

Howards Corner

Writings to the church -Part one

The Lord called me to write about 4 years ago at age 80. That is a little old normally, but I had been studying the word since I was about 37 when I was baptized in the Holy Spirit, so I had a head start on both knowing the word and experiencing the move of the Holy Spirit in my heart.

The things I write are based on teachings from maturing in the word and the spirit. I never thought of writing before but I became concerned with the state of the churches of today and especially the Methodist church, since I have been in the methodist church for over 65 years so I know the Methodist church and am sad to say there is a lot of error because the whole word is not preached and the “Gospel” was changed about 1910 to another gospel which is not the gospel at all but is critical thinking of men that said I can fix the world by my works of feeding the hungry and clothing the naked and educating people but it doesn’t work. That is arrogance and pride. We fired God and said we can do a better job and do not need you. God is patient and has let us go our own way knowing we would fail on our own.

You cannot take the gospel of salvation by grace through faith out of the church because of man’s sin nature. Examine what the word says—even the faith God will supply. It cannot be done by our own will and works. It has been a failure and our lost society of today is the evidence of that. Unless the sin nature is delt with by the presence of the Holy Spirit in our heart new and greater sin will come in and poverty and need will grow worse, and poverty of the heart is more destructive than poverty of the body. So, the church has been fed by man’s ideas and is operating on pride in our churches and denominations and we make idols out of certain men in these denominations and even worship these leaders who are long ago dead and do not understand that they were not perfect in understanding the scriptures. So, we are not diligent to check it out ourselves and correct our errors and humble ourselves to change. The major problem some of us in the church have recognized but are powerless to change these large bureaucratic organizations.

So, churches have settled in to just being nice and thinking to do charity is the mission of the church. So, we have weak churches that do not teach people how they can be saved and receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit and the churches just water down the word to a point where it has no power to save and change lives. It is not just the Methodist church, but I see all the mainline denominations getting weaker and weaker. I don't know who is born again because I cannot see their hearts, but God does, and I can see the spirit of congregations and I see dead churches all over the place. Not everyone in that church but the overall church direction and teaching. Dead churches are those that do not have the Holy Spirit driving the operation and teaching of the gospel and the word as written in the bible, but selectively decide what to believe and practice.

So, my calling was to try to wake up the organized church and the people of these churches that have not been taught the truth but instead something that resembles the church of Jesus Christ but is operating in man's thought and not the word of the bible. The leadership of churches have been trained in seminaries that have long ago become dead and do not know or teach the real truth. It is joked by people that know the truth that these are not seminaries but are instead cemeteries full of deadness.

The dead cannot raise the dead. Only those that are alive in Christ have a chance to reach them and the preachers that came out of them. But it requires boldness and the Lord to change hearts. Only God's spirit can produce life and He is spirit so when man's thinking tries to take the place of the word and spirit of God, we have religion built on no foundation and is therefore destined to lifelessness and is opposed to God's purpose.

The churches of today are under attack by the evil forces of Satan and the spiritual forces in this world. It looks like the Lord is allowing this to happen to purge these churches of the corruptness of false teaching. This appears to be the time when the apostate church becomes exposed, and we see many fall away. Jesus is coming back for a church which is spotless and without wrinkle. Persecution is likely to pick up speed in today's environment. It is going on now in other countries and people are dying for the faith. I do not see any spiritual power in today's churches so there will be many that yield to the pressure and back away. These weak organizational churches of today have already backed away and yielding to the pressure to quit

preaching the truth. I see no church outcry over the many evil things that are happening today. Do we think it is kind and loving to keep silent and let it go on without warning that the bridge is out ahead, and destruction is the result?

This then is the environment of the organization called the church that I find myself in. It has been rapidly declining to greater depth of error because the world around us has dropped off the cliff of moral living and a weak church is not spiritually strong enough to even slow down this decline. We are deafeningly silent because we operate with very little power and do not be fooled by thinking these weak and lifeless churches can win a battle with a powerful spiritual enemy whose purpose is to deceive and feed the world with half-truths and today openly lies. Remember in the last days they will have *“a form of godliness but denying its power” 2 Timothy 3:5.*

The trouble is that it is not only the world, but the churches have also been deceived and have thrown away the word of God and written their own word. You cannot expect man’s word to stop the onslaught of the many lies of the enemy. It has become Satan’s favorite tool – *“Make truth sound like lies and lies to sound like truth”* and if you are not grounded in the full word of God and filled with the Holy Spirit you do not even know which is which. Warning to all churches of today *“are you grounded in the word and are you filled with the spirit”? How much of the word have you quit teaching or never taught and believed?* You must go back and do the hard thing of questioning what your church teaches. It is so ingrained in habit and ritual I seriously doubt if you will be successful in causing change. You may have to leave.

The words of the bible are torn to shreds by man’s modern way of thinking. Although it not just today but has been so from the beginning. Satan has always been trying to destroy the church. It began with the Jews trying to require the gentiles to live by the law and be circumcised and many different tactics have been going on since. Then came persecution and death to many. The world around the church began to try to insert their influence to water down and weaken the church. Over a period, the structure of the church became the ruling government of the world through world kings, and we evolved into the fourth kingdom of Rome. So, we became the Roman empire both in the east and the west with the church and the governing powers blended and we did not know which was which.

I have written about the Roman empire being the fourth kingdom but for today's discussion I need to reemphasize the second chapter of Daniel. In particular the statue of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. It is a road map for the history of the gentile nations. There was after Babylon, Medes and Persians, and Greece a fourth gentile kingdom which is Rome. This the last gentile nation mentioned and since it is the last it is still in existence. The statue shows two legs of iron and feet of iron mixed with clay. The two legs are therefore the western Roman empire and the Eastern empire. These then have become the eastern church and the western church which is a blended church with the ruling powers of the gentile nations.

The church invisible

Then in the west we declared that the Pope was Christ and so came a terrible time of following man instead of following Jesus and the word of God. The true church of born-again believers became the "church invisible" being controlled and directed by the power structure of the Roman church. The word was hidden from the common man and only available to the elite. So, we had the dark ages which lasted a long time. Remember the Kingdom of God is spiritual for God is spirit. The wind of the spirit blows but none can see it but those that are spiritual by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. So, the real church was invisible because it was restrained by the enemy and lack of the word being available to the common person. Do not be fooled by organizations called church. All are not true churches but instead are confused and follow blindly the worldly thoughts of man.

So, we find that when the word was lost to the church members there was no light in their darkness, and it became religion without power to combat our evil hearts and the world's evil deceptions and without light for man to see. All manner of false words were ushered into the organized church. So, in this environment the people accepted all that the catholic church and the Pope said and were afraid to speak up for his word became law. So, we were back under the law but now it was man's law brought by man as their king of the church. The "church" became corrupt, and much evil came about. Anyone who opposed were tortured and killed in the name of Jesus Christ.

The kings became under the authority of the pope and therefore the fourth kingdom of Rome continued and as such the gentile age continued to rule. A similar

thing was happening in the Eastern half of the Roman empire. The church in the East was also a blend of the church and the governing powers of east.

But the word of God and His kingdom though buried in the rubble of churchism will find a root and sprout wherever it is-whether oppressed or deceived it has a life of its own and cannot be eradicated by the works of the enemy or circumstance in this world.

I now leave you with that thought and end this as part one of this teaching. I will continue part two soon.

With Love and encouragement. Seek all the truth and you will find.

Howard