:11:11. They say it signifies the activation of a 'new beginning'.

Assertions are that the New Cycle that is to emerge is founded on us awakening to the responsibility of our interconnectedness. Carlos Barrios, author of 'Steep Uphill Climb to 2012', has counseled that *'people need to go inside themselves in order to know what they are and to find harmony with the mother earth, with human beings, with their brothers, with the animals, with the plants.'*

## Chapter Five

### CORRECT INTERPRETATIONS

**I** believe the folks saw the 'signs' correctly but like the devout Jews in Jerusalem at the time of Pentecost their interpretations are flawed. It is likewise possible that a lot of New-Agers who are now preaching eschatology of love, peace and universal brotherhood as the way of escape from mankind's present dilemma are nice people with good intentions who have been misguided by the deception of the serpent. Their interpretations are based on cultural believes and religious positions which are completely defective, limited by sense knowledge and false to the degree that it precludes Christ Jesus. Reason is because they have no light in them. And by 'light' I mean that illumination, that eternal Wisdom called Christ the eternal Word made flesh. Any proposition of salvation which is not centered in Christ and His Cross has totally missed the mark. Jesus alone is the way the way out of ourselves, our sins, our miseries, this world... and the way into divine life (which by the way, is the true quest of every human spirit).

It would do us good to always remember that “*the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness to him: neither can he know (comprehend) them because they are spiritually discerned.*” (1Cor.2: 14)

The Wise men from the East saw a star which they rightly

interpreted to signify the birth of a great king. However, imprisoned within false cultural belief systems and possibly inaccurate pagan religious paradigms, limited by sense knowledge and lacking the Holy Spirit who alone is the bringer of true illumination they thought it was an earthly king that had been born and so they hastened to Herod's palace. Only when the Lord intervened were they rightly guided to the new King. Even so, the whole concept of God's wisdom was lost on them.

Why Pay Attention to these Pagan Stuff?

'Why concern yourself with all these things?' one might ask me. Well, firstly, because these voices are seeking to define the future of our world and if we do not give correct interpretations representing the truth many would be swept away because we remained mum. Secondly, I felt sad to discover a lot of similarities between the things the Holy Spirit has recently been communicating with me and what these New Age folks are saying, using in several instances, even the very same words and language.

Satan's strategy is to take possession of these thoughts, shedding his own light upon them so that we, Believers, would retreat in fear whenever these words or phrases are used. For example, I am even now afraid to use the term 'Christ consciousness' because the New Age folks use it to mean something else even though there is such a reality as coming into 'Christ consciousness', a stronger term than 'Christian consciousness', which I now use. The phrase 'New Age' defines that which will come into existence when the Lord says: "Behold, I make All Things new." It is a Biblical position describing the emerging world, the Age of righteousness, but who may freely use this term in a church gathering without risking the fear of contradiction?

While I was preparing for a Women's Conference which held recently in Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria, the Lord witnessed to my heart that we have we had stepped into 'the Day of the Woman' and 'the Age

of the Virgin' (Sophia, the virgin wisdom of God). Prior to this time the Holy Spirit had also brought me to understand that we are stepping into the season of sonship, which would be characterized by men being led by the Holy Spirit (Paraclete) in a new way [for as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God]. You can now appreciate my shock to find these themes, though twisted, recurring in New Age propositions. A New Age writer wrote:

“This is the theme of Return that appears in many different prophecies. Return to Balance; consciously unifying matter and spirit; The Return of the Divine Feminine. Return of the Christ Consciousness. Return of the Feathered Serpent, the snake and the bird unifying the lower, primal and higher, celestial nature within us. The Return of the Wisdom of the Ancestors and Star Beings; The Return to Living In Harmony with Nature; The Sacred Hoop of All Nations can be Whole again; the New Jerusalem emerging, the Rainbow Warriors arising; Returning to the Consciousness of the Garden; Returning to Awareness of our True Nature. Can it be? It seems there is no other quest but to awaken to our human potential. The focus of Return brings an energy of Rebirth into a new sense of wholeness.”

Do you realize that most of these things are what the Bible posits in Judeo-Christian eschatology?

My initial reaction was to retreat from the truths the Holy Spirit had been communicating to me and hold those thoughts suspect but I eventually came to a new resolution. There would be no retreating for me. The antichrist spirit is very lethal not because he stands in direct opposition to and contradiction of Christ but because it is a great usurper. It agrees with the prophecies regarding Christ but simply says 'I am He'. It deceives by being an exact look-alike. It doesn't say 'Jesus is not the way'. It simply says 'I

am the way because I am Jesus'. No wonder Jesus said, 'Many will come in my name saying, 'I am the Christ (the wisdom for salvation) and will deceive many'.

Why do I refer to these New Age authors? I am simply following in the wisdom of Apostle Paul. Here is Paul at Mars Hill in Athens. Hundreds of idols adorn every grove and stand. These folks are pathologically superstitious; they even have an altar to the 'unknown god'. Paul sees not pagans bound for hell, but the harvest. He does not forthwith condemn them for their idolatry. He simply finds a common ground upon which he could connect with them: their culture admits of the presence of a god who is not known to them. His strategy was to tell them, 'hey folks, I know the god who owns this altar; let me introduce Him to you.' In the course of his discuss the apostle even alludes to two of their pagan writers who, it seems, have been able to capture the truth that 'in Him we live, and move, and have our being we are His offspring'. We find something similar in Titus 1. Paul is writing to Titus, he says to him: "*For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking...*" (v.5) Further down in v.12 the apostle says: "*One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons. This testimony is true...*"

The church of Jesus is on a collision course with reality. We live in a knowledge Age where a Net-savvy generation, averse - it seems - to ignorance, devour tons of information pouring on them through the internet. This is an enlightened people. And they are the harvest that Jesus is interested in. If we do not know how to 'go ye into all the world'; I mean if we do not know how to 'speak the language of the Chaldeans'; if we are unable to direct ourselves into the boundaries that define their reality and bring a Living, relevant Christ, who transcends the historic figure of our Sunday schools, we would lose the harvest.

The following is what I believe to be the accurate interpretations to the visible signs of the times.

## 1. Reawakening of the Divine Feminine

We have indeed stepped into a season I described earlier as the 'the Day of the Woman' and 'the Age of the Virgin'. Firstly, this is an era of sonship and sons are validated and attested to as sons because of resurrection power presently operative within them. Now resurrection power only activates when the Cross of Jesus has wrought its work and effected its cure. Death-and-resurrection also means that we die to the subtlety of the rational mind which governed our lives and directed our affairs through exterior craft, and we come under the administration of Sophia, God's virgin wisdom. Adam was once pure and possessed a consciousness of which we know very little until he was deflowered (dis-virgined) through acquisition of another type of wisdom gained by intercourse with the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Adam now 'knew', and in knowing lost a higher knowing.

Secondly, the Age of the virgin is that era where we rediscover purity and experience wholeness. Purity is the absence of contrariness in our nature and the removal of the all grounds of mixtures. It is a place of 'absolute Christ', where Christly increase has reached its peak and we have come to the full measure of the stature that is Christ. This is in reality an inward thing. Purity also means that we are free from idols in our souls that Babylon principles and worldliness are out - and we are solely espoused to Christ. Purity means that we are holy. Purity means that our 'self' has been set aside and we no longer have self-interest. It means that we only move as the Blessed Trinity moves us and acts within us being our source and trigger.

Thirdly, the Age of the Virgin means the return to pure, organic life.

Fourthly, it is the possession in man of pure, divine nature, the essence of which is love.

The principle of virginity is seen in the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in their representations in: the Morning, the Lamb and the Dove respectively.

'The Day of the Woman' is firstly the day of the emergence of a glorious church. The process of the church's purification and consequent glorification proceeds in the travail of the church to bring forth the 'firstfruits' company whose integration into Throne positions and realities trigger spiritual warfare of epic proportions in the heavenly places involving high ranking cherubim. Therefore, the 'day of the woman' is a season in which the church through the 'manchild' is brought into governing authority to influence the outcome of human lives in the nations of the earth. This is what I believe the Mayan elders foresaw. It's firstly the Body of Christ qualifying to operate the authority of our Head who reigns in majesty.

Secondly, the 'Day of the Woman' is a time when women would be fully emancipated from every curse of the Fall to begin acting more fully in harmony with their reality as heirs with man of the grace of life. It means women would become more vocal. It means they would come into greater honor. It means that the hostilities which have prevailed against women in all cultures and religions, and in all nations throughout history would be broken. It means that true revelation of what it means to be a woman would be discovered. This is a prophecy relating the Body of Christ. She would be fully redeemed, glorified and manifested in this last Age.

## 2. An apocalypse

Firstly, there shall be an unveiling of Christ within His church. The Lord will reveal Himself to His people again because the power to culminate our transformation into His likeness lies in His appearing. (1 Jon. 3:2) It is time for Believers to get acquainted with the ascended Lord again.

“We have observed” says T. Austin Sparks, “that, when the Divine

thought as represented by the temple and Jerusalem was forsaken and lost and the glory had departed, Ezekiel was given and caused to write the vision of a new heavenly house, a house in every detail measured and defined from above. In the same way, when the Church of New Testament times had lost its purity and truth and power, and its heavenly character and order, and the primal glory of those early New Testament days was departing, then John was caused by the Spirit to bring into view the new, wonderful, heavenly, spiritual presentation, the Person of the Lord Jesus...

“John's Gospel was written when the New Testament Church, as we have said, had lost its original form and power and spiritual life, its heavenly character and Divine order - written in the midst of such conditions as are outlined in the messages to the churches in Asia at the beginning of the Apocalypse; and that can be so clearly inferred from his letters.

“What was the object in view? Well, just this: as John writes things are not as they were, not as God meant them to be, they no longer represent God's thought in and for His people. The order, the heavenly order, has broken down and is breaking down yet more. The heavenly nature has been forfeited and an earthly thing is taking shape in Christianity; the true life is being lost and the glory is departing. To that situation God reacts with a new presentation of His Son in a heavenly and spiritual way... Is that not true? Oh yes, here is a new bringing into view of His Son. But what a bringing into view! Not just and only as Jesus of Nazareth, but as the Son of Man, Son of God, God revealed and manifested in man, out from eternity with all the fullness of Divine essence that His people might see.”

Secondly, the mystical, spiritual Body has become more visible in the spirit, and must become more visible in our souls. It is the bases for our coordination and unity. It is the law of our existence. Discerning the Body and walking in the Spirit are of grave concerns to the Lord in these times. There is one Body, and it is a spiritual organism. This body is larger than our local churches and

denominations. It expresses itself through or 'in' several of these institutions and local churches are not supposed to eclipse it or tear it in pieces (as many have sought to do in the past)

Thirdly, it is a season for the manifestation of sons of God, attended with heavenly powers and wonders. I am convinced that over the past twenty some years the Holy Spirit has checked several people into intense spiritual processes at various times. This course of spiritual development was designed to mature each of them into sonship. The cycles of spiritual time have suddenly reached a head; the processes have matured. Though they may not perfect in the sense of being totally sinless, these men and women are being brought out of hiddenness in this season and admitted into outward profession of the Kingdom. God is empowering and commissioning them in this season. Amen.

### 3. The Birth of a New World

LaMar Boschman, in his book, 'Future Worship' asks the question: "Is it possible that from time to time in the course of human history, God through the utility of cosmic forces simply folds up an entire Age like a worn-out garment and lays it somewhere?" "Yes." He answers.

*It is also of His Son that God says, "Thou, O Lord, in the beginning didst lay the foundations of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Thy hands. The heavens will perish, but Thou remainest; and they will all grow old like a garment, and, as though they were a mantle Thou wilt roll them up; yes, like a garment, and they will undergo change. But Thou art the same, and Thy years will never come to an end."*

(Heb. 1:10-12, WNT)

Boschman says, "Ages always have, and will come to an end and always were, and will be, succeeded by new ones just as glorious." The Bible, in 1Cor.2: 6, refers to the wisdom of a declining age. It

is a simple truth is that Ages begin and end.

“We have in deed come to the close of one world age. A new age is about to be born. The tumult, unrest, global economic crisis and etcetera are nothing but birth pangs determined to force a new paradigm that will change everything in the world. “Glen Roachelle once said, 'Sometimes we have to tolerate confusion and ambiguity while we wait for the contradictions of history to give birth to a new era.' While most people may not describe it that succinctly and eloquently, most are aware of a prevailing and bewildering sense of confusion and ambiguity.” Boschman

We have in deed come to the close of one world age. A new age is about to be born. The tumult, unrest, global crisis are nothing but birth pangs determined to force a new paradigm that would change everything in the world. At the same time the church, typified by the woman in Rev. 12 is in travail. She is groaning. Soon to come out of her is the seed that has the covenant of rulership (who would govern the nations with a rod of iron).

The truth is that two opposite realities, like Esau and Jacob, are about to break out of the same womb. Two possible futures are emerging from this portal called 2012 the New Age and the Age of Righteousness. They represent the harvest which Jesus said should be allowed to grow together. They would both arrive at maturity at once. Jesus said 'the harvest is the end of the Age.' It is the end of this Age. Babylon will reach final maturity and be reaped and Zion will emerge.

It is not just the emergence of two conflicting civilizations that is the big deal but the perfecting of the citizens of both worlds. The son of perdition will be revealed, a product of the New Age and the Son of God will be manifested in His sons, the product of Zion. Believers must therefore press into sonship realities. The day is far spent there is time no longer. Away, sons of Zion, from

vanity and religion; it is time to ascend unto the place of our inheritance.

#### 4. Return to Ancient Wisdom

Modern science is presently under siege. The hitherto undisputed authority of empirical science is being stripped. Westerners are beginning to look to ancient science such as metaphysics, astrology, witchcraft and magic for answers to questions that have defied the rationality of modern science. The West is becoming increasingly open to Eastern philosophy and practices. Films like *The Matrix* keep referring to 'the oracle'. Several other movies and literatures make reference to 'the prophecy'; what they have cleverly concealed is who is giving these *prophecies*.

The so-called 'return to ancient wisdom' is nothing but a subtle ploy to bring about a new spirituality not rooted in Christ. It aims at evangelizing Neo-paganism.

The true wisdom of God however, is about to be given to the wisdom church. It is the destiny of the church to demonstrate to principalities and powers in heavenly places, the manifold wisdom of God. Sonship is really melchizedek king-priest priesthood in operation. Walking in sonship is functioning in the kingship nature and reality of God; it is ruling with Christ. This is impossible without divine wisdom.

What is this wisdom? She is the manifestor of all the eternal counsels of God. She is what translates prophecies into their full meaning and fulfillment. She is the source of all true creativity; and walking in the will of God is impossible without wisdom.

While the New Agers are seeking to return to ancient wisdom the church is called to both return into ancient pathways to recover the dimension of life the patriarchs walked in, as well as press into more prevailing, spiritual positions.

## 5. Alignment

We have said that the galactic alignment of 11:11:11 is quite significant. In it I see Earth aligning with heaven, and the heavenly order. 'Thy will be done on earth as in heaven', is the greatest level of alignment.

There is an order in heaven which must be reproduced in the earth. The whole Bible from start to finished is consumed with this agenda. Heaven and earth were in perfect synchrony at the time of creation. The presence of evil brought the earth into alignment with a lie created by Satan called this world. Satan's goal has been to bring the earth and everything in it into conformity with that reality which I called a lie. The truth, brought forth by Christ brings men into alignment with God's reality and order. It is not enough to be born again and speaking in tongues, that is just the beginning of the alignment. Our whole life must be brought under the government of the order of God.

God's eternal purpose is that all things be reconciled to Himself in Christ. As everything conforms to Christ in composition, order and function they would come into harmony with the Father. Christly increase is the greatest of heavenly desires. Alignment is nothing but the bringing of things in subjection to Christ; the filling of all things with Christ.

There will be strategic relationships birthed to advance God's purposes; geographical shifts and relocation have begun to happen among the band of believers in this season in accordance to the will of God. Even marriages that are divinely orchestrated would be consummated.

The number 11 speaks of divine evaluation and judgment. It is what happened at the 'mene-mene' episode in ancient Babylon. It is when God weighs and tries things, systems, works, people and etcetera and 'gets even'. God will bring His church into greater

alignment with His eternal counsel and purpose in this hour. Therefore He will visit the apostate church. He will send her into a spiritual wilderness to have a God-encounter. It would be the god-encounter that aligns our walk to match the frequency of the New Day.

The Lord Jesus is seen wearing the garment of a governor and priest in Rev. 2 and 3. He is walking in the midst of the lamp stand churches, evaluating, commending, correcting and rebuking them. He is seeking to bring them into alignment with Himself. He is the true measure of righteousness. His voice is being revealed in the midst of the church to order His house with righteousness and judgment. Satan's strategy is to cripple the church by disconnecting us from our Head. It is really a conspiracy to decapitate the church, to behead her, to impose upon her the status of a widow. But Satan will not succeed because the Lord has now come to take His bride. He will judge pastors, churches and ministries that have been used to sever His body from Himself and from one another. Some ministers have so positioned themselves in the hearts and minds of their followers that not even the Lord can get their attention. Many Believers have been held in spells of personalities but the Lord Jesus is judging that evil. He will abase the pride of men's heart and will take His rightful place again. Then He will introduce His fear into the hearts of all.

The present state of the Church is not at all pleasing to the Lord. Therefore He will release prophetic ministry within the church. Their task will be to re-cast the heavenly vision.

The man-child company is being brought into alignment with the order of the throne. It is a different administration of grace. We have not functioned out of throne positions before. It is true that we are all kings and priests but possessing a functional throne is a different reality. Jesus says, in Rev. 3:21, *'To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with*

*my Father in his throne.* 'To him that overcomes' only to that one.

The Scriptures makes it abundantly clear that the activities of the end are all bound up with the throne. *“After all this I looked and saw a door in Heaven standing open, and the voice that I had previously heard, which resembled the blast of a trumpet, again spoke to me and said, ‘Come up here, and I will show you things which are to happen in the future.’ Immediately I found myself in the Spirit, and saw a throne in Heaven, and some One sitting on the throne. . .”* (Rev. 4: 1- Weymouths). The entire fourth chapter of Revelation is dedicated to giving an elaborate description of God's throne and the fifth chapter reveals an activity which precipitates the rest of the book.

## Chapter Six

### THE TRANSITION

**A** change of guards is evident in the church of Christ. A 'leadershift' is taking place. A new generation is being empowered in this hour. God is allotting new, spiritual territories and handing out mantles of operation to the emerging leaders. They are now required to come into a place of greater responsibility. They must begin to exercise faith for all the promises God has given them.

A transition from the church Age to the Kingdom Age would likewise occur in the days ahead. Therefore Believers would be required to acquire new maps of reality. We must yield to the inner tensions, dissatisfactions and yearnings. These are akin to that which causes the caterpillar to spin a cocoon and to later come out of it.

More and more people are sick and tired of church as it is today. They are wondering if this is all there is to church and Christianity and following God. They are dead bored and sick of religion, unreality and falsehood. Many have stopped going to church. They must trust God to direct them to places where the Lord is still king, though ultimately it is not joining a new church that matters but coming into vital union with the Lord as He advances His cause in this season. Several new, young churches are springing forth in this season. I know several of them. Deji Abodunde was shown that many of these will develop into POWER CENTRES cross several

cities (this relates to Nigeria). Their spiritual AUTHORITY would far outsize their physical resources so it would be difficult to determine their ranks just by looking at the number of people immediately under their care. Our greatest challenge at this time would be that of discernment. Many of the places where God's truth would be found will not be as aesthetic as the older, more organized churches, in the same way the earliest Pentecostal/charismatic church buildings were not as ornately decked as the Roman catholic cathedrals; and many of the leaders who have the 'word of this life' will be young. Thus we will also face the test of humility. Can we submit to them because the Lord is there in their midst or would we look for older ministers to rally around? Jesus' disciples were among the most despicable. Some were too young, some were too illiterate, some were uncouth... Yet they were God's choice of leadership for the next wave of God's intervention into the realm of man.

The elders of Israel said to David, "Even when Saul was King it was you who led us in and out..." It is sad though that even though they knew this they never identified with David while he was still a fugitive. Thank God for those who were discerning like the men of Isaachar, who had understanding of the times. They came to David in the caves.

### Apostolic Government in the Church

2012 is likewise a year of apostolic government. So says Bob Jones. The Lord is descending into His church in a new way. His coming would be to bring forth and inaugurate the Kingdom order.

## Chapter Seven

### DIVINE ARCHITECTURE

**O**ne of the saddest commentaries in the New Testament is found in the thirteenth chapter of Luke's Gospel. These ministers and their wives are all standing before the Lord, expecting to be admitted into greater dimensions of Kingdom reality but are immediately resisted by the Lord Himself. Totally shocked, and confused by what the Lord says they think He must be mixing up something or missing something altogether, so they take it upon themselves to reintroduce themselves to Him, reminding Him of all the exploits they'd done in His name., and are astounded when the Lord says, 'get away from me you workers of lawlessness, I never knew you!'

Friend, you do not want to be in this situation. Sadly however, many are already there. They really think they are working for the Lord and do not know how much the Lord despises what they are doing. Why is this? The Lord Jesus says these folks are workers of lawlessness. They are not governed in their service by divine regulation. They are not building according to pattern. Many do not even know there is a pattern. They have relied on their imagination for direction. They are a presumptuous people. They do whatever they like: hold conferences simply because they have the resources to do so, build what they want, go wherever they are inclined... They work as if they have no Lord over them. In deed they have none.

One of the greatest problems of the present Pentecostal/charismatic order is lawlessness, like in the day of the judges in Israel where everybody did what was right in their own eyes. I have met many pastors who are babies and spiritual infants. They got no clue what the mandate is. They've no idea of God's dreams, hopes and much less His strategies. They think ministry is enterprise. Even as I write now I am stung by the pain of thinking of these men as leaders of the Lord's people and how arrogant and stubborn are some of them.

Many younger ministers have copied inaccurate patterns from their fathers. Many of the older ministers have raised wrong standards of ministry sad to say, and their kids cannot discern it. Solomon did not replicate the Tabernacle of David but built that version of the house compliant with God's current season and spiritual demand.

Just yesterday, in two separate encounters with two different audiences, the Lord began illuminating our hearts with new forms and shapes of the life which sons would be called to walk in. Sighting the heavenly vision someone exclaimed, this is not Christianity (as we know it) and I was immediately reminded of what elders like Bill Hamon, Rick Joyner and Mike Bickle have said about God changing the face and expression of Christianity in one generation; of God bringing change as radical as the shift from the dispensation of the Law to Grace.

### New Maps of Reality

I did quite some travelling of late, sleeping in different homes and hotels that the rapid change in location confused my mind. I would wake up in the night to ease myself and head in the wrong direction until I am stopped by the wall. *Just yesterday the door was right here, what happened to it today?* Then I would remember that I'm in a different hotel room. The map of reality engraved in my subconscious mind while I was occupying the previous room had not yet been replaced by a new map.

Things are in a flux. The world is rapidly changing. We are living a changing historical and global context. Governments and economists grapple to understand the changing world but in most cases lag behind. New indices are appearing, new factors are popping up. The equation is constantly changing. If we do not revise our definitions of reality and get new maps we would soon find ourselves in positions of obsolescence, totally out of sync with reality.

“Many bureaucratic and hierarchical systems, business and yes, churches have old maps of the new world. The world has changed, but because their maps have not changed, they do not see it. When maps are outdated, they are worthless in a new territory. Because of outdated maps many Christians simply cannot see what Drucker calls 'the new realities'” LaMar Boschman.

Just yesterday, Apostle Peter recalls, Gentiles were not God's people. They were aliens and strangers. Today the Lord says to him, 'Rise, Peter, kill and eat. What I have cleansed do not call unclean.' The gentiles are in. Both He and all the other Jews had to revise their theology. Something new is taking shape within the Kingdom. New realities are popping up. We need to become conscious today of certain truths we were previously not conscious of.

Many of the things we are relating with at present do not fit into the former 'house/order of things. New definitions are desperately needed. We need to find new spiritual models to interpret the realities which have recently been animated. This I believe was the major task of the first Century apostles. The Lord worked among them unveiling new realities, they had to follow after, defining and giving scriptural context to these divine movements.

Paul the apostle had to tell how the gift of the spirit works, and what they are (Jesus' disciples never functioned in the gifts apart

from healing and the working of miracles). Paul also needed to tell us about the five-fold ministry and so on. Do you see my point? A new type of church is being born right now. The church of the dying Age cannot be fixed. It is time to break camp. It is time to abandon the Old and to start seeking the New.

### Confronting the Illusions

Without mincing words, the present church order has become inadequate in a day when darkness covers the world and gross darkness the people. It is simply not working. It is not bringing the Lord the type of honor He deserves nor is it solving the need of humanity. It is weak and like the Law, unprofitable as far as bringing us into the Finish is concerned. It's so amazing how blind many are to our deeply, dysfunctional state.

We've been taught lies, and have believed things that simply would not work in a new economy. Remember what I said about waking up in a different hotel room and heading the wrong way to the toilet? I might insist that my course of movement is right and demand that the wall open up to admit me in. If I am superstitious I might even think the devil removed the door and replaced it with a wall, and then I might start fasting and praying for the door to be restored. This is what several believers are doing. Rather than revising their map of reality and changing course they are intensifying efforts in the wrong approach.

It was Arthur Millar who said, "An era is said to come to an end when its basic illusions are exhausted." Each age has a characteristic set of assumptions, expectations and parameters. They serve that age; they are not eternal. These are the pillars that define the boundaries of that age. It is by these that people living in a particular age define reality. There comes a time however when needs and challenges arise for which these parameters have no answer or when people start becoming conscious of new realities which cannot be adequately accommodated within the former model. The quest for new answers and solutions lead the people

beyond their former limitation. When this happens a new age is about to be born.

I am amazed at how eagerly the West is plunging into Eastern mysticism. Kimberly Winston, "The Witch Next Door" says that "Wicca may in fact be the fastest growing religious movement in the United States." Wicca is the practice of witchcraft. Why are these people susceptible to such philosophies? Perhaps the global upheavals are motivating people to seek for truth, to grope for God. Millions of seekers, prompted by unexpected problems and tragedies desperately search for the meaning of life. Unaware of what is going on around her, or too terrified to confront reality, the church carries on her drama, and so these hungry seekers turn to various philosophies, New Age propositions, religions, cults, psychics and etcetera. Someone says the Christian body suffers a serious break with reality. Let this serve as a wake up call to the church. Amen.

## Chapter Eight

### DYNAMICS OF TRANSITION

**I**t is important for us to respond accurately whenever god declares a change in season; else we become susceptible to the dangers of receding into pharisaic positions.” Dr. Noel Woodroffe

The accurate response to the present demands is Make the Transition Now!

Let us briefly consider some scenarios from God's word where people were face with major transitions and how they navigated the season. God's word contains principles put there for our good.

#### Principle #1 Possessing a Different Spirit

Israel has long wandered in the wilderness; it is now time for them to exit that reality of life and enter a different economy altogether. Moses sends twelve men to spy out the land. They testify that the land is good but say it is impossible for them to possess this land. Caleb and Joshua think otherwise. They believe it is possible. They urge the people forward. They are ready to go up. God says in Num. 14:24 that Caleb (and Joshua) has a different spirit. They are not the majority. They are outnumbered 6:1 by the nay-Sayers who would rather carry on as usual and dies in the wilderness. But these two men do not care about numbers. They have a different spirit.

## Principle #2 The Old is Gone Forever

*“Moses my servant is dead”*, God tells Joshua. (Jos.1:2a) You must settle it in your heart once and for all that the old order of life is dead in the sight of God. It cannot be revived. It is time to let go. Yes, it may be painful, it may have brought us much gain in the natural, but it is dead. No one has called you to modify that which now occupies a place of disfavor with God. It is dead!

## Principle #3 Arise Decisively

Next God tells Joshua, *“Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them”* (Jos. 12b). 'Arise' implies human initiative. We have a part to play. The New will not just manifest in our life; we have to get up from former positions, scrutinize earlier thoughts, especially those ones we've been having nagging feelings about. It is our responsibility to confront our confusion and ask if a new answer lies out there. We do not need to be afraid in the quest for truth. Searching is how we find our way forward.

Our mouths have been muffled by religious fear. The walls of our religious comfort zone can no longer keep us in. We dare to question some things, not because we want to be rebellious but because this is a time of deep, soul-searching.

*“The interval between the decay of the Old and the formation and the establishment of the New constitutes a period of transition which must always necessarily be one of uncertainty, confusion, error and wild fanaticism.”* John Calhoun

## Principle #4 Acquire Fresh Vision

*“Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the River Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and to the Great Sea toward the goingdown of the sun, shall be your territory.”* (Jos. 1:3-4)

God recasts the vision of the future before Joshua. He told Abraham 400 years earlier, “As far as your eyes can see, I have

given to you.” These territories are what Abraham saw back then. We must return to the vision of the prophets of old, the apostles of Jesus and the Lord Himself. What is the hope of Christianity? What is God's original vision for His church? We must see it again. Vision enables us to break with the Old and vision mobilizes our energy and passion for fresh pursuit. We must seek to see the future: the future of God, the future of God's people, our own future.

Some of us are familiar with the Expedition of Lewis Clark. In their exploration to find a transcontinental water route they suffer much and make several other discoveries. And though they never found this mythical 'Northwest Passage' they “caught the glimpse of the paradigm-shattering effect of the sheer magnitude, topography, weather, people groups and new economic possibilities that would define the next century of American expansion and commerce...

“Sometime in the morning of August 12, 1805, the Lewis and Clark Expedition reached the top of a pass on the Continental Divide near the border of Montana and Idaho. At that moment they became the first Americans to behold the majestic, indescribable, terrifying mountains of the great Northwest. With Lewis' last step to the top of the Divide went decades of theory about the Rocky Mountains, shattered by a single glance from a single man.” -Boschman.

Once the vision of the new frontier fastens itself upon our hearts, nay when even for a brief moment we sight the new land everything will change. May that happen to you, in Jesus' name.

Principle #5 Be Strong and Very Courageous

Next God tells Joshua, "*Be strong and of good courage*" (v.6) It requires courage to make a change of ant type. It requires inner strength to press into the promises of God.

## Principle #6 Don't Crowd God In

*"Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before."* (Jos. 3:4)

We cannot presume to know where we are going already. It is gradually unfolding so we must conquer our inner haste to arrive there suddenly. This season must be marked by absolute dependence on the Holy Spirit to lead the way. New shapes are being formed. Flexibility will be an invaluable asset.

We must not hijack the entire process and run ahead of God. It's better to be too slow than to be too fast, for if you are slow you'll at least have the Lord in front of you better than having Him behind you. Our previous experience might fail us, as He is just not defining the way. It is new; we've not gone this way before. People who depend on 'prophetic logic' to divine the way would be disappointed, as they would not project correctly and would lack true spiritual authority to build what they see.

One true mark of being a son is being led of the Holy Spirit. This is often difficult when 'self' is still alive. Interests stand in the way of true patience. Fear and anxiety seem to propel one, and error inevitably results.

This admonition would be very valuable for ministers who have churches. Soon as it becomes clear to them that the Old has failed they may immediately want to jump right into the centre stage of the New, without being well grounded, without dying completely to the Old. If they act in haste they would embark on a pseudo-transition. We saw this happen at the wake of the Reformation ten years ago. People who resisted the idea of prophets and apostles suddenly became prophets and apostles overnight and suddenly changed their titles. Some were patient enough to learn the language of the apostolic, even though they had nothing beside

that; others didn't even have a clue. They just began saying confusing things like 'Prophetic Success Motivation *Suya-Night*' and many such things.

Our motivations for seeking transition must be right. If we simply make cosmetic changes just so we can keep the dwindling congregation our deception will find us out. If we move out of pride, *"If so-and-so person could be a prophet, then I'm an apostle"* our deception will soon become known to the people because we would lack spiritual authority to deliver on our promises. And if we do not repent we would soon fall into witchcraft.

Many of the leaders whom God is bringing forth in this hour have been in training for as much as 25 years. It would be presumptuous to think that because we can preach the same messages, we can release the same spiritual impartation; but the truly humble will receive grace from God to enter the new, and may even be honoured by God to be captain over His people.

#### Principle #7 Transiting in the Midst of Crisis

*"And as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho."*  
(v.15-16)

God required the Israelites to cross over the Jordan in the harvest season. This signifies the end of a cycle, a time of reaping that has been sown, a time of the maturing of previous processes.

Next, the Jordan was said to overflow its banks at this season. The Lord did not wait until the Jordan waters were low, when it was humanly easy to cross-over. There were high waters, but the Lord's presence with them would make a difference. We do not have to

wait until every physical condition supports change before we move.

### Principle #8 Faith is Needed

We find from the scripture quoted above that the priests were asked to put their feet in the Jordan before the waters stopped. It might have been more comfortable to have the rapid flow stop before stepping in, but God required faith.

The generation of Caleb and Joshua who roamed the wilderness for forty years perished in the deserts because they could not mobilize faith for transition the first time the moment or opportunity presented itself in the days of Moses.

The priests stood firm in Jordan. They stood their ground for only God knows how long until the miracle that happened in Adam, a city several miles away, became visible.

Today we are standing our ground. We believe that a glorious church is being born. We know things can never remain the same. Our commitment is to walking with the Lord. We will not fail Him. We are His servants and sons and securing His interest in the earth is our number one joy. It seems that the defunct church order would stand as an heap forever, but we will see it pine away and be no more.

When Jesus spoke about Jerusalem in Luke 19, the Jewish nation together with their religious system and temple seemed immovable, but the day came when the temple became history; and the nation ceased to be on any world map until 1948. This present Age is on its way out, amen.