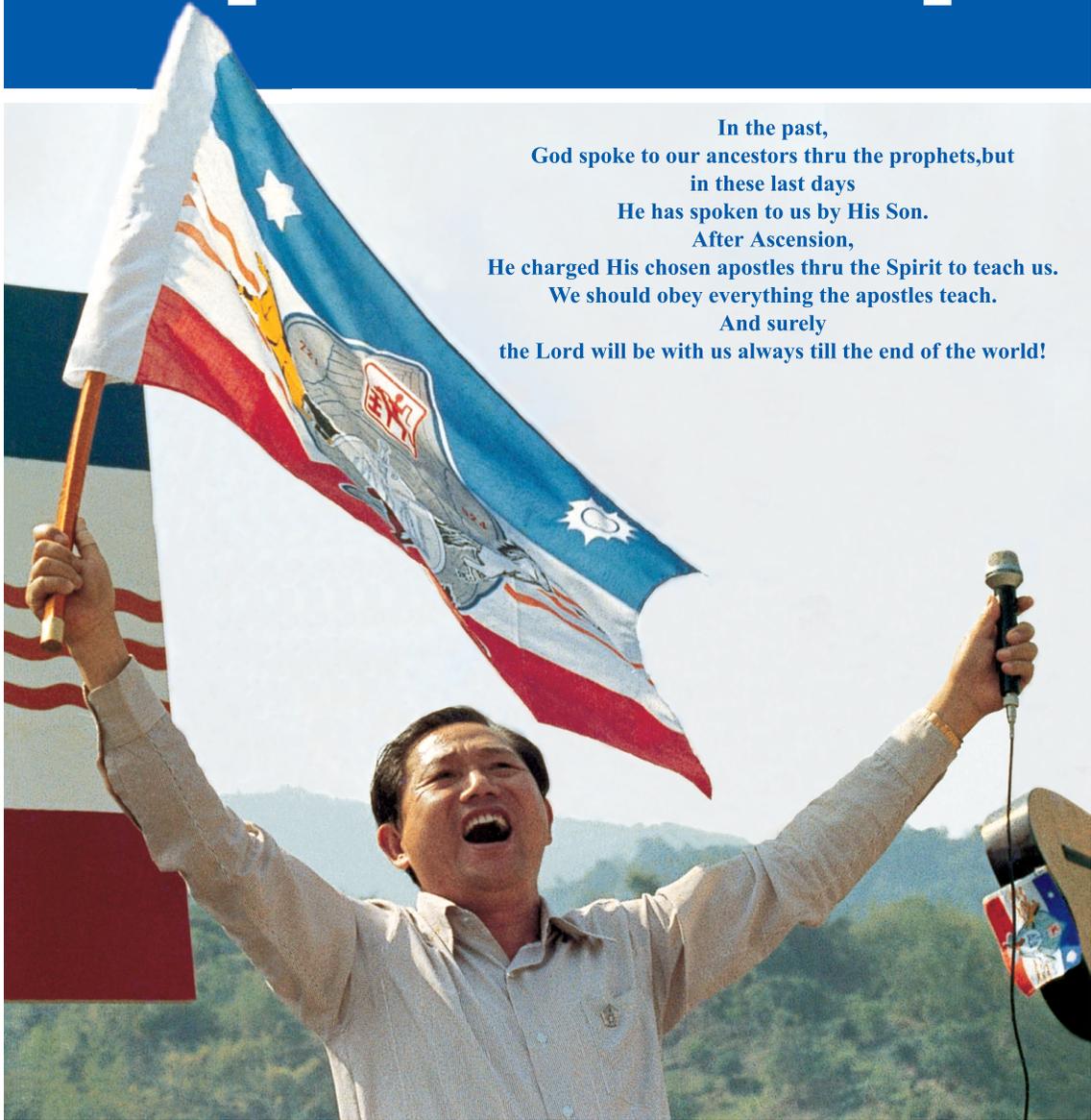


Apostleship

In the past,
God spoke to our ancestors thru the prophets, but
in these last days
He has spoken to us by His Son.
After Ascension,
He charged His chosen apostles thru the Spirit to teach us.
We should obey everything the apostles teach.
And surely
the Lord will be with us always till the end of the world!



By Elijah Hong

Apostleship

By Elijah Hong



Preface (I)

The Son of Man, who holds the seven stars in His hand and who walks among the seven golden lampstands, has done a great thing for His church in these last days, the days of great revival. The truth on apostleship which had been lost for more than a thousand years (since the deaths of Paul and the other spiritual ministers of that time until the 1960s) was restored through God's maidservant, the late Sis. Kong Duen Yee. The foundation of the New Testament Church which had long been in ruins was relaid. Since 1966, this spiritual flow of revival has been flowing more turbulently from the New Testament Church in the isle of the East to the ends of the earth.

After Sis. Kong was called to rest in the Lord, all New Testament Church ministers have been continuously building on the foundation she had laid, paving the way for the Lord's coming. When this flow of revival becomes more rapid, the power of hell is greatly shaken. At one time, Satan insidiously created a counter-flow, the waves of apostasy among the leading ministers, within the New Testament Church. He plotted to destroy the great project of rebuilding the New Testament Church, even down to its foundation. But thank the Lord for keeping this foundation firmly established. The waves of apostasy only served to purify the church, and the enemy's attack brought a greater revival to the church instead. Hallelujah!

Ever since the servant of God, Bro. Elijah Hong, succeeded Sis. Kong's ministry in 1976, God has been using him to expound this aspect of the truth — Apostleship — explicitly and thoroughly. Both Sis. Kong and Bro. Hong are the Prophets of All Nations and the wise master builders appointed by God. They help the church to be firmly established on the foundation — Jesus Christ, and lead all ministers to build continuously on this foundation. Now the flow of revival has

reached all nations. And all nations will flow back to Zion.

Over the years, saints in the East and West had been hoping that the servant of God, Bro. Hong, would write a book on Apostleship and share it with all God's children. So this generation would understand this truth and this ministry. And God's people throughout the world would submit to the leading of the apostles and maintain a close life-tie with the chief apostle — the vessel of the era. Then, together they would build up a spiritual house, the body of Christ (the church), thus displaying the testimony of unity, and accomplishing the end-time work of the Holy Spirit revives the church. The church would then be prepared as a bride adorned for her bridegroom — Christ the Lord.

When the servant of God, Bro. Hong, had completed the script on Apostleship and was about to send it for printing, the Holy Spirit began to do unusual and glorious work in all parts of the world. The flame of revival has been burning brightly everywhere. This is the evidence that the truth on Apostleship is flourishing and the ministry of the apostle is being manifested in all the earth. It is also the evidence that the prophet Malachi's prophecy is being fulfilled in these last days: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 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" (Mal. 4:5 – 6). Thanks be to the Lord! The latter-day Elijah has come. All things are being revived, all nations are returning, and all things are being renewed and redeemed. The kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ. He shall reign forever and ever! Hallelujah!

Victor Pi
Called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ
by the will of God
'Hebron', Isle of the East
September 1984

Preface (II)

God speaks and He also works. In every era He has His contemporary will and plan. He reveals His contemporary will and accomplishes His contemporary plan according to the way He works. Therefore, if God's children want to understand His will and plan for this era, they have to follow the way He works.

In the Old Testament era, God spoke and worked through His chosen prophets. During the time of Jesus, God spoke and worked through His Son, Jesus Christ, the word that became flesh. In the New Testament era (after the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost), God through the Holy Spirit, instructs His chosen apostles to speak and work. Therefore, the New Testament era is also the Age of the Holy Spirit, or the Age of the Apostles.

The works of God in the Old Testament era are recorded in the Old Testament Bible which includes the Pentateuch (the five books of Moses), the books of histories and the books of the prophets. The works of the Lord Jesus are recorded in the four Gospels, while the works of the Holy Spirit during the Age of the Holy Spirit are recorded in the Acts of the Apostles and the epistles of the apostles. Why is the Acts of the Apostles not called the Acts of the Holy Spirit? It is because the Holy Spirit acts through the apostles during the Age of the Holy Spirit. Thus, the Acts of the Apostles is in fact the Acts of the Holy Spirit.

The apostles are stewards of the mysteries of God. Through revelation, God makes known to the apostles the mystery of the gospel. In the days of the early church, God by revelation instructed the apostles to preach the hidden mystery — the truth of building the church. All the saints gave themselves to the Lord and to the apostles, and they

continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine. Thereupon, the churches were greatly revived and the word of God prospered day by day, spreading unhindered from Jerusalem to all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Unfortunately, after the early apostles died martyrs, the church came under the dark power of the Roman Catholicism. Since then until the 1960s, a period of more than a thousand years, there was no steward of God's mysteries to expound the truth (the mystery) concerning the building of the church. As a result, the testimony of the full truth of Jesus Christ — Blood, Water and Holy Spirit — was buried. Although Martin Luther started the Reformation in the 16th century, he could not fully expound the mystery of the gospel because he was not an apostle. The Reformation only led to the establishment of countless sects and denominations. Christians engaged themselves in individual pursuits, observing man's traditions and putting emphasis on ritual worshipping. Thus, the Holy Spirit had no way to work and God could not find rest.

Thanks be to the Lord! In these last days, the Holy Spirit had raised up His maidservant, the late Sis. Kong Duen Yee, in the East to restore an important truth related to the building of the New Testament Church — apostleship — a truth that had been buried for more than a thousand years. God also revealed and confirmed Sis. Kong's ministry as the chief apostle. This is the manifestation of God's grace on this generation. It is the evidence that the great work of revival will soon begin! It is also an evidence that the dominion of the devil Satan in perverting the truth will be destroyed! Through Sis. Kong, God brought out the "pattern shown on the mountain" and the law of building the house of God. (See Exod. 26:30.) And through her, God relaid the foundation of the church and established the saints in the full truth of Jesus Christ — Blood, Water and Holy Spirit, leading them to abide by the apostles' doctrines and come to the unity of the faith. Thus the saints have come to the building of the body that is after God's heart, and they will hasten the unshakable kingdom of God!

On Aug. 17, 1966, Sis. Kong rested in the Lord after having com-

pleted her ministry, testifying to the word of God's grace amidst all trials. She was like a grain of wheat that fell into the ground and died but had produced much grain. We who have accepted the word of life preached by her, can testify for her with sincerity and pure conscience. She had fought the good fight, finished the race and kept the faith. And there is laid up for her the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to her on that Day; and not only to her but also to all who have loved His appearing. (See 2 Tim. 4:7–8.)

After Sis. Kong was called to rest, God raised up Cheung to succeed her ministry. Cheung continued preaching the truth on apostleship. Unfortunately, things changed after her marriage. With threats and inducements, her rebellious husband, Tan, won her over. She finally compromised with Satan. She renounced the holy truth God had entrusted her with and forsook her God-given ministry. She betrayed the co-workers, the church and the full truth, seeking to destroy the New Testament Church rebuilt by the Holy Spirit. She tried to rebuild the man-made organizations (Jericho) that God had demolished. Hence, she was forsaken by God.

At the time when Cheung was forsaken, the God who alone works wonders revealed that I was to succeed Sis. Kong's ministry, in the isle of the East — Taiwan — the base of revival. In assuming this God-given ministry, I did my utmost to stem the raging tide of apostasy. With the righteous and evil-hating spear of Phinehas, I stopped the plague against the Israelites by killing the man and the woman who were committing the spiritual adultery. (See Num. 25:8.) From that day onwards, the Spirit of God started to move me mightily just as how He moved David after he was anointed. All my prophecies have come true. All these are done by the grace of God. Therefore, by His grace I would like to say: God has given me a double portion of Sis. Kong's spirit. The mystery hidden for ages has also been revealed to me. He has made known to me the mystery of Christ, and has given me the ministry of caring for the church. He helps me to imitate Sis. Kong to willingly pour out my life completely for His glorious church. Moreover, He has given me the rod of strength. His power is abundantly manifested whenever I lift up

this rod to pray. He does all these because He wants to commend my ministry to the conscience of all the saints. Then they will know that I, His lowly servant, am an apostle not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father who raised Him from the dead. Amen.

May the Lord give all the saints the ability of discerning spirits, able to tell the true apostles from the false apostles, and follow the true apostles till they see the Lord's glorious face. The Lord has revealed this heavenly way vividly before all saints. May everyone see it clearly and follow up quickly.

In these last days God has raised up His apostles to preach the Inspiration of 7.21 — the truth on the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church. He has also moved His apostles to proclaim the Gracious Words of 9.24. These gracious words shall be speedily fulfilled. God wants us, the remnant of His people, to enjoy all His blessings. He also wants to bring about an unprecedented great revival of the twentieth century through His apostles so that all nations may flow to the mountain of the LORD's house. The wheel of era is now turning. The four living creatures and the twenty-four elders are prostrating before the throne, praising, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty! Glory, and power, and kingdom be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb forever and ever." This revival has spread from the East to the West and to the uttermost part of the world; from the land of Shem to the land of Japheth and to the land of Ham! In an instant of a moment, the will of God shall be done. The head of the church, the Lord Jesus Christ, will soon return to receive His church. The Lord is saying to us, "I am coming soon! I am coming soon! You will be caught up in the air to meet Me in glory."

Brothers and sisters, our citizenship is in heaven. But we live on earth to tell the world the truth of God and to help the saints progress and rejoice in the faith, so that they will be firmly built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. The mission of the apostles is to prepare the bride for the Lord Jesus Christ. When the apostles have completed this entrusted sacred work, our Lord Jesus Christ will come to receive His bride! Therefore, before His coming, the apostles have

to purge away all things which are not in conformity with the truth, and restore the first faith and love of the saints so that they will stand resolutely on the side of the truth, continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrines congregationally, be built together into the glorious body of Christ, attain to a mature manhood, and be holy without blemish like a bride adorned for her husband. The Inspiration of 7.21 shall be fulfilled and the Gracious Words of 9.24 accomplished soon! Hallelujah! O Lord Jesus, may You come soon!

Elijah Hong
Called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ
by the will of God
Sept. 4, 1984

Table of Contents

Preface (I)

Preface (II)

I. The Way God Works

1. The Three Great Ages	003
God Spoke Through Prophets in Time Past	006
God Spoke Through His Son Jesus in the Last Days	008
God Speaks Through His Chosen Apostles in the Age of the Holy Spirit	008
2. Is the Age of the Apostles Over?	010
Are Apostles Found in the Bible?	010
How Many Apostles Are There?	010
Is the Age of the Apostles Over?	011
3. God Speaks and Works through His Chosen Vessel	013
Look at the way God Works from the Sending of Moses to Egypt	013
Look at the way God Works from the Sending of Peter to Cornelius' House	014
4. Believing in the One Whom God Has Sent	
Is Doing God's Work	018
The Prerequisite of Doing God's Work — Believe in the One God Has Sent	018
The Way to Co-work with God — Co-work with the Vessel of the Era	020

The Consequence of Those Who Disbelieve in the One God Has Sent	022
--	-----

II. The Importance of Apostles

1. The Apostle is the Highest Ministry God Appoints in the Church	031
2. The Apostle Lays the Foundation of the Church	032
3. The Apostle is the Steward of the Mysteries of God	033
4. The Apostle is the Minister of the Gospel, the Minister for the Defense of the Gospel	035
The Apostle is the Judge in the Court of the Gospel	035
What is a Perverted Gospel?	038
5. The Apostle is Appointed to Build up the Body of Christ	040
The Body of Christ is United	040
How to Build the Body of Christ	041
6. The Apostle is Entrusted to Care for the Church	044
Giving Birth to the Church	044
Nurturing the Church	045
Watching Over the Church — Betrothing the Virgin to a Husband (Presenting the Church to Christ)	053

III. The Signs of an Apostle

1. The Apostle is Chosen by God	060
What does “Chosen by God” mean?	061
God’s Purpose in Election	061
2. The Apostle Has the Blueprint for Building the Church	075
Blueprint for Construction — The Pattern Shown on the Mountain by God	075

The Pattern is Shown to the Vessel of the Era	076
3. The Apostle Has Spiritual Authority	093
Spiritual Authority	093
The Authority of the Apostle is Constructive	097

IV. Giving Oneself to the Apostles

1. The Importance of Giving Oneself to the Apostle	101
Giving Oneself to the Apostles	
is the Way to Unite with God	102
Giving Oneself to the Apostles	
is the Way to Be Established in the Body of Christ	105
Giving Oneself to the Apostles	
is the Way to Preserve One's Life	108
Giving Oneself to the Apostles	
is the Only Way to Enter God's Kingdom	111
2. The Manifestations of Giving Oneself to the Apostle	114
Care for the Apostles	114
Remember the Apostles and Pray for Them	115
Imitate the Apostles	117
3. Observing the Apostles' Teachings	121
Continue Steadfastly in the Apostles' Teachings	121
The Apostles' Teachings are the Lord's Commandments	123
The Apostles' Teachings Are Not Man's Teachings	126
One Must Hold Fast to the Verbal or	
Written Teachings of the Apostles	127
How Does God Treat Those	
Who Do Not Observe the Apostles' Teachings?	128
4. Teachings of the Apostle and Teachings of the Anointing	134
The Role of the Anointing	135
The Scope of the Teachings of the Anointing	137

The Teachings of the Anointing and the Teachings of the Apostles	140
5. Coordination of Spiritual Ministers — One-Chief Leadership and Congregational Coordination	145
The Chief Apostle	147
Coordination Among the Ministers	153
Coordination Among Apostles, Ministers, Elders, Deacons, and Saints	159
Edifying Oneself in Love	163
6. Your Attitude Towards the Vessel of the Era	170
Respecting the Anointing of God	170
The Attitude Toward the Vessel of the Era	173
7. Come to the Vessel of the Era	200
Exalting Christ	200
Whoever is on the Lord's Side, Let Him Come to the Vessel of the Era	201
The Latter-day Elijah Has Come! Come to the Latter-day Elijah!	201

I

The Way God Works

1. **The Three Great Ages**
2. **Is the Age of the Apostles Over?**
3. **God Speaks and Works
through His Chosen Vessel**
4. **Believing in the One Whom God Has Sent
Is Doing God's Work**

1 | The Three Great Ages

*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will, to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence, **having made known to us the mystery of His will, according to His good pleasure which He purposed in Himself**, that in the dispensation of the fullness of the times He might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth — in Him. In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, **being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will**, that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.*

(Eph. 1:3–12)

Ever since the creation of the world, God has always been fulfilling His predetermined plan according to His time. Now the end times has come and His eternal plan will soon be accomplished. All those who want to have a share in His eternal purpose and be established in it must fully obey His will. Once God testified of David, saying, “I have found David the son of Jesse, a man after My own heart **who will do all My will**” (Acts 13:22). In the eyes of God, one who is after His heart is one who does His will. Therefore, when the Lord Jesus came into the world, He said, “**I have come to do Your will, O God**” (Heb. 10:7). The Lord Jesus, the Word became flesh, came into the world for the

purpose of **doing God's will**. Doing God's will is also the purpose and significance of every Christian's life.

God wants His children to believe in Him and be zealous for Him. But He all the more wants them to do His will. If their love and ministration are not in accordance with God's will, their love for God will turn out to be God-opposing and their ministration will become a persecution of the church of God! Just as Saul had said, "Concerning zeal, [I was] persecuting the church" (Phil. 3:6). The Lord also told the disciples, "The time is coming that whoever kills you will think that he offers God service" (John 16:2). Therefore, Christians should love and serve the Lord in God's will. **Doing God's will** is the standard by which God evaluates a person's ministration.

Before **doing** God's will, one has to **understand** it. It is impossible to do God's will without understanding it. The Bible says, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise. Therefore do not be unwise, but **understand what the will of the Lord is**" (Eph. 5:15, 17).

The Scriptures also say: "...that you may be **filled with the knowledge of His will** in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1:9-10).

But **how to understand God's will**? Is it by doing Bible research? No. The will of God, the mystery of the truth, is not understood by probing and analyzing with the human mind. **It is by revelation**. At the most, the natural man can only study the letter of the truth, but not the significance of the mystery therein. The letter kills (see 2 Cor. 3:6) and knowledge makes arrogant (see 1 Cor. 8:1). That was why the apostle Paul had this prayer for God's children: "That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him" (Eph. 1:17).

How do we understand the will of God by revelation? Can every one of us receive revelations directly from God? No! God has His way in revealing His will to man. He is a living God, a God who speaks and works. He always has His will and plan to be carried out in every era.

He reveals to man His contemporary will and accomplishes His contemporary plan according to the way He works. Therefore, if the children of God wish to understand His will for their time and wish to accomplish His plan for that era, they must abide by the way God works.

What is **the way God works**? We shall now look at the way God works from the three great ages in the Bible.

*God, who at various times and in various ways spoke **in time past** [ancient times] to the fathers by the prophets.*

(Heb. 1:1)

*has **in these last days** spoken to us by His Son, whom He 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.*

(Heb. 1:2)

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He has chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

(Acts 1:1–3)

These three portions of the Bible can be called the epoch-indicating verses, showing the three great ages in history — **the time past** (which includes the Old Testament era and the period before Jesus' birth), **the last days** (the days when the Lord Jesus became flesh and dwelt among men in human form), and **the age of the Holy Spirit** (the time after Christ sent the Holy Spirit to dwell with men following His ascension). In different times (eras), God still works in the same way, that is, **He speaks and works through His chosen vessels**.

God Spoke Through Prophets in Time Past

Before the birth of the Lord Jesus, that is, throughout the whole period of the Old Testament era, God spoke to His people through the prophets.

*The Lord spoke to **Moses**, saying...*

(Exod. 31:12)

Then Moses gathered all the congregation of the children of Israel together, and said to them, "These are the words which the LORD has commanded you to do".

(Exod. 35:1)

*...the Lord had commanded **Joshua** to speak to the people...*

(Josh. 4:10)

*Then the word of the LORD came to him [**Elijah**], saying...*

(1 King 17:2)

*And the word of the LORD came to **Isaiah**, saying, "Go and say to Hezekiah..."*

(Isa. 38:4)

*Moreover the word of the LORD came to me [**Jeremiah**], saying, "Go and cry in the hearing of Jerusalem, saying, 'Thus says the Lord...'"*

(Jer. 2:1–2)

*Son of man [**Ezekiel**], go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them.*

(Ezek. 3:4)

*I am sending you [**Ezekiel**] to them, and you shall say to them,*

“Thus says the LORD God.” As for them whether they hear or whether they refuse ... yet they will know that a prophet has been among them.

(Ezek. 2:4–5)

*Then the LORD took me [**Amos**] as I followed the flock, and the LORD said to me, “Go, prophesy to My people Israel”.*

(Amos 7:15)

*The vision of **Obadiah**. Thus says the LORD God concerning Edom...*

(Obad. 1)

*Now the word of the Lord came to **Jonah** the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it...”*

(Jon. 1:1)

*The word of the Lord that came to **Micah**... concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.*

(Mic. 1:1)

*...the word of the Lord came by **Haggai** the prophet to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, saying, “Thus speaks the LORD of hosts, saying...”*

(Hag. 1:1–2)

*...the word of the LORD came to **Zechariah** the son of Berechiah, the son of Iddo the prophet, saying...*

(Zech. 1:1)

*The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by **Malachi**.*

(Mal. 1:1)

In time past, God spoke through the prophets. If the people at that

time wanted to listen to God, they had to listen to the prophets. If they refused to listen to the prophets, they would not hear God's words because God spoke through the prophets.

God Spoke Through His Son Jesus in the Last Days

When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He became God's mouthpiece. Therefore, God voiced many times from heaven:

This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!
(Matt. 3:17; 17:5; Mark 9:7; Luke 9:35)

The Lord Jesus also said, "My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me." "I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. For I have not spoken on My own authority; but the Father who sent Me gave Me a command, what I should say and what I should speak. Therefore, whatever I speak, just as the Father has told Me, so I speak" (John 7:16; 8:28; 12:49–50).

When the Lord was on earth, whoever wanted to listen to God's words had to listen to the Lord Jesus. Otherwise, he would not hear God's words.

God Speaks Through His Chosen Apostles in the Age of the Holy Spirit

After His resurrection and ascension, the Lord sent the Holy Spirit and this ushered in the Age of the Holy Spirit. That was a turn of the era. During the Age of the Holy Spirit, God speaks by giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He has chosen. Therefore, ***the Age of the Holy Spirit*** can also be called ***the Age of the Apostles***. During this age, if a person wants to hear God's words, he must go to the apostles. Otherwise, he cannot hear God's words.

On the Day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came and the great Age of the Holy Spirit commenced. By right, in the Age of the Holy Spirit, it should be the Holy Spirit speaking. But on that day, we did not outwardly hear the Holy Spirit speaking; only Peter and the eleven apostles stood up to speak. Did the Holy Spirit speak? Yes, He did. How did the Holy Spirit speak? He spoke ***through the apostles***.

Peter (apostle) said, "...Let this be known to you, and ***heed my words***" (Acts 2:14). Peter wanted the people to heed his words. Who was Peter? Peter was not God. Why should the people listen to him? From this verse, we clearly see that Peter was the ***mouthpiece of the Holy Spirit***. His words were the words of the Holy Spirit who spoke through him. Therefore, when Peter spoke, it was actually the Holy Spirit speaking. This is the way God speaks to men in the Age of the Holy Spirit. Throughout this Age, God through the Holy Spirit instructs the apostles He has chosen to speak.

2 | Is the Age of the Apostles Over?

Are Apostles Found in the Bible?

Are apostles found in the Bible? Yes, they are. The answer is definite. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He chose twelve apostles. “Now the names of the twelve **apostles** are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter,…” (Matt. 10:2).

After Jesus rose from the dead and ascended to heaven, He sent us the Holy Spirit. The Age of the Holy Spirit commenced. Through the Holy Spirit He gave commandments to His apostles to testify for Him. Acts 1:2 proves that there were apostles in the Age of the Holy Spirit. And the Age of the Holy Spirit is the Age of the Apostles. In the eternity, the holy city New Jerusalem will appear; the names of the twelve **apostles** of the Lamb will be found on the twelve foundations of the wall of the city. (See Rev. 21:2,14.)

Therefore, we see the existence of the apostles in the time of Jesus, in the Age of the Holy Spirit, and in eternity. Apostles are important spiritual ministers as recorded in the Bible.

How Many Apostles Are There?

Some people say that there are only twelve apostles — the twelve chosen during Jesus’ time. Those who say this prove that they have not read the Bible carefully. In the Bible, we find other apostles such as Paul, Barnabas, Andronicus and Junia. (See Acts 14:14; Rom 16:7.) Obviously, there are more than twelve apostles.

God will, at any time, reveal and appoint apostles according to the needs of the era and the contemporary mission He gives. In these last days, the Holy Spirit had revealed the apostleship of His maidservant, the late Sis. Kong Duen Yee. At present, by the mercy of God, He has also revealed me, His lowly servant, as well as Bro. Victor Pi and Bro.

Caleb Kuang to be the apostles. We deeply feel unworthy but we honor the ministry given by God. We are willing to be faithful to the Lord's trust to magnify our ministry.

Is the Age of the Apostles Over?

Some people admit that there are apostles in the Bible but they claim that the Apostolic Age is over, and now there are no more apostles. Is the Age of the Apostles over? Are there apostles today? Our answer is definite: the Age of the Apostles is not over. There are still apostles at the present time. Please refer to the following verses:

*And God has appointed these in the church: first **apostles**, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healing, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.*

(1 Cor. 12:28)

Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.

(Eph. 2:19–20)

*And He Himself gave some to be **apostles**, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.*

(Eph. 4:11–13)

*Teaching them [the church] to observe all things that I have commanded you [**the apostles**]; and lo, I am with you always, even to*

the end of the age.

(Matt. 28:20)

Apostle is the first ministry set up by God in the church. As long as there is the church of God, there should be apostles. It is just like schools will always have principals. Schools in the past had principals, so do schools today. Since the church exists, the first ministry of the church should also exist. And so, the Age of the Apostles is not over. Moreover the church is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets. The church cannot be built if there are no apostles.

The early church was built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, so also is the church today. The church and the apostles are inseparable. It was so in the past and it is so today. Some say, "Now there are no more apostles but only pastors." These people are completely ignorant of the truth on church building. The Bible clearly states that the church is built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, not upon the foundation of the pastors. If pastor, which is not the highest ministry, still exist, why not the apostle? To say that "there are no more apostles but only pastors" is absolutely contradictory to the Scriptures.

Please listen to what Jesus said: "Teaching them [the church] to observe all things that I have commanded you [the apostles]; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matt. 28:20). To those who claim that the Age of the Apostles is over, we will tell them: "God sets the apostles for the building of the church and this principle never changes. The Age of the Apostles will last till the end of the world (till the Lord's return)!"

3 | **God Speaks and Works through His Chosen Vessel**

Look at the way God Works from the Sending of Moses to Egypt

*And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. **So I have come down** to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and **I will send you** to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."*

(Exod. 3:7–10)

*"I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt; I have heard their groaning and **have come down** to deliver them. **And now come, I will send you** to Egypt." This Moses whom they rejected, saying, "Who made you a ruler and a judge?" is the one God sent to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the Angel who appeared to him in the bush. He brought them out, after he had shown wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red Sea, and in the wilderness forty years.*

(Acts 7:34–36)

The above verses state that God had come down to deliver His people out of Egypt. Had God come down? Yes, He had! But how?

Through Moses. When Moses came, it was God who came! The Bible also says, “*He* [Moses] brought them out.” Who had actually brought them out of Egypt, God or Moses? The accurate answer is: **God through Moses** brought the people out of Egypt.

When Moses brought the people out of Egypt, it was God who brought them out. God sent Moses to lead the Israelites. The exodus of the Israelites from Egypt would not have been possible without **this man**, Moses. God said, “I have come down to deliver them.” But the subsequent verses tell us how Moses was sent to accomplish this task. From this we see the way God works — **He accomplishes His work through His chosen vessel.**

God did not go to Egypt Himself to revive His work among the Israelites — to deliver them out of Egypt. But He prepared a vessel of revival: Moses. He **sent Moses** to revive His work. In order to enable Moses to accomplish this epochal work of revival, God spent a long period of eighty years molding him. This shows how closely the vessel of revival is related to God’s great work of revival.

Look at the way God Works from the Sending of Peter to Cornelius’ House

There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, “Cornelius!” And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, “What is it, Lord?” So he said to him, “Your prayers and your alms have come up for a memorial before God. Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter...” And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God and has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was divinely instructed by a holy angel to summon you to

his house, and to hear words from you.

(Acts 10:1–5, 22)

Cornelius was considered the first converted Gentile, and in his household was the earliest group among the Gentiles established in the New Testament Church. He revered God more than the Jews, and he had a good reputation among the whole Jewish nation. In terms of earthly position and status, he was a centurion in the Italian Regiment. In terms of spiritual virtues, he was a just man who feared God. He and all his family were God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God always. He was a charitable man and one who sought God with all his heart. Concerning the fruit of his work, his prayers had been heard by God. Concerning the value of his ministrations, his generous alms-giving had gone up for a memorial before God. In terms of spiritual experience, he had seen a vision of an angel, and even heard the angel talking to him.

Cornelius and his family were well-spoken of by all and well-pleasing to God. But what was God's feeling towards such a just man? Was He satisfied? No! God did not want Cornelius and his whole family to be stagnant in the pious practices of Judaism. He wanted them to obtain the full salvation. How did God lead them into the full salvation? Did He preach to them directly in a vision? No! God sent an angel to tell Cornelius, "Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter" (Acts 10:5).

The important mission of the angel who was sent to Cornelius' house was to tell him *to send for Peter*. This is because *the Lord had words to be spoken* to Cornelius *through Peter*. In order to hear the Lord's words, Cornelius had to send for Peter and listen to him. Whether Cornelius and his family could find great grace depended on whether he would send for Peter.

Cornelius truly feared God. At the word of the angel, he immediately sent for Peter. When Peter came, he said to him, "So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all *present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God*"

(Acts 10:33).

While Peter was still speaking what the Lord had commanded him, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those in the house of Cornelius who heard the word. They were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues and magnified God. Peter commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. (See Acts 10:34 – 48.) That was how Cornelius and his family received the full truth of the **Blood, the Water and the Holy Spirit** and were established on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. They became the first New Testament Church among the Gentiles. (See Acts 10:44 – 48.) The Church in Caesarea was then established.

If Cornelius had said, “O Lord, since You have sent the angel here, you might as well tell me Your will and the truth directly through him. Why do I have to take the trouble to send men to Joppa for Peter? Wouldn’t the angel speak more clearly and more accurately than Peter?” Or if he had said, “O Lord, I won’t listen to the words of man. I want to listen to You directly.” Do you think the Lord would speak to him directly? Certainly not, for the Lord wanted to speak through Peter. **The words of Peter were the words commanded by the Lord.** This is **the way God works — He speaks through His chosen vessel.**

If Cornelius had gone against God’s way of working and refused to listen to Peter, he would definitely not hear the words of God. Since God had given Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven, those who wanted to enter the kingdom of heaven should come to Peter. If Cornelius had said, “O Lord, it’s most secured to have You leading me into Your kingdom. I will not follow any man but only You,” then I believe the Lord would tell him, “O Cornelius, I have given the keys to the kingdom of God to Peter and I will only open the gate of the heavenly kingdom through him. So I cannot help you with your request.” It is not that our Lord is incapable but that He cannot go against the way He works.

Today, God has also chosen us to be the apostles. He has also given us the co-workers — the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. Together, we have become His spokesmen. We will proclaim to all His children in

the world: “In these last days, God has rebuilt the New Testament Church through the Holy Spirit and has demolished the man-made organizations — denominations. He has overthrown heresies and evil religions, and has smashed idols and false gods. God has withdrawn His presence from the denominations. He has taken back all the spiritual gifts from them and given them to the New Testament Church because spiritual gifts are meant for building up the Body of Christ — the New Testament Church. God will definitely not allow the “foxes among the ruins” to use the spiritual gifts to build up man-made denominations and cause greater divisions.

So let all the children of God who want to hear God’s words and do His will respect the apostles ordained by God in this era as well as their co-workers, the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. Let them humbly receive the full truth of Blood, Water and Holy Spirit which God has entrusted the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade to preach. Let them depart from the denominations and return to the New Testament Church. Only in this way can they be built in the will of God to become the spiritual house after His heart.

4 | **Believing in the One Whom God Has Sent Is Doing God's Work**

If God's people do not believe in the vessel of the era sent by God, God's work will not be done. Therefore, God has to do one thing, that is, to make His people recognize, trust, and obey the vessel of the era.

When God sent Moses to Egypt, He first worked wonders through him. This was to make His people know that Moses was sent by God. "Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel. And Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. Then he did the signs in the sight of the people. **So the people believed...** Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: "Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness"" (Exod. 4:29–31; 5:1). Only after the Israelites had acknowledged and had faith in the ministry of Moses, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh to proclaim God's will and to deal with Pharaoh's power.

"Thus Israel saw the great work which the LORD had done in Egypt; so the people feared the LORD, and **believed the LORD, and His servant Moses**" (Exod. 14:31). Evidently, believing in God and believing in His servant are closely related. Therefore, the Israelites must acknowledge Moses, the servant sent by God. Only then would God's great work of delivering the Israelites from Egypt be done. From the story of Israelites we can see a very important spiritual principle: believing in the one whom God has sent is doing the work of God.

The Prerequisite of Doing God's Work — Believe in the One God Has Sent

Then they asked him, "What must we do to do the works God

requires?" Jesus answered, "**The work of God is this: to believe in the one he has sent.**"

(John 6:28–29 NIV)

According to the concept of most Christians, doing God's work means preaching, visiting fellow Christians, and holding gospel campaigns, retreats, revival meetings, and the like. They think that we should **work** diligently. Of course, Christians should work diligently for the Lord and serve Him with all their heart and strength. However, in John 6, Jesus did not emphasize **working**, but **believing**. This does not mean that the Lord Jesus does not want men to **work**. Rather, He wants men to know how to **work**.

Believing is working. Believing is the prerequisite of working. Without believing, working is impossible. Believe in what? Believe in the one God has sent. The Good News Bible put it in a simpler way: Jesus answered, "What God wants you to do is to believe in the one He sent." Do you want to do God's work? Well, God wants you to **do** something first, that is, to **believe** in the one He sent. Otherwise, you will never be able to do God's work. Even if you have done some works, you are not considered doing God's work. All works and ministrations should be based **on the premise of believing in the one God sent. Only those who follow this premise are considered doing God's work.**

Believing in the one God has sent is a very simple truth, and yet it poses a great test to men. It is also a very solemn and crucial issue for it decides whether God's children will gain victory and enter God's kingdom in victory. In other words, if a person does not believe in the one God has sent, no matter how laborious and diligent he is, all his works will be in vain. His works will not be remembered by God. He will end up like those people whom the Lord rebuked in the Matthew 7: "Many will say to Me in that day [Judgment Day], 'Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Your name, cast out demons in Your name, and done many wonders in Your name?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness!'" (Matt. 7:22–23).

The Way to Co-work with God — Co-work with the Vessel of the Era

1. Doing God's work or man's work

Many Christians, especially preachers, consider themselves to be very spiritual. They always say, "I want to do God's work, not man's work. I want to be a servant of God, not of man." These words sound spiritual, but are actually specious. It's because they don't show people the way how to do God's work.

Brothers and sisters, what is doing God's work? And what is doing man's work? We must be clear about this. Whoever disbelieves in the one God sent and does not co-work with him is doing man's work. Denominational preachers do not recognize the one God has sent nor do they co-work with him. Hence, their lifetime toil and labor for the denominations or their headquarters are all man's (their own) works. God's children must firmly believe in the one God has sent, and co-work with him in one mind. Only then would they be doing God's work. In other words, ***doing the work of the one God has sent is doing the work of God.*** Whoever wants to do God's work, shall work according to the revelation and vision of the one God has sent.

The apostle Paul said to the Church of Corinth, "For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building" (1 Cor. 3: 9). Paul was God's fellow worker. Paul's work was God's work. In those days, when Paul's fellow workers co-worked with Paul, they were co-working with God. If they did not co-work with Paul, they were not co-working with God. In other words, when the co-workers did what Paul had told them, they were doing God's work. If they had their own works apart from Paul's leading, they would be putting up ***individual constructions.*** God would surely not remember such works. This is a great test for everyone who wishes to do the work of the Lord: are you doing God's work or your own work?

In the denominations, the common concept is, as long as one is fervent in preaching, he is doing God's work. But the Bible tells us

that if a man wants to do God's work, he has to put aside all that is his own and accept the leading of the one God has sent. Moreover, he has to co-work with him. Only then is he doing God's work. This is very trying because it demands that one denies himself completely. Yet it is a spiritual principle God wants His children to know: co-working with the one God has sent is co-working with God. And this is doing God's work.

2. Illustrations from the Bible

* *Timothy:*

For this reason I have sent Timothy to you, who is my beloved and faithful son in the Lord, who will remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach everywhere in every Church.

(1 Cor. 4:17)

And if Timothy comes, see that he may be with you without fear; for he does the work of the Lord, as I also do.

(1 Cor. 16:10)

These two verses indicate that Timothy was co-working with Paul, but the Bible says that he was faithful in the Lord and he ***did the work of the Lord!***

* *Tychicus:*

Tychicus, a beloved brother, faithful minister, and fellow servant in the Lord, will tell you all the news about me.

(Col. 4:7)

Tychicus did not preach in lofty words or superior wisdom, but merely told the church how Paul was and what he was doing. By doing this, ***he was doing the work of God.***

* *Epaphroditus:*

*Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need . . . because for **the work of Christ** he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.*

(Phil. 2:25, 30)

Epaphroditus was sent by the Church of Philippi to minister to Paul's need, and because of that He was considered **doing the work of God**. Paul wanted the Church of Philippi to honor such a person.

* **Titus:**

. . . be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing. And let our people also learn to maintain good works, to meet urgent needs, that they may not be unfruitful.

(Tit. 3:12–14)

Here, what Paul charged Titus to do were trivial matters like: “Come to me at Nicopolis”, “Bring Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste” . . . Paul did not charge him to conduct a special meeting in a church or hold an edification service in another. However, **he was doing God's work when he did everything according to Paul's instructions**. This is a profound spiritual mystery.

The Consequence of Those Who Disbelieve in the One God Has Sent

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: “Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, in the day of trial in the wilderness, where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, and saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that genera-

tion, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' So I swore in My wrath, 'They shall not enter My rest.'"

(Heb. 3:7–11)

The Israelites died in the wilderness and could not enter the Promised Land to enjoy God's rest because of their disbelief. What did they disbelieve in? The Israelites did not say that they disbelieved in the LORD. In fact, they believed in the LORD. However, they disbelieved in Moses who was sent by God. Disbelieving in Moses was tantamount to disbelieving in the God who sent Moses. The Bible called such disbelief "the evil heart of unbelief." In the eyes of God, those who disbelieve in the one He has sent are evil men, having evil hearts! They are abhorred by God and ought to be cut off from among the people.

Woe to you! For you build the tombs of the prophets, and your fathers killed them. In fact, you bear witness that you approve the deeds of your fathers; for they indeed killed them, and you build their tombs. Therefore the wisdom of God also said, "I will send them prophets and apostles, and some of them they will kill and persecute," that the blood of all the prophets which was shed from the foundation of the world may be required of this generation, from the blood of Abel to the blood of Zechariah, who perished between the altar and the temple. Yes, I say to you, it shall be required of this generation.

(Luke 11:47–51)

○ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, but you were not willing! See! Your house is left to you desolate; and assuredly, I say to you, you shall not see Me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the LORD!"

(Luke 13:34–35)

You believe in God, believe also in Me. For if you do not believe that I am He [Christ], you will die in your sins.

(John 14:1; 8:24)

The Jews waited earnestly for the Messiah (Christ). But when the Messiah came, they neither knew nor received Him. In Jerusalem, there were many scribes who considered themselves authorities on the Scriptures, priests who offered sacrifices and worshiped God, the hypocritical Pharisees who were esteemed most devout, Sadducees who were full of the leaven of disbelief, and others. They were all dead against the Lord Jesus. They rejected and even persecuted Him. They claimed that they honored the ancient prophets, yet they despised Jesus, who is greater than all the prophets, who was living before their eyes. They boasted that they had observed the laws of Moses, but they would not obey the words of the Lord Jesus. They did not disbelieve God nor were they apathetic. Rather, they were self-conceited and obstinate in their own prejudices. They clung to man's traditions and were self-righteous. They refused to put away their wrong concepts, and had fallen into spiritual stupidity. Worse still, they refused to be corrected but went on deceiving themselves and others. Therefore, the Lord Jesus exposed their fallacies, calling them "the sons of those who killed the prophets," meaning that if they had lived in the days of their fathers, they would have also killed the prophets. For such people, the Lord Jesus has a severe judgment: "Your house is left to you desolate."

Similarly **today**, all those who disbelieve or despise **the vessel of the era sent by God** and who do not say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord" shall be cut off from God's grace. They shall not see the light of God's presence and shall die in their sins. Despite pursuing in zeal and diligence, they will still be in weakness and desolation. Their condition will surely be like "a heap of ruins". This is the consequence God has appointed them to have.

Throughout the ages, it is easy for many people to say, "Blessed is the Lord God," but very few will say, "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." One really needs to be enlightened by the spirit of

wisdom and revelation to perceive the way God works. Only with such enlightenment can one utter such praises to God. We have a hymn that goes: "I will praise God Jehovah, for there's a leader in Israel, leading His men. My heart is towards the leader whom God has raised up for us. He offers himself willingly to lead God's people forward." This hymn is sung in the recognition and insight of God's way of working. With such recognition, the singing will be full of heavenly joy and glory. This praising will reach heaven and the angels will respond in harmony. Even the heavenly hosts will echo: Amen! Amen!

Believe in Him Whom God Has Sent

What must we do so that we might do God's work? What must we do so that

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

we might do God's work? Je-sus an-swered and said, "Tis the work of God.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note G4, quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, followed by a half note D5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

You be-lieve in Him whom God has sent to you." The will of God is good!

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff features a half note G4, quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, followed by a half note D5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment.

Path of God is won-drous! Let's be-hold His glo-rious works, for He's the true God.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The treble staff features a half note G4, quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5, followed by a half note D5. The bass staff continues with its accompaniment, ending with a double bar line.

The Way God Works

The way God works was made known to Mos-es, and His acts to the sons of Is-ra-

el. The Lord works ac - cord - ing to His own ways. In the past, God

spoke to our fa-thers thru the proph - ets, in these last days He spoke thru His own Son.

Af - ter His as - cen - sion He charged a - pos - tles, to teach men to ob - serve all that He

com - mand - ed. Then the Lord will be with us till the end of the world.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines of each system. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

God Has Raised Up A Spiritual Leader

I'll praise the Lord Je-ho-vah, I'll praise the Lord Je-ho-

vah, There's a lead-er in Is-rael,

lead-ing His men. My heart is to-ward the

lead-er, whom God has raised up for us. He of-fers him-self will-

ing-ly to lead God's peo-ple for-ward.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of five systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p' (piano).

II

The Importance of Apostles

- 1. The Apostle is the Highest Ministry
God Appoints in the Church**
- 2. The Apostle Lays
the Foundation of the Church**
- 3. The Apostle is the Steward of
the Mysteries of God**
- 4. The Apostle is the Minister of the Gospel,
the Minister for the Defense of the Gospel**
- 5. The Apostle is Appointed to
Build up the Body of Christ**
- 6. The Apostle is Entrusted
to Care for the Church**

Many Christians only know that there are pastors and teachers. Very few know that there are apostles and prophets too. They presume prophets are Old Testament personages, and apostles are historical figures. Hence, they hardly understand the importance of apostles. Now, based on the Bible, we will let God's children understand the importance of apostleship to the church.

1 The Apostle is the Highest Ministry God Appoints in the Church

*And God has appointed these in the church: **first apostles**, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.*

(1 Cor. 12:28)

*And He Himself gave some to be **apostles**, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

(Eph. 4:11–12)

The apostle is the highest ministry God appoints in the church. So long as the church exists, so too will apostles, just as schools will always have principals. In order to build His church, God first appoints some to be apostles, then He appoints other ministers to co-work with them. Under the leading of the apostles, all the ministers build up the body of Christ in one accord. Without apostles, there will be no center and no leadership. The administration in the house of God will then lose its pivot, and the coordination of all ministers will not run smoothly. This condition can be likened to the desolate age of the Judges when “there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes” (Judges 21:25). Having no king (no leader) is a sign of desolation

in God's house. Therefore, God's children must have apostles. Without apostles, they will not be perfected, and the body of Christ will not be built.

2 | The Apostle Lays the Foundation of the Church

*According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise **master builder** I have **laid the foundation**, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it.*

(1 Cor. 3:10)

*Having been **built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.*

(Eph. 2:20)

Construction is possible only when there is a foundation. And the foundation of the church can be laid only when there are apostles. Without a foundation, there will be no construction. Likewise, without the apostles, there will be no building of the church.

Many people claim that they are building the church. In fact, they are not building the church but man-made denominations and religions. Since they are not apostles, they don't have the foundation of the church, let alone the ability to build the church! There is much confusion in Christianity today because many who are not apostles are establishing "churches." As a result, many sects are formed, causing much strife and division among the children of God. When more people are fervent in building the church, more sects and denominations are formed. They are in fact "slayers" who cut up the body of Christ. Brothers and sisters, the church is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Those who are not apostles can neither lay the foundation nor build the church.

3 | The Apostle is the Steward of the Mysteries of God

Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.

(1 Cor. 4:1)

How that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets.

(Eph. 3:3–5)

Christ is the mystery that has been hidden for generations. This mystery of Christ is entrusted to the stewards of the mystery — the apostles. Therefore, without apostles, the mysteries of God cannot be unraveled. God entrusts the apostles with the ministry of caring for the church, and **has by revelation made known to them the mystery of Christ**. Those who are not apostles will have no insight into the mystery of Christ. Hence, without apostles, all the heavenly mysteries will be sealed to God’s children. When God raises up apostles, He will make known to them the mysteries, which they will in turn bring to God’s children.

Paul once said to the Church of Colosse, “Of which I **became a minister** according to the stewardship from God which was given to me for you, to fulfill the word of God, **the mystery which has been hidden** from ages and from generations, but now has been revealed to His saints” (Col. 1:25–26). How is this long-hidden mystery revealed to the saints? It is through the apostles. Therefore, the church cannot lack apostles, the stewards of God’s mysteries. Whether God’s eternal plan and will can be made known depends entirely on the manifestation of the ministry of the apostles. If the ministry of apostle is not

revealed, God's children will not be able to serve God according to His will.

Today, we are able to serve God and advance in His will because of His maidservant, the late Sis. Kong Duen Yee, the stewardess of God's mysteries. Sis. Kong, the apostle God had raised up in the East, preached forth the mystery of the truth that had been lost for over a thousand years. Through her, we received the complete truth of Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit. We have departed from the denominations and have been established in the New Testament Church which is after God's heart. Through her, God let us understand many aspects of the truth, such as the two kinds of prayers and singing (see 1 Cor. 14:14 – 15), seeing and entering God's kingdom (see John 3:3 – 5), and the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church and demolishes the denominations (see Acts 15:16-18; 1 Cor. 12:13; Jer. 1:10). She was truly a good stewardess of the mysteries of God.

Thanks be to God! He enlightened Sis. Kong and us on the books of the prophets that had been sealed for ages, such as the Book of Daniel and the Revelation. From these books we perceive the true colors of the great image — the kingdoms of men. We also understand the highest will of God in the end times: the God of heaven has set up another kingdom — the New Testament Church. This kingdom will never be destroyed, but will destroy all the other kingdoms so that the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ.

Today, in this revelation of God's will for the end times, we assume our ministry. We have witnessed glorious revival in the New Testament Church. God's presence and power are with us. He confirms our message and ministry. This revival of the New Testament Church is related to the stewards of God's mysteries — the apostles in our midst. Let all the saints understand how important and glorious the ministry of the apostle is! It is a ministry that expounds the hidden mysteries of God.

4 | **The Apostle is the Minister of the Gospel, the Minister for the Defense of the Gospel**

The Apostle is the Judge in the Court of the Gospel

But the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel.

(Phil. 1:17)

In the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.

(Rom. 2:16)

I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.

(Gal. 1:6–9)

The apostle is not only the minister of the gospel, but also the minister for the defense of the gospel. Paul pointed out that there were some who troubled the Galatians. They perverted the gospel of Christ and made the Galatians turn to a different gospel. At that time, other than the apostles, many people were also preaching. But they were preaching a different gospel. Paul called it the perverted gospel.

This perverted gospel causes trouble and damage to the church. It should be rooted out by all means. But how do we discern between Christ's gospel and the perverted gospel? Who has the power of discern-

ing? This is important.

In fact, God has set a court of the gospel in the universe. The judge in the court of the gospel is **the apostle**. The apostle Paul said, “And so, according to the Good News (gospel) I preach, this is how it will be on the Day when God through Jesus Christ will judge the secret thoughts of all” (Rom. 2:16, TEV).

The gospel that Paul preached has become the standard by which God judges men. This is tremendous! It proves that Paul was appointed by God for the defense of the gospel. When the apostle Paul saw that the Galatians had deserted the truth for another gospel, he spoke in anger, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.” He said it not once but twice. Why did Paul dare to say this? By what did he say this? By the authority as the judge of the gospel. He was the minister set for the defense of the gospel, and **he had the final judgment** on the gospel.

Some might consider Paul too proud and egotistic for rejecting those who did not conform to his ideas. In fact, Paul was being faithful to God when he wrote this to the Galatians. As an apostle, besides having insight into the mystery of Christ and preaching it, he also had to defend the gospel. If anyone preached the gospel incorrectly or incompletely, he would correct or supplement it. His duty was to safeguard the fullness of the gospel, prohibiting men from preaching it incorrectly or counterfeiting it.

The maidservant of God, Sis. Kong, often gave this illustration: The full gospel which God entrusts us to preach is like genuine medicine. Any sick person who takes it will recover. But if someone sells imitation medicine or stealthily changes the ingredients, the lives of the sick people who take the fake medicine will be endangered. Therefore, when we find people selling fake “medicine,” we, who are selling the genuine “medicine,” must rebuke them at once. We should not tolerate fake “medicine.”

Since we have become the ministers of the gospel by the gift of God’s grace, we will proclaim to this generation: “If any man preaches

any other gospel than what Sis. Kong preached, let him be accursed!” Sis. Kong has been called to rest in the Lord, and I, His lowly servant, have obtained mercy to succeed her as the minister of the full gospel. Thus, in the love of Christ, we proclaim solemnly to this generation, “If any man preaches a gospel contrary to the gospel of God’s sovereignty, let him be accursed!” We are compelled to say so because we honor the ministry given by God. We make this proclamation in the hope that this generation may find favor in God’s eyes. Some may be indignant at our words, but the Holy Spirit confirms what we proclaim. These are words with authority which no one can rebut!

Many people also want to defend the gospel. Unfortunately, they are not the apostles appointed by God. Since they are preaching an incomplete and impure gospel, they are not confirmed by the Holy Spirit.

When Sis. Kong preached the full gospel, she said: “All saints should receive the complete truth of **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit**. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is evidenced by the speaking of tongues.” She added, “I am preaching the full gospel. What the denominations preach is incomplete. I am preaching the pure spiritual milk with no contamination. What the denominations preach is not only incomplete but also impure. Saints should receive the truth I preach and be built on this truth into a spiritual house after God’s heart.” She was absolute and uncompromising. This is the righteous spirit of the judge of the gospel. Many people disagree or even oppose. However, the truth is the truth, and what comes from revelation always remains firm. No man can overthrow or change it.

In the beginning, I also disagreed with Sis. Kong’s claim that **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit** which she preached was the complete truth. I thought to myself, “That’s all there is to biblical truth? So little? The truth is complete with just these three things? I am going to find something more in the Bible to overthrow what she preaches.” But no matter how hard I tried, I couldn’t find anything because I was not the vessel of the era then. God only gave His epochal messages to the head apostle. The way to build the church and the way for the congregation

to advance is only revealed to the head apostle.

Fortunately, a brother spoke frankly to me in love. He said, “If God has given you the epochal mission and entrusted you with the message for this era, your preaching would be different. Your preaching would be fresh and lively. If your words are not newer, livelier, or more enlightened than Sis. Kong’s, but are always the ‘stale manna’ or Spark’s old stuff, then you should humble yourself to listen to her.” Today, many people are just as I was before, thinking they know a lot and trying to be equal with the vessel of the era. Consequently, they fall victims to their own conceit.

What is a Perverted Gospel?

A gospel other than the one Paul preached was a perverted gospel. Paul said it was no gospel at all, but that some people wanted to trouble God’s children, trying to pervert the gospel of Christ. This is a malicious wile of the devil Satan. He either makes men disbelieve the gospel or makes them follow a perverted gospel. This is the reason for the confusion in Christianity today. Every sect and denomination claims it follows the Bible. However, they “follow the Bible” according to their own understanding, and not by the revelation of the Holy Spirit. Since they are not apostles appointed by God, they do not know the mystery of Christ.

We want to declare solemnly to God’s children: “In this last era, only what Sis. Kong preached is from revelation. Whoever preaches contrary to what Sis. Kong preached is preaching another gospel, a perverted gospel. Let anyone who preaches another gospel “be accursed.” How solemn! For this gospel was not invented by Sis. Kong but revealed to her by God. Even Sis. Kong herself could not disobey it. She could not say, “This truth is preached by me. If one day I am not happy with it, I can renounce it.” Absolutely not!

Paul said, “But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel that is different from the one we preached to you, may

he be condemned to hell!” (Gal. 1:8, TEV). Paul made no exception for himself. He knew even he himself could not change or renounce the truth as he pleased just because he was the one who preached it. Since the truth was revealed to him by God, he was merely God’s spokesman. What God entrusted him to preach, he had to preach accordingly. He had no authority to change it.

Some time ago, the apostate Cheung assumed that because she was the head apostle, she could change the gospel as she wanted. She declared absurdly that Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit is not the complete truth, that the denominations are also the church, and etc. She has incurred God’s curse with her audacity and haste in trying to change the gospel. She is now discarded by God. How awesome!

Thanks be to God. He has given the New Testament Church the ministers for the defense of the gospel. Under the leading of the apostles, the saints have sharp spiritual eyes to discern the truth. They reject Cheung’s perverted gospel, and hold fast the sound doctrine that God has entrusted to us through Sis. Kong. Hence, the New Testament Church stood firmly against the raging waves of apostasy in 1976. The church has contended even more earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints (see Jude 3). Therefore, the spiritual flame of revival is burning brighter and brighter in our midst. After that spiritual battle, we also all the more recognize the importance of apostles to the church.

5 | **The Apostle is Appointed to Build up the Body of Christ**

The Body of Christ is United

Then I will give them one heart, and I will put a new spirit within them, and take the stony heart out of their flesh, and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in My statutes and keep My judgments and do them; and they shall be My people, and I will be their God.

(Ezek. 11:19–20)

And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

(John 10:16)

Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given me, that they may be one as We are That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them; that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.

(John 17:11, 21–23)

The church is the body of Christ. Since it is a body it is not divided, but whole and united — all members joined together as one body with Christ as the Head. Satan's wile is to destroy the unity of Christ's body. For the past six thousand years, he has been disrupting the peace

between God and man and causing division among men. His most evil work is to destroy the testimony of church unity. He takes advantage of men's "zeal" to create countless denominations — man-made organizations — to divide the body of Christ. In these last days, the Lord Jesus Christ is anxious to come for His bride. It's imperative that God restore the unity of Christ's body. For this purpose, God has restored in His church the key ministers — the apostles — who help bring church unity.

How to Build the Body of Christ

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all **come to the unity of the faith** and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.*

(Eph. 4:11–13)

The above passage indicates that through the apostles and other ministers set up by God, the saints are equipped and prepared for the various works of ministry. In this way, the body of Christ is built up. After being equipped by the apostles and other ministers, all saints will come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God. They will grow to the measure of the stature of Christ.

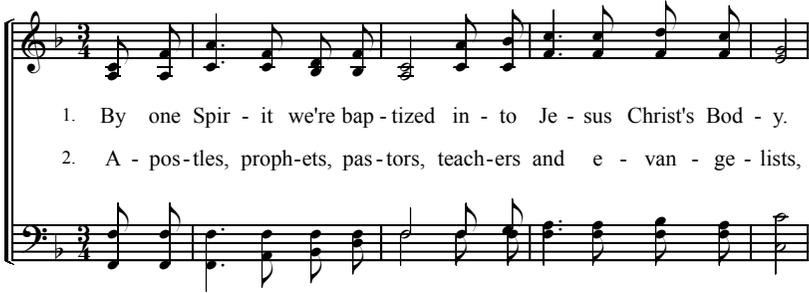
In Christianity today, denominations are springing up everywhere. All of them hope for the testimony of unity but, unfortunately, do not know the way to church unity. We know that the source of unity is Christ. And Christ, the source of unity, is preached by the apostles. So the way to unity is with the apostles. When the saints receive Christ preached by the apostles from revelation, they will come to the unity of the faith (the truth). Therefore, the apostle is the minister who builds up the body of Christ. The apostle is the key figure (minister) who

unites God's children. A true apostle can be recognized by his care for the testimony of unity among God's children. If someone has no knowledge of what the church is, and even calls the denominations (which divide the church) the church, he is definitely not an apostle.

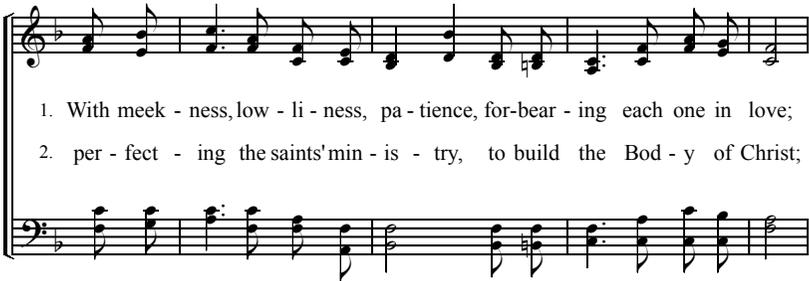
Some preachers even say, "You shouldn't say the denominations are wrong..." These words prove that they are not apostles. The church is the body of Christ. Is a body divided? Since the apostle builds up the church, he will surely not approve of the denominations that divide the church. An apostle will be like Paul, who exhorted the Church of Corinth in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ when he heard of the divisions and strife in their midst. He said, "... that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. ... Now I say this, that each of you says, 'I am of Paul,' or 'I am of Apollos,' or 'I am of Cephas,' **Is Christ divided?**..." (1 Cor. 1:10–13). If anyone is annoyed by our abhorrence of denominations and proclamations on demolishing the denominations, he is surely not an apostle. And if someone claims to be an apostle but does not abhor the denominations, he is definitely a false apostle.

In these last days, God raised up His maidservant Sis. Kong to preach the revelatory truth of *the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church* and *demolishes the denominations*. Amid extremely fierce opposition from hell, she severely pointed out the fallacies of the denominations. Why was she so burdened and earnest about demolishing the denominations? It is because she was a true apostle chosen of God. God had entrusted her with the task of rebuilding the body of Christ. Through her, God wanted to bring about the testimony of church unity in these end times.

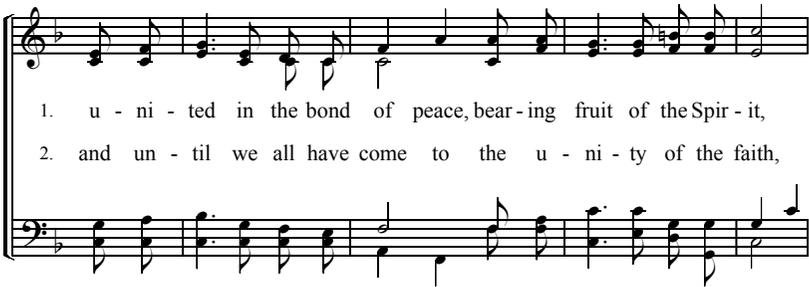
Building the Body of Christ



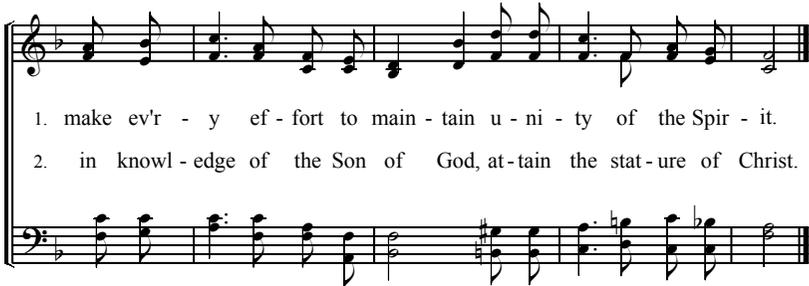
1. By one Spir - it we're bap - tized in - to Je - sus Christ's Bod - y.
2. A - pos - tles, proph - ets, pas - tors, teach - ers and e - van - ge - lists,



1. With meek - ness, low - li - ness, pa - tience, for - bear - ing each one in love;
2. per - fect - ing the saints' min - is - try, to build the Bod - y of Christ;



1. u - ni - ted in the bond of peace, bear - ing fruit of the Spir - it,
2. and un - til we all have come to the u - ni - ty of the faith,



1. make ev'r - y ef - fort to main - tain u - ni - ty of the Spir - it.
2. in knowl - edge of the Son of God, at - tain the stat - ure of Christ.

6 | **The Apostle is Entrusted to Care for the Church**

If indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you.

(Eph. 3:2)

God not only gives the apostles the mission of building the church but also entrusts them to care for the church. They will make sure the church is built according to the blueprint revealed by God. They will also guard the church against any deviations, breaches, flaws, saboteurs, and jerry-builders. These are natural expressions of the apostles out of their concern for the church. Let's see how the apostles show concern for the church.

Giving Birth to the Church

I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel.

(1 Cor. 4:14–15)

The relationship between the apostles and the church is like that between parents and their children. It is a relationship found in the full gospel of Jesus Christ. The apostles are spiritual parents who suffer labor pains for the church and who beget the church through the gospel.

Once Paul went to Ephesus and met some disciples (who had already believed in the Lord). He asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” (See Acts 19:1–2.) Why did Paul ask this question? It was because God had entrusted him to beget the church

through the full gospel. If Paul, an apostle who was concerned for the church, had not been sent to the disciples, they would have stopped at the initial stage of salvation and would not have been established in God's complete holy truth.

Nurturing the Church

My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you.

(Gal. 4:19)

Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us... As you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children.

(1 Thess. 2:6–8, 11)

The apostle's responsibility does not end at giving birth to the church. No mother in her right mind would abandon her new-born baby. Though a mother has to travail in birth, the pain is only temporary. However, bringing up a child is a lifelong obligation. The concern of Paul for the church is like the lifelong concern of parents in bringing up their own children. He said, "Besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches" (2 Cor. 11:28).

The apostle is always concerned for the church, just as parents are for their children. Parents are always concerned for their children down to the last detail, be it in big or small matters. This concern for the conditions of all the churches is not restricted by time or space.

Once Paul was longing for the Church of Thessalonica, but cir-

cumstances did not permit him to go to them. At the time, he could only send his co-worker there. In his letter to the Church of Thessalonica, Paul said, “But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short time in presence, not in heart, endeavored more eagerly to see your face with great desire. Therefore we wanted to come to you — even I, Paul, time and again — but Satan hindered us. Therefore, when we could no longer endure it, we thought it good to be left in Athens alone, and sent Timothy, our brother and minister of God, and our fellow laborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you and encourage you concerning your faith, . . . For this reason, when I could no longer endure it, I sent to know your faith, lest by some means the tempter had tempted you and our labor might be in vain” (1 Thess. 2:17–18; 3:1–2, 5).

When Paul knew of the difficulties or troubles in any church, he would not only pray earnestly and watchfully for them but also stand in the gap and resolve their problems by the Lord’s Spirit. He would also give them timely help and guidance in spirit and in truth by sending letters or fellow workers, or even by going there himself. Paul was very grieved when he heard of the adultery in the Church of Corinth. He wrote to reprimand them severely: “For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 5:3 – 4).

The spirit of the apostles is tightly knitted with the churches at all times. Apostles are like parents who will always be concerned about their children, regardless of how far away their children are. If their children do not contact them for a while, they will be worried.

When Paul heard some people were preaching another gospel and deceiving the churches in Galatia, he was very heavy-hearted. At the thought of those who caused trouble, he was filled with divine wrath. He wrote to the Galatians, saying, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if

anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed” (Gal. 1:8 – 9). Paul’s words were both heavy and severe, and his anxiety was apparent. Perhaps some may wonder: “Why is Paul so impatient? How can he call curses upon others?” Brothers and sisters, if a mother should see a poisonous snake slithering toward her baby, don’t you think she would be anxious? She would surely be screaming and rushing to her baby. Would you say this mother is misbehaving and that she should be more gentle? At such a moment, if the mother just takes her own sweet time, she is either out of her mind or an idiot. Today, many people criticize us, saying we have been too impulsive and excessive. Little do they know that this is the zeal for God’s house that has consumed us. This zeal is the apostle’s spirit of concern for the church.

The apostles’ concern for the church covers not only the truth but also the small details of our lives. When Paul heard that some people in the Church of Thessalonica did no work at all but were busybodies, he wrote to admonish them. He charged such people to work in quietness and eat their own bread. He said that if anyone would not work, neither should he eat. (See 2 Thess. 3:10 – 12.) To men, things like working and eating may seem trivial. But apostles are concerned about and mindful of even matters like this. The condition of every child of God is their concern. From Paul’s epistles we can see how he was concerned for the lives of his fellow workers and the saints. He said to Timothy, “No longer drink only water, but use a little wine for your stomach’s sake and your frequent infirmities” (1 Tim. 5:23).

From the above examples, the apostles’ great care for the saints can be seen. Under their care, God’s children will enjoy good health and their spirit and soul will also be well. They will gain strength in serving the Lord and treading on the heavenly way.

The apostles have such concern for the church because God has put the burden in them. Like concerned parents, the apostles need no reminder or instruction. No parents need to be reminded or urged to care for their children. Parental care may not be thorough when there are too many children. Nevertheless, the spirit of concern is always

there. This is exactly the concern the apostles have for the church.

God is merciful to me, His lowly servant, and has given me the ministry to care for the church. When the great spiritual tremor hit the church in 1976 following Cheung's apostasy, my chief concern then was not my personal glory or shame, gain or loss, but all the churches and the saints all over the world. I remembered how Sis. Kong had risked her life, shedding blood and tears, to preach the complete truth of Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit in Singapore and Malaysia. Through her, churches were established amid fierce battles. Now in the face of such trial and tremor, I wondered if these churches which were built in much difficulty could stand firm. I was in Taiwan and could not go to their midst. Every time I thought of the saints abroad, I felt as if my heart would break. Food lost its taste, and sleep was far from me. I was restless day and night. I could deeply understand the feelings of the apostle Paul when he said, "For now we live, if you [the church] stand fast in the Lord" (1 Thess. 3:8).

During that period, my heart kept crying out, "O saints in Singapore and Malaysia, if you stand fast in the Lord, I am glad even if I am being poured out like a drink offering. At the moment, I can't go to you and my spirit is suffering. I can only pray unceasingly for you and commend you to God and to the word of His grace. This word is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified." Some apostles in the New Testament Church had turned apostate one after another. But we never expected that Cheung, the spiritual leader herself, would turn apostate, too.

Now only I, a lowly servant, am left. By the mercy of God, I have been kept in His house to continue leading His church. (Later the Holy Spirit also revealed the apostleship of Bro. Pi and Bro. Kuang. This is the evidence of God's care for His church.) By God's abundant grace and mercy, He has given me the office of concern for the church, and the life of caring for the church. Hence, I offer myself unceasingly to Him. I firmly believe that He will listen to my prayers just as He listened to the prayers of His maidservant, Sis. Kong.

Since the apostles have the parental concern for the church, every-

thing they do for the church will be unconditional. The apostle Paul once said, “For though you might have ten thousand instructors [tutors] in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel” (1 Cor. 4:15).

Unlike the parent-child relationship, the instructor-student relationship is based on an unspecified agreement of conditions that benefit both parties. The instructor merely imparts knowledge and skill to the student. He needs not suffer the pangs of childbirth for his student because there is no life connection between them. If the instructor and student get along well, the instructor will teach the student more skills. If not, less skills. And no matter what, he will hold back some special skills to maintain his dignity as an instructor.

But between the apostles and the saints there is a bond of love and life. Paul said, “I kept back nothing that was helpful, but proclaimed it to you, and taught you publicly and from house to house” (Acts 20:20). The apostle always has the saints’ best interests at heart. They do not keep back anything that is profitable to them, even truthful words which are unpleasant to hear. Most of the preachers in the denominations today think that godliness is a means of gain. Their mind is on their own belly. When they preach, they adjust their sermons according to men’s expressions. They avoid saying things that men do not like to hear. They even distort the Bible to cater to men’s tastes. Worse still, they even unite church and state in order to please the earthly powers. They seek their own interests at the expense of the spiritual lives of God’s children.

But the apostles chosen by God will not “shrink from declaring to [God’s children] anything that [is] profitable, teaching [them] publicly and from house to house” (see Acts 20:20). The apostles make every effort to teach God’s children so that they will obtain grace and be built up before God at all times. This is parental affection. It is the parents’ desire for their children to grow up, become useful, and have lifelong happiness. Paul said, “For I do not seek yours, but you. For the children ought not to lay up for the parents, but the parents for the children. And I will very gladly spend and be spent for your souls” (2

Cor. 12:14 – 15). Paul’s only prayer for the saints was that they would gain the blessings of the gospel with him. He coveted no one’s wealth. Instead, he spent and was spent to serve the saints.

In Christianity today, there are many preachers who have ulterior motives. Outwardly, they appear to be very concerned about the believers. But in reality, they are eyeing their possessions rather than caring for their souls. Hence they have stumbled countless people who love the Lord with a pure heart. Woe betide such preachers! They feed themselves rather than the Lord’s sheep. They do not strengthen the weak sheep, and they slaughter and feast on the fat ones.

It is written, “Thus says the LORD God to the shepherds: ‘Woe to the shepherds of Israel who feed themselves! Should not the shepherds feed the flocks? You eat the fat and you clothe yourselves with the wool; you slaughter the fatlings, but you do not feed the flock. The weak you have not strengthened, nor have you healed those who were sick, nor bound up the broken, nor brought back what was driven away, nor sought what was lost; but with force and cruelty you have ruled them’ ... ‘nor did My shepherd search for My flock... Thus says the LORD God: ‘Behold, I am against the shepherds, and I will require My flock at their hand; I will cause them to cease feeding the sheep, and the shepherds shall feed themselves no more; for I will deliver My flock from their mouths, that they may no longer be food for them’” (Ezek. 34:2–4, 8, 10).

God will stretch out His hand against those false shepherds. On the other hand, He will show mercy to His flock and deliver them from the mouths of those “ravenous wolves.” In these last days, God has appointed the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade to be the Ezekiel of this age to warn all God’s children, beckoning them to return quickly to the Lord’s sheepfold and to come under one shepherd. Maybe some who have just come to the New Testament Church worry whether we are eyeing their wealth when they hear us preaching “giving oneself to the apostles.” Brothers and sisters, you can rest assured that the only hope of the apostles appointed by God is the spiritual well-being of God’s children. Their hope is definitely not your wealth.

Over the years, we have been imitating Sis. Kong by giving away free spiritual books, gospel leaflets, and video and cassette tapes so that people may gain the gospel without charge. God and all the churches can be our witnesses in this matter. We hope that all God's children will receive the complete truth and be established in it. For this reason, we gladly spend and are spent for the saints. We have never harbored greed, nor spoken flattering words, nor looked at the countenance of the rich. If we sought to please men, we would not be the apostles of God.

An apostle's spirit is a parental one. The apostles comfort the church as their *own* children. At the mention of one's *own* children, there will be a special kind of burden, feeling and devotion. Those who are parents will know that caring for their own children is different from caring for others' children. The price that they pay is different. For their own children, they are ready to give up their lives. But for others' children, they will only show concern at most. No matter how much love they have, they will not go so far as to sacrifice their lives. For example, when a child is sick, his parents will be worried, upset, and even wish they could be sick in his place. They will watch by the sickbed day and night, giving the child as much care and attention as possible. And if their child is in critical condition, they will be as restless as an ant on a hot pan. Others, even close relatives or good friends, will only take some time off to pay a visit to show their concern. Then they will leave without much sorrow or grief.

When it comes to feeding one's own child, the parents will do all they can to feed their children with the best and most nutritious food. They will feed them according to their ages and needs, making every effort to raise them. Some of their children need milk; others need solid food. The parents will not mind preparing different kinds of food for each child according to each child's needs. But this is not the case with the nursemaids in a nursery. If a child should wet or dirty his pants, those who are not parents will steer clear of the unsightly mess and stench. But his parents will gladly and willingly clean up the mess and give him a change of clothes.

The love of the apostles for the church is the kind of love parents have for their own children. It is not difficult to understand the parental love of the apostles who regard God's children as their very own. Even though their concern may at times cause the saints to reject them, they will still be duty-bound and their love for the church will not diminish in any way. With such a parental spirit, the apostles nurture the church to her maturity.

Cheung, the former leader of the New Testament Church, turned apostate, saying, "I don't care about anything now." At first she didn't care about the co-workers. Later she didn't care about the church. She said, "From now on, I will no longer be your head apostle or leader. In the future, you may go wherever your presence is required. I will no longer send anyone anywhere ..." Her spirit was irresponsible. Such a spirit slaughters, destroys, and disperses the flock. God raised up His maidservant Sis. Kong to preach the truth with blood and tears, and lead the co-workers and God's children back to His sheepfold to be under one shepherd. But Cheung, the apostate, did not care about the flock. She even wanted to destroy the sheepfold and scatter the sheep. How abominable! How she provoked God to wrath! The judgment of God will be heavy on her and her company. Cheung renounced the ministry of the apostle, the ministry of concern for the church, which she had received from God. She no longer cared for God's sheep.

But thanks be to the Lord, for He loves His church. Once again, He gives to His church the apostles who care for her. Under their care and shepherding, the church will be made perfect in His presence. And so God's children will not become orphans. This is the loving-kindness and mercy of God. We praise and thank God unceasingly from our spirits. Over the past twenty years, the New Testament Church has endured many fearful storms. Were it not for the apostles (spiritual parents) appointed by God to love, care for and nurture His children, they would be wandering about in the hills, terrified and helpless. Therefore, we all the more know that the church cannot survive without the care of the apostles. From this, we can see the importance of apostleship.

Watching Over the Church — Betrothing the Virgin to a Husband (Presenting the Church to Christ)

The apostle Paul said, “For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ. But I fear, lest somehow, as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ”

(2 Cor. 11:2–3).

After the apostle has begotten the church and raised her, can he leave her alone to lead an independent life and stop caring for her? No, the apostle’s concern for the church will not stop. Instead, it increases in earnestness.

When a daughter is still young, her parents will naturally hope that their daughter will grow up fast. And when she grows up into an elegant and graceful young woman, her parent’s responsibility and anxiety will be greater than ever. At this stage, the parents are concerned about her personality, character, chastity, and marriage. Before she is betrothed to a husband or gets married, they fear that her desires might get the better of her and lead her astray. They will remind and admonish her, “Be very careful about your choice of friends. Bad associations will corrupt your morals. Don’t be led astray by the Gentiles...” This is the mind of parents as well as the spirit of the apostles. The apostles not only bring the church up to maturity, they also keep guarding the testimony of the church, so that the great dragon, the old serpent, will not stealthily creep in to deceive God’s children and corrupt their minds. The apostles’ spirit of guarding the church is a jealous spirit. If anyone tries to seduce this chaste virgin into committing fornication and tries to defile her, the apostles will stand in the gap and rebuke him severely. They will even deliver the seducer over to Satan.

When the apostle is jealous for the church with a godly jealousy

and rebukes the evil men, he is not being intolerant, unloving, or carnal. His jealousy is a divine jealousy, and it arises from divine love. Out of love and jealousy for her, he protects this virgin. No parents in the world will tolerate someone who has the intention of defiling their daughter. I believe no parents will be so liberal as to say, “That’s okay. He loves my daughter.” In Genesis, there is a story about the sons of Jacob killing the people in Shechem. Why did they do so? It was because their sister had been defiled by Shechem. (See Gen. 34.)

When Cheung’s theory of apostasy was sent to Taiwan in 1976 with the intention of distorting the truth of God, we immediately stood up to contend for the truth. We denounced the satanic fallacies that encouraged the church to unite with the denominations, that is, to commit spiritual adultery. At that time there were some carnally-minded persons who said, “The co-workers in Taiwan are terrifying! What bad tempers they have! It’s really scary! They’re throwing stones at Cheung one after another!” They completely misconstrued the jealous spirit of the Taiwan co-workers who minded the heart of God. They considered “lifting the spear of Phinehas” as losing one’s temper. How foolish! According to the Scriptures, these apostates who committed spiritual adultery should be speared and stoned to death. Therefore, our action of jealousy was pleasing to God.

No parents, seeing their daughter committing adultery, would say, “That’s okay. After all, my daughter will marry a man someday. The one she is living with now is a man too. So it doesn’t matter.” Only someone with mental problems would say something like this. We find this illustration easy to understand. Yet some get confused when it is applied to spiritual matters. That is why many people say, “It’s the same. Everyone believes in Jesus. Both the New Testament Church and the denominations are the church. Whichever place we go to will be okay ...” If you think that those who say these words are being magnanimous, tolerant, and open-minded, then you are like parents who have failed their duty as good guardians, allowing their daughter to commit adultery.

Is the church without bounds? Is it wrong to have bounds? Not at

all. The church indeed has bounds, and her bounds are Christ. The denominations are the harlots, so they always want to go beyond their limits and reject Christ. The church is a pure virgin, not a prostitute nor an adulterous woman. The prostitute may go beyond her limits as she likes because she is not bound to a husband. However, the church will not tolerate any adulterous act.

Cheung the apostate not only committed spiritual adultery, but had also seduced the church, this pure virgin to do the same. She is guilty of a deadly sin!

The apostle Paul said, “For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? For you are our glory and joy” (1 Thess. 2:19–20). The hope, glory, and joy of the apostles is that the saints can stand firm at the coming of the Lord. This is the goal of the apostles’ ministration. With the apostles’ nurturing and guarding, the church will have the hope of being caught up in glory. What assurance! Therefore, the church cannot be without apostles, not even for a day.

May God give His children the spirit of wisdom and revelation so that they will understand the vision of ***the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church*** as well as the mission of the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. When everyone receives the complete truth of ***Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit*** preached by the apostles, returns to the New Testament Church rebuilt by the Holy Spirit, and submits to the leading of the apostles, the testimony of unity (of God’s children) will appear. Then the Lord will come to receive His bride. God’s kingdom will come and Satan’s kingdom shall end. The eternal will of God will be done.

Bitter Travail

1. Ac-cord-ing to the di-vine of-fice, he is made a min-is-ter, to
2. For us he suf-fers bit-ter tra-vail, a-gain he suf-fers tra-vail, un-
3. He has es-poused us to one hus-band, as a chaste vir-gin to Christ. He

1. make the word of God-the hid-den mys - tery, ful - ly known to all the saints.
2. til the Lord Jes-sus, un - til the Lord Jes - sus is formed ful - ly in our heart.
3. fears our minds be led from the sim-plic - i - ty and pure de - vot-ion to Christ.

III

The Signs of an Apostle

1. **The Apostle is Chosen by God**
2. **The Apostle Has the Blueprint for Building the Church**
3. **The Apostle Has Spiritual Authority**

Since the apostle is so important, who is the apostle chosen by God? How do you differentiate between a true apostle and a false one? The devil Satan has a wicked wile: he either makes men doubt the apostle ordained by God, or he makes them mistake a true apostle for a false one, and vice versa. He makes men distrust the sound doctrines of the true apostle and listen to the fallacy of the false apostle. This happened during the days of Paul.

There was a group of false apostles, deceitful workers, who disguised themselves as apostles of Christ (see 2 Cor. 11:13 RSV). They opposed the true apostles and deliberately destroyed their construction. With a heavy heart, Paul once said to the Church of Corinth, “Truly the signs of an apostle were accomplished among you with all perseverance, in signs and wonders and mighty deeds” (2 Cor. 12:12). “If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord” (1 Cor. 9:2).

There are signs which prove a true apostle. An apostle is chosen and ordained by God. He has the blueprint for building the church and has spiritual authority. Furthermore, an apostle is one who has seen the Lord (1 Cor. 15:3–8; 9:1; 1 John 1:1–3). He lives in the light (2 Cor. 8:21; 4:1–3, 5); follows the footsteps of the Lamb (1 Cor. 4:9–13; 2 Tim. 2:9; 1:8–14; Eph. 6:20; 2 Cor. 11:22–31); presses on unceasingly (Phil. 3:7–14); is a faithful defender of the truth (Gal. 2:4–5; Phil. 3:2–4, 17–19); is the watchman of the church, and a supplicant for all nations (Ps. 130:1,5,6; Isa. 21:6–10; 1 Tim. 2:1–2); exhorts men to be reconciled with God (2 Cor. 5:18–19); discerns spirits (1 Cor. 2:13–16; 12:4–11); performs signs, miracles and wonders, and so forth.

Among all these signs, the first three are the apostle’s most important and distinctive signs. Now we shall discuss in detail these three signs of an apostle...

1 | The Apostle is Chosen by God

*Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. And when it was day, He called His disciples to Himself; and from them He chose twelve whom He also named **apostles**.*

(Luke 6:12–13)

*Until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to **the apostles whom He had chosen**.*

(Acts 1:2)

*But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a **chosen** vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.*

(Acts 9:15)

*Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God. Through Him we have received grace and **apostleship** for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name.*

(Rom. 1:1,5)

*Paul, called to be an apostle of Jesus Christ **through the will of God**.*

(1 Cor. 1:1)

*Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ **by the will of God**.*

(2 Cor. 1:1; Eph. 1:1; Col. 1:1)

*Paul, an apostle (not from men or through man, but through **Jesus Christ** and God the Father who raised Him from the dead).*

(Gal. 1:1)

*Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the **Lord Jesus Christ**, our hope.*

(1 Tim. 1:1)

*Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by **the will of God**, according to **the promise** of life which is in Christ Jesus.*

(2 Tim. 1:1)

What does “Chosen by God” mean?

“Chosen by God” means chosen according to God’s will, predestination, and standard. It is not chosen according to man’s ideals, tastes, or even conduct. An apostle is not self-professed, nor recommended by man, but appointed by God Himself. Therefore, one has to **know an apostle from God’s purpose** in election. Otherwise he will not know the apostle, but will reject him instead. He will be like the Galatians and the Corinthians who refused to acknowledge Paul when he went to them. The Galatians and the Corinthians wanted to see the signs of Paul’s apostleship. This shows that they did not know Paul. Why? Because they judged him by his outward appearance, not by God’s purpose in election. If God’s children know the apostle by God’s purpose in election, they will not stumble.

God’s Purpose in Election

1. Not of Works, But of Him Who Calls

And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by one man, even by our father Isaac (for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls) it was said to her, “The elder shall serve the younger.” As it is written, “Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.”

(Rom. 9:10–13)

God's ***purpose in election*** was well illustrated when He spoke of His choice on Jacob. The choice was made even before the twins were born, before they had done any good or evil. In behavior, the two brothers, Jacob and Esau, were worlds apart. Esau was honest, trustworthy, generous (he readily gave away his birthright to his brother), filial (he often went hunting and served his father Isaac with game, and his father loved him). Jacob was just the opposite — crafty and selfish, an opportunist who took advantage of others. By his acts, Jacob was intolerable. But God insistently said, “Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.” This is God's purpose in election — not of works but of Him who calls. Therefore, we cannot look at man's works alone because God does not look at the appearance but at the heart.

You might wonder, “Does God choose those who are crafty and selfish? Does God like the craftier ones? If that is the case, why should I be so honest?” Brothers and sisters, you are absolutely wrong to think it that way. God doesn't like men to be crafty and selfish. God chose Jacob, who was of despicable behavior, to manifest His purpose in election — not of works but of Him who calls.

After God chose Jacob, His hand came heavily upon him, to continuously break and mold him. In the end, the selfish and crafty Jacob was transformed into a gentle and humble Israel. How can we not marvel at God's work? God chose Jacob, who was hard to deal with, to let people know that He is the Almighty God. He has the power to save a person like Jacob and transform him into a new man. Finally the wretched Jacob became the honorable Israel. When Jacob was at a ripe old age, his life had become mature, abundant and honorable. When he went down to Egypt he was like a refugee planning to receive alms from Pharaoh. But when Joseph presented him before Pharaoh, the Bible says, “Jacob blessed Pharaoh... So Jacob blessed Pharaoh, and went out from before Pharaoh” (Gen. 47:7,10).

Why was Jacob able to bless Pharaoh? It was simply because God had chosen him. God gave him the name Israel — the king ordained by

God to rule for Him on earth. This was God's election. His unsearchable wisdom was manifested on Jacob.

Since God's purpose in election is not by works, we should not recognize an apostle by his works. In the beginning, I failed to acknowledge Sis. Kong as the chosen maidservant of God because I judged her by her former conduct. I thought to myself, "How can such a woman, an ex-film star, who was married and divorced twice, who had led a sinful life, be worthy of being a maidservant of God? How could she possibly be the vessel of the era raised up by God? (Sigh!) Why did God have to raise up a spiritual leader from the movie circles? I really can't understand this!" But I thank God for being merciful to me. One day He enlightened me on Romans 9:10–13 — God's choice is based on His call, not on what a person has done.

Sis. Kong had indeed led a wretched life, but the great power of the full gospel of Jesus Christ — Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit — saved her and transformed her into a holy, righteous, and faithful maidservant of God. I recall our meeting with Sis. Kong when God sent her to Taipei, Taiwan on Dec 7, 1965. We were all awed by a kind of indescribable godly majesty and divine authority in her. Anyone standing before her would feel ashamed of himself. She was a woman, yet when she stood up to speak on behalf of God, she was bold and strong. During the gospel campaign in Kuala Lumpur, some gangsters rushed into the venue armed with charmed needles (a kind of sorcery). Puffing a cigarette, the leader had one hand on his hip and another pointing at Sis. Kong, and shouted, "Come down! We want to talk to you." The maidservant of God was not affected at all. On the contrary, she became even bolder. In a loud voice, she commanded them in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to stop smoking and sit down. Very wonderfully, those young gangsters who had been hostile and fierce stopped smoking and sat down quietly to listen to the sermon.

Brothers and sisters, this is definitely not what a woman can do. It is because God was with her, and the authority of the Holy Spirit was manifested through her. O what a holy and courageous maidservant of God! She was faithful and had no regard for her own life! Who could

have been more courageous, faithful, and holy than she? When she was very ill and could no longer move her right hand, she continued the literary work with her left hand. When she was unable to sit up to write, she lay down to continue writing. She often lost consciousness due to the agonizing pain in her cancerous tongue. But the moment she regained consciousness, she would immediately resume writing. As long as she lived, she never stopped writing. Though she had been called to rest in the Lord, her testimony speaks to us even to this day. It is no wonder that some people were filled with the Holy Spirit when they stood before her tomb in Hong Kong. For beneath the tomb was God's faithful maidservant who was like a grain of wheat that had fallen into the earth and died.

Ever since she was called to serve God, she used every breath of her life for the will of God. She toiled, strived, and was faithful to preach the truth of God until death. She is the model example which God has set for us and for all nations in these last days. Through God's choice on her, men will know God's purpose in election — not of works but of Him who calls.

2. Not of Him Who Wills, nor of Him Who Runs, but of God Who Shows Mercy

The word *wills* means *resolves*, and *runs* means *strives diligently*. The ministry of an apostle is not something men can gain by human will or effort. Men will start to make resolutions when they begin to understand things. Some will resolve to be scientists, some philosophers, some politicians, and some militarists, while others want to be teachers, pastors, and so forth. Once they are set in their ambitions, they will strive for the goal. Such aspiration and striving might work for earthly matters but not for spiritual matters. No one can become an apostle just because he says, "I resolve to be an apostle and I will strive for this goal." The ministry of an apostle is given by God according to His predestination. All men's effort in striving for this ministry will be in vain.

Sis. Kong had a co-worker, Chou, who wanted to be an apostle. When Sis. Kong was critically ill, he thought he would be the one to succeed her ministry as head apostle. During the worldwide co-workers' meeting on July 21, 1966, the truth on apostleship was preached, and three apostles were revealed by the Holy Spirit. Who was to know Chou was not among the three apostles. Realizing that his spiritual ambition could no longer be achieved, he left the New Testament Church in anger and set up his own sect. He turned apostate when he failed to achieve his ambition to be an apostle. Is this not a repetition of the story of the archangel who rebelled against God?

God's maidservant Sis. Kong had never resolved to be an apostle. She was brought up in an idol-worshiping family without even the faintest knowledge of Jesus Christ. She never dreamt that one day she would become a Christian, a preacher, and be called to the ministry of an apostle. Evidently, God's purpose in election is not *of him who wills*, nor *of him who runs*, but *of God who shows mercy*.

I also, grew up in a village dominated by idols. In my house, there were idols of all shapes and sizes. My mother even offered me to an idol in a temple to be its adopted son. The thought of accepting Jesus Christ as my Savior never even crossed my mind, let alone becoming a preacher someday. But God was merciful to me. He delivered me from the powers of the world, sins, and idols. He also chose me to serve Him. Above all, He has given me the ministry of an apostle, convincing me even more of His words: "...of God who shows mercy."

The apostle Paul also said, "But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood" (Gal. 1:15-16). An apostle is *chosen* even before the creation of the world and is *set apart* from his mother's womb. He is *revealed* by the Spirit when the fullness of God's appointed time comes. It does not matter whether the apostle himself or others think he is worthy. He is chosen by God Himself and is called according to the promise of life which is in Christ Jesus. As it is written: "For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on

whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.’ So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, ‘Even for this very purpose I have raised you up, that I might show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.’ Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills...” (Rom. 9:15–18).

Some think that certain pastors, theologians, or evangelists truly love the Lord with pure hearts, because they devote their lives and money to the Lord’s sacred work. They presume if others are not apostles, at least these people are. And if others are apostles, then these people deserve even more to be apostles. This is the presumption of the natural man. God’s purpose in election does not depend on man’s will or effort but on God Himself, so no flesh and blood should boast before God.

If God chooses you to be a pastor, you will not be an apostle or a prophet no matter how hard you strive to be one. All saints should have absolute faith in God’s choice and stand according to God’s arrangement in their respective positions. When all the saints serve God faithfully in the position for which they are called, and love and care for one another, the body of Christ will grow and build itself up in love.

Since it does not depend on human will or effort, does it mean that we do not have to strive at all? No, what it means here is that we should not resolve to gain a position which God does not give us. But we should be faithful in the position which God arranges for us. In other words, do not strive for a spiritual position and office according to your liking. Before God, we have only one resolution — to live a godly life in Christ Jesus (see 2 Tim. 3:12) and to please Him. As the apostle Paul had said, “I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13–14).

3. Not of Age

According to man's concepts, the anointed one of God must be male, senior, and experienced. But that is not the case. Everything depends on God's predestination and election, not on gender or age.

* **Little Jacob**

God said to Rebecca, "The older shall serve **the younger**" (Rom. 9: 12). Apparently, God chose young Jacob over his elder brother, Esau.

* **Little David**

*Now the LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have **provided** Myself a king among his sons." ... So it was, when they came, that he looked on Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before Him!" But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart..." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet **the youngest**, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him **in the midst of his brothers**; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.*

(1 Sam. 16:1,6-7,11-13)

God clearly said that He would anoint a king among the sons of Jesse. "The sons of Jesse," should include David. But why didn't Jesse call for David, his youngest son, instead sending him to tend the sheep? Jesse thought that a king should be someone older and experienced.

Since David was the youngest, he didn't think David would be chosen. This is a common attitude of man: despising the young. Men don't think God will choose the young. However, God anointed David king in the midst of all his elder brothers.

In another incident, when David wanted to challenge Goliath, Saul told him, "You are not able to go against this Philistine to fight with him; for you are a **youth**, and he a man of war from his youth" (1 Sam. 17:33). Saul felt that David was a youth, no match for Goliath, an experienced warrior. "And when the Philistine [Goliath] looked about and saw David, he disdained him; for he was only a **youth**, ruddy and good-looking... When the Philistine arose and came and drew near to meet David, that David hurried and ran toward the army to meet the Philistine. Then David put his hand in his bag and took out a stone; and he slung it and struck the Philistine in his forehead, so that the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell on his face to the earth" (1 Sam. 17: 42, 48 – 49).

This was done by little David — he slung a stone and it sank into Goliath's forehead. The huge man fell dead on the spot. This Philistine warrior, a fierce giant, perished at the hands of little David! Who, then, dares to despise little ones? Brothers and sisters, David defeated Goliath because he was the chosen vessel of God. The Spirit of God helped him win an overwhelming victory. Therefore, it is not of age but of the choice of God.

* **Solomon**

God chose Solomon to succeed David as king in the same way. "Furthermore King David said to all the assembly: 'My son Solomon, **whom alone God has chosen, is young and inexperienced**; and the work is great, because the temple is not for man but for the LORD God'" (1 Chron. 29:1). Although Solomon was young and inexperienced, God chose him and entrusted him with a difficult mission — the great work of building the temple of the LORD.

* **Paul**

Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord." So the Lord said to him, "Arise, and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight." ... And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose, and was baptized. So when he had received food, he was strengthened.

(Acts 9:10–12,17–19)

God sent Ananias to lay hands on Paul to baptize him with the Holy Spirit. Ananias was converted much earlier than Paul and was even used by the Lord to lead Paul to the church. But this did not make him more senior than Paul in ministry. No one can brag of his experience and say, "I received salvation nearly a decade earlier than you. I am your senior, so you must listen to me."

Once Sis. Kong said, "It doesn't depend on how long you have found grace, but on how much grace you have found." If you are not chosen by God, what difference does how long you have found grace make? You may claim, "I am the one who guided you to the New Testament Church." But such claims are useless because God's election does not depend on how long one has obtained grace. No one can disagree with the choice of God.

4. Not of Gender

In these last days, God has raised up a great prophetess, Sis. Kong Duen Yee in the East, and entrusted her with the great work of rebuilding the New Testament Church. Many "spiritual men" stumbled

because of God's choice on Sis. Kong. That's because they judged Sis. Kong by their own criteria. To them, a spiritual leader should be male and rich in spiritual experiences. They also feel that one must have believed in God for many years in order to have rich spiritual experiences. Since Sis. Kong was not only a new convert, but also a woman, they did not believe she could possibly be the leader raised by God.

I used to have such a concept, too. When I was certain that Lee of the Christian Assembly had been forsaken by God, I separated myself from the Christian Assembly. I thought that old Bro. Sparks of England should be the spiritual leader raised up by God because he was a man, well-versed in the Bible, and very experienced. But he was advanced in age and his days on earth would not be long. I thought again that God might raise up one from among the top brothers in the Christian Assembly. It had never crossed my mind that God would choose Sis. Kong. When I heard about Sis. Kong and came across a book written by her, I lost no time to inquire about her background. The moment I learned she was a movie actress who had accepted the Lord only seven years ago, I thought to myself: "She is too green! I have been a preacher for more than a decade, and all that time, she was not even a believer. How could she be the spiritual leader raised up by God in these last days? It is hard for me to accept that God would choose a woman to be the spiritual leader! Are all the men in the world so incompetent that God has to choose a woman?" Little did I know that this was a new thing done by God in these last days, that a woman shall encompass a man (see Jer. 31:22).

During the time of the Judges, God raised up Deborah to be the leader to deliver the Israelites. Anyone who could not submit to her would not be saved. For the purpose of God's election always stands — not of gender nor of age.

Thanks be to the Lord who chooses according to His will. He chose His maidservant Sis. Kong, changed her, used her, confirmed her, and He was responsible for her ministry. He used her (who was lowly and weak) to preach forth the holy and powerful complete truth and the

inspiration of the Holy Spirit rebuilding the New Testament Church. God's children can now serve Him according to His highest will. God's choice on Sis. Kong reveals the exceeding wisdom and work of God who makes the arrogant speechless and retreat in utter shame!

5. Not of Earthly Knowledge, Power, or Experience

In this pragmatic world, things like education, fame, status, and power have become the criteria by which men are weighed. These things have become the ladder to promotion. But in the spiritual world, God's choice on man is not based on these things at all. He chooses vessels after His heart according to His own will.

From biblical examples, we can see God did not solely choose men of great learning like Moses and Paul, but also the unlearned like Peter, a fisherman from Galilee. The Bible says, "And **Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians**, and was mighty in words and deeds" (Acts 7:22). "Festus said with a loud voice, '**Paul**, you are beside yourself! **Much learning** is driving you mad'" (Acts 26:24).

Despite being a man of much learning, Paul did not rely on this earthly knowledge to serve God. He said to the churches in Galatia, "But I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ" (Gal. 1:11–12).

Paul spoke to the saints at Corinth, "These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual" (1 Cor. 2:13). "However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages..." (1 Cor. 2:6–7). "For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen

the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence” (1 Cor. 1:26–29).

The **wisest** king in history was **King Solomon**. During his reign over Israel, he dared not boast of his own wisdom nor did he depend on his own ability and talent. He said in all humility, “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding” (Prov. 9:10).

Peter was an unlearned Galilean fisherman in the eyes of men. But God chose him and made him a well-known apostle. On the Day of Pentecost, together with the other eleven apostles, Peter stood up to preach the first sermon in the Age of the Holy Spirit. He spoke with spirit and wisdom, and was full of divine authority. He preached, healed the sick, and cast out demons. Peter’s authority was so great that all men feared him (see Acts 2:43) and revered the God who had chosen him.

And in these last days God had also chosen Sis. Kong Duen Yee who had neither earthly learning nor spiritual experience. Men might have despised her, but God always led her to triumph in Christ, and through her spread everywhere the fragrance of His knowledge. To those who are perishing, she is the aroma of death to death, and to those who are being saved, she is the aroma of life to life. And who is sufficient for these things? (See 2 Cor. 2:14–16.) She had all this power because of God’s choice on her.

Now God has chosen me, His lowly servant, and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade to succeed Sis. Kong’s ministry. Many people also do not recognize us according to God’s purpose in election. But thanks be to God, who has chosen me and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. He commends our ministry to the saints’ conscience and makes it known to all nations with all surpassing means.

We cannot help bowing our heads in worship of God, and say, “O God, how surpassing is Your purpose of election! It is certainly not of

works, but of God who calls; not of male or female, young or old, but of the choice of God. For God does not see as man sees; for man looks at appearances, but the Lord looks at the heart. Let all men honor the chosen vessel of God.”

Choice of God

It's not by the works of man, but by the choice of the Lord.

The first system of music features a treble clef with a key signature of two flats and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The bass line is a simple accompaniment of chords and single notes.

It's not of gen-der nor of age, but of the e - lec - tion of God.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The bass line ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

God does not look at ap - pear - ance but looks at the heart of man.

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The bass line ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

The ves - sel whom God has cho - sen, you should re - spect and hon - or.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final double bar line and repeat sign in the bass line.

2 | The Apostle Has the Blueprint for Building the Church

Blueprint for Construction — The Pattern Shown on the Mountain by God

Both the tabernacle and the temple in the Old Testament era signify the church in the New Testament era. The construction of the tabernacle and the temple also signify the building of the church. All construction starts with the blueprint. The blueprint of the tabernacle and of the temple came from God. It was the pattern God showed on the mountain. (See Exod. 26:30.) Every part of the construction and everything in it was clearly revealed by God Himself. (Such as the mercy seat, the furniture, the holy garments, the ephod, and the coats for the tabernacle; the treasures of the house of God, the treasures of the dedicated things, the divisions of the priests and the Levites, the cherubim, and the weight of gold and silver for all utensils for every kind of service in the temple; the church and its foundation and composition.) God gave clear instructions on every item. He left nothing to the creativity of man. In this project, there was nothing man could do to interfere. Man's ideas, concepts, and viewpoints were completely out of place.

Concerning this matter, the apostle Paul explained: "...Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise. ... Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are children of promise. But, as he who was born according to the flesh then persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, even so it is now. Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? 'Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman.' So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free" (Gal. 4:22–23, 28–31).

Ishmael was born of Abraham according to the flesh. Since he was not from God, God would not acknowledge him. In the end he was driven out. Isaac was born through promise and not according to the flesh (he was born to Abraham when Abraham was well advanced in age, and Sarah was past the age of childbearing) (see Gen. 17:15–19). Therefore, Isaac received the inheritance. Through this story of Abraham, God tells us that the construction of the tabernacle, the temple, or the church is entirely by revelation from God. It is not out of man's ideas. No human efforts or methods work. If anyone attempts to build the church according to his own way, he will be driven out by God like Ishmael and Hagar were. Only the work done according to His promise and by God's revelation will be acceptable to Him. In short, the church should be built exactly **according to the pattern God has shown on the mountain**. Not the slightest human idea or concept should come in.

The Pattern is Shown to the Vessel of the Era

The pattern is shown by God. Whom does God show it to? Everyone says, "We must build according to God's will (instruction)." But where is the will of God? Many claim that they have the revelation of God. But whose revelation is the true one from God? Whoever wishes to have a part in building the church must pay serious attention to this matter. From the Bible, we learn that not everyone can have the pattern shown on the mountain. Only the special vessel chosen by God will have it. Both the pattern of the tabernacle and the temple in the Old Testament era and the law (the truth) of building the church in the New Testament era are revealed to the vessel of the era. Hence only the vessel of the era has the blueprint for construction.

1. The Blueprint of the Tabernacle was Shown to Moses

He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of

Israel.

(Ps. 103:7)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying... "And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it."

(Exod. 25:1, 8–9)

And see to it that you make them according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain.

(Exod. 25:40)

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting. You shall put in it the ark of the Testimony, and partition off the ark with the veil"... And it came to pass in the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was raised up. So Moses raised up the tabernacle, fastened its sockets, set up its boards, put in its bars, and raised up its pillars. And he spread out the tent over the tabernacle and put the covering of the tent on top of it, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

(Exod. 40:1–3, 17–19)

These passages clearly indicate that the pattern of the tabernacle was only revealed to Moses. Only the pattern presented by Moses was the pattern shown on the mountain by God. And only this pattern could be taken as the standard for the construction. Apart from this pattern, there was no other alternative on which the construction could be based. No one could change this pattern, be it the measurements, materials, or shape. Was it too autocratic to only follow the pattern presented by Moses? There were many other prophets in the house of Israel. Would God not show the pattern to them also? Was there no one else besides

Moses who knew the pattern shown on the mountain? Exactly! The pattern was shown to Moses alone. Though Aaron was Moses' elder brother and Miriam was his elder sister, God did not show the pattern to them. Miriam once protested, "Has the LORD indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" (Num. 12:2). The Lord heard it and was very displeased. He caused leprosy to come upon Miriam and shut her out of the camp for seven days. Even Joshua, though he was Moses' aide and had gone up the mountain with him, was not shown by God the pattern of the tabernacle. (See Exod. 24:13.) Therefore, if the people wanted to build the tabernacle, they had to do so **according to the pattern God had shown Moses.**

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: "See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship . . . And I, indeed I, have appointed with him Aholiab the son of Ahisamach of the tribe of Dan; and I have put wisdom in the hearts of all the gifted artisans, that they may make all that I have commanded you: the tabernacle of meeting, the ark of the Testimony and the mercy seat that is on it, and all the furniture of the tabernacle . . . according to all that I have commanded you they shall do."

(Exod. 31:1–4, 6–7, 11)

This is the inventory of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the Testimony, which was counted according to the commandment of Moses, for the service of the Levites, by the hand of Ithamar, son of Aaron the priest. Bezalel . . . made all that the LORD had commanded Moses. And with him was Aholiab the son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan.

(Exod. 38:21–23)

[Bezalel] made the holy garments for Aaron, as the LORD had commanded Moses. He made the ephod . . . as the LORD had com-

manded Moses. And they set ... memorial stones for the sons of Israel, **as the LORD had commanded Moses.** And he made the breastplate ... **as the LORD had commanded Moses.** He made the robe of ephod ... **as the LORD had commanded Moses.** They made tunics ... **as the LORD had commanded Moses.** Then they made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold ... **as the LORD had commanded Moses.**

(Exod. 39:1–2, 5–8, 21–22, 26–27, 29–31)

Thus [according to the pattern the LORD had commanded Moses] all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished. And the children of Israel did **according to all that the LORD had commanded Moses;** so they did.

(Exod. 39:32)

According to all that the LORD had commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did all the work. Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; **as the LORD had commanded,** just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them.

(Exod. 39:42–43)

Thus Moses did; according to all that the LORD had commanded him, so he did... Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

(Exod. 40:16, 34–35)

The children of Israel did all the work of the tabernacle **according to all that the LORD had commanded Moses** (according to the pattern shown on the mountain). Only then, the construction of the tabernacle was according to God's will. Hence when the tabernacle was erected, the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. This was a sign of God's pleasure. If the Israelites had not built **according to all that God**

had commanded Moses, the construction would not have been God's tabernacle, but man's. God would not have acknowledged it, nor would His glory have filled it. As we can see, it is important to build according to the instructions of the vessel of the era, for the pattern is shown only to him.

2. The Blueprint of the Temple was Shown to David

Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the vestibule, its houses, its treasuries, its upper chambers, its inner chambers, and the place of the mercy seat; and the plans for all that he had by the Spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, of all the chambers all around, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries for the dedicated things; also for the division of the priests and the Levites, for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the articles of service in the house of the LORD. He gave gold by weight for things of gold, for all articles used in every kind of service; also silver for all articles of silver by weight, for all articles used in every kind of service: the weight for the lampstands of gold, and their lamps of gold, by weight for each lampstand and its lamps; for the lampstands of silver by weight, for the lampstand and its lamps, according to the use of each lampstand. And by weight he gave gold for the tables of the showbread, for each table, and silver for the tables of silver; also pure gold for the forks, the basins, the pitchers of pure gold, and the golden bowls — he gave gold by weight for every bowl; and for the silver bowls, silver by weight for every bowl; and refined gold by weight for the altar of incense, and for the construction of the chariot, that is, the gold cherubim that spread their wings and overshadowed the ark of the covenant of the LORD. “All this,” said David, “the LORD made me understand in writing, by His hand upon me, all the works of these plans.” And David said to his son Solomon, “Be strong and of good courage, and do it; do not fear nor be dismayed, for the LORD God

— my God — will be with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you, until you have finished all the work for the service of the house of the LORD.”

(1 Chron. 28:11–20)

Now Solomon began to build the house of the LORD at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to his father David, at the place that **David had prepared** on the threshing floor of Oman the Jebusite.

(2 Chron. 3:1)

So all the work that Solomon had done for the house of the LORD was finished; and Solomon brought in all the things which his father David had dedicated: the silver and the gold and all the furnishings. And he put them in the treasuries of the house of God.

(2 Chron. 5:1)

... the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.

(2 Chron. 5:13–14)

The construction of the temple was like that of the tabernacle. It was built by God’s revelation, completely free from human ideas. God showed the pattern of the temple to no one except David. He made David understand all the details of the plan by the writing from His hand. David in turn, instructed Solomon. So the blueprint of the tabernacle and the temple was not shown to all God’s children. There is a **specific recipient for this revelation: the vessel of the era**. David instructed Solomon according to his revelation — the pattern of the temple revealed by God. He also prepared the building materials for his son. Solomon then began to build the temple in the place where David had shown him, and with the materials that David had prepared for him and according to the pattern that David had instructed him. From the day

the foundation of the temple was laid until its completion, all the work was done **according to the pattern that David had given him**. Solomon dared not deviate from the plan of David not only in building the temple itself, but also in appointing the various divisions of workers who ministered in the temple. When all the work of construction and service were done according to what God had commanded David, a cloud (the glory of the LORD) filled the temple. And the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud!

3. The Blueprint of the Church is Revealed to the Apostle

The tabernacle and the temple in the Old Testament era were built according to the pattern shown by God. Similarly, the church in the New Testament era is built according to the law revealed by God. In the Old Testament era, God only showed Moses and David the patterns of the tabernacle and the temple respectively. In the New Testament era, God reveals the truth (the law) of building the church only to His holy apostle. So the apostle has this **unique sign which is absent in other ministers — he has the blueprint for building the church**. Other than the apostle, no one else has the revelation (the truth) of building the church.

Foundation of the Church

The foundation of the church — Jesus Christ — is revealed to the apostle.

According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder, I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

(1 Cor. 3:10–11)

... and that Rock was Christ.

(1 Cor. 10:4)

He [Jesus] said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not **revealed** this to you, but **My Father who is in heaven**. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

(Matt. 16:15–18)

If indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets.

(Eph. 3:2–5)

From these passages of the Bible, we see that the foundation of the church is Jesus Christ. This is generally accepted by Christians. Every denomination claims that Jesus Christ is its foundation. Regrettably, their claim is baseless. Only the New Testament Church is truly built on this foundation — Jesus Christ.

Our knowledge of **Christ** came **by revelation**. Not everyone knows Him by this way. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, some said that He was John the Baptist, others Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets. They were not completely wrong, but such recognition of Christ came from the understanding of the mind, not from enlightenment. It was the same Jesus, but everyone came up with a different answer as to who He was. Only Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." At once, the Lord Jesus praised him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the

gates of Hades shall not prevail against it” (Matt. 16:16–18).

This Son of Man is the mystery of godliness. Without revelation from the Father, no man can know Christ. Peter knew Him because the Father who is in heaven revealed Him to Peter. So Peter knew Christ **from revelation**. The church is built on this Rock — the Christ from revelation, not the “Christ of the mind”. There will be no foundation of the church without knowing the Christ from revelation. Why was Peter enlightened by the Father? **It was because he was the chosen apostle**. Someone who is not an apostle will not be given the revelation about Christ, and thus he will not understand the mystery of Christ. Just as it is written: “[The mystery of Christ] was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been **revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets**” (Eph. 3:5).

There is a great confusion in Christianity today. The reason is Christians’ understanding about Christ is not revealed by the Father in heaven, but by flesh and blood. Every Christian serves fervently according to his incomplete recognition of the truth. This has resulted in the formation of countless disunited and divided denominations. For example, some feel that justification by faith is of utmost importance. So they form the “Lutheran Church,” after Martin Luther who started the Reformation in the 16th century and preached on **justification by faith**. To others, “believe and **be baptized** and you shall be saved” is very important, so they form the “Baptist Church.” Some discover the importance of elders in church administration. So they set up the “Presbyterian Church” (“Presbyters” means elders). All of them are taking one part of the truth for the whole, like the blind men touching different parts of the elephant and each telling a different story. As a result, about two thousand denominations have been formed, such as the Methodist Church, the Holy Church, the Wesley Church, the Church of the Mustard Seed, Jacob Hall, Church of St. Luke, the Gospel Hall, the Christian Assembly, Church of Pentecost, the Assembly of God, the Evangelical Mission, etc. Every denomination or sect is exalting a fragment of the truth that it understands, taking it for the whole truth of the Bible. Why is this so? It is because there are no apostles among

them.

In these last days God had chosen Sis. Kong Duen Yee and made known to her the mystery of Christ by revelation. Through her, the truth and the law of building the church preached by the early apostles were once again expounded. The Scriptures would not have been expounded in this era if Sis. Kong had not been raised up. For example, the Scripture tells about two kinds of prayers — prayer in the spirit and prayer in understanding, as well as two kinds of singing — singing in the spirit and singing in understanding. (See 1 Cor. 14:14 –15.) We had read these Bible verses many times but were not enlightened until Sis. Kong expounded it. Also, it is written: “And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one” (1 John 5:8). We had read this portion of the Scripture and even memorized it, yet we had no understanding. These mysteries were not revealed until Sis. Kong was raised up. Many other aspects of the truth pertaining to ***the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church*** had also been restored through Sis. Kong. But none of the celebrated evangelists or great spiritual men could ever expound these aspects of the truth. This proves that Sis. Kong was the apostle whom God had chosen in these last days.

Many people acknowledge the existence of apostles in the Bible and wish to abide by their teachings. But they say, “We are abiding by the teachings of the apostles in the Bible. Since the apostles’ teachings are already written in the Bible, we don’t need an apostle today.” How ignorant of them to say that. The Bible that God inspired the apostles to write can only be expounded by the present-day apostles appointed by God. In the past, the mystery of the truth was made known to the apostles, who recorded it. Today, there must also be the ministry of apostle to expound the mystery. For generations, many people had studied the Bible and ceaselessly researched on it, but they still failed to understand the mystery of the truth. For this is not a matter of effort, but ***ministry***. If God has not given a person the ministry of apostle, he will never understand the mystery of Christ. He can only research, but he will never receive understanding. The understanding of a person

increases according to the extent of God's entrustment on him.

In the Old Testament, God gave the judges enough power to deliver His people from their oppressors, but He did not give them the revelation for building the temple. The law of building the temple was only revealed to David when he was raised up. And only under the leading of David were God's children united, and God's kingdom (signifying the kingdom of Christ) established on earth. David's ministry was different from that of the judges. Similarly, the ministry of God's maidservant Sis. Kong differs from that of other servants of God.

God had appointed Sis. Kong to be the apostle, and entrusted her with the mystery of the truth. By revelation, He made known the Scriptures to her. So the complete truth was preached by her. We admit that there were many faithful servants of God before Sis. Kong was raised up. But since they were not apostles, they could not understand the mystery in the Bible that had been hidden for ages.

God also raised up many workers to co-work with Sis. Kong for the great work of revival in these last days. But none of these spiritual ministers were given revelations as abundant as hers. This is because she was the apostle and spiritual leader. It is like how no one knew the pattern of the tabernacle besides Moses and that of the temple besides David.

Thanks be to the Lord for His grace has come upon me, His lowly servant. He revealed my ministry as an apostle in 1968. Bro. Victor Pi and Bro. Caleb Kuang were also revealed some time later. Over the recent years, God has also opened to us many mysteries of the truth from both the Old and New Testaments. He made us preach many precious epochal messages such as:

The Testimony of Tongue Utterance, The Gracious Word of 9.24, The Watchmen of Jerusalem, Restoration of the Church's Unity in the Last Days, One-chief Leadership, The God of Heaven shall Destroy the Kingdoms of Men, The Kingdoms of the World shall Become the Kingdoms of Our Lord and His Christ, Overthrow Babylon, Destroy Edom, The Man and the Mountain Chosen of God, All Nations Flow

to Zion, Raise the Ensign to All the Nations, The Gospel of God's Sovereignty, Latter-day Elijah, Purge the Leaven of Herod, ... etc.

During the global Youth Convention held in Tanshui, Taiwan in 1977, God wonderfully used the heavenly fire to confirm my ministry. At dawn on Dec. 21, 1978, while we were having the morning prayer meeting on Mount Zion, God's power came upon me mightily. My whole body and my palms radiated flashes of dazzling light like the brilliance of the sun. The glory of God also filled the entire congregation like flashes of lightning. (This glory was not seen by naked eyes but was captured on video which is available on request.) Everyone marveled at God's doing. For this reason, we honor more than ever the ministry (apostleship) that we receive from the Lord.

Content of Jesus Christ

Jesus Christ — Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit — is revealed by God to the apostle.

This is He who came by water and blood — Jesus Christ; not only by water, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who bears witness, because the Spirit is truth. For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.

(1 John 5:6–8)

The **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit** is the complete testimony which God has testified for His Son. Hence this “three-as-one” testimony of **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit**, is the content of Jesus Christ. And the content of Christ is only revealed to the apostle. Therefore unless there is an apostle, the mystery of the complete truth — Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit — can never be expounded.

Some denominations claim to have apostles, but the facts don't back up their claim. If they have apostles, they would have known the

complete truth. However, none of the denominations (which include the modernists, fundamentalists, and pentacostalists) know it. The **modernists** profess belief in Jesus, but they only consider Him a perfect man, utterly denying His divinity. They even disbelieve the most fundamental truth of “remission of sins by the blood”.

Though the **fundamentalists** believe in the precious blood, some of them are not water baptized according to the Scriptures. (Instead of being fully immersed, they are merely sprinkled with water.) And some who have received the baptism by immersion refuse to receive the promised Holy Spirit.

The **Christian Assembly** believes in the precious blood and accepts water baptism by immersion. They also preach about the Holy Spirit, but they have not received the promised Holy Spirit. Since they do not begin with the Holy Spirit, they do not sing and pray with the spirit, nor can they have the enlightenment of the Holy Spirit. They preach on “church building,” but they do not have the vision of “Christ and the Church,” much less its reality.

The **pentacostalists** receive the Spirit baptism and begin with the Spirit, but they do not walk in the Spirit. They stop at the elementary stage of the Spirit witness. They refuse to deal with their flesh and the world, nor do they seek to be grounded in the truth. They do not know that the Lord baptizes the believers with the Holy Spirit for the purpose of building up the church — testimony of unity. As 1 Cor. 12:13 says, “For by one Spirit we [all members] were all baptized into one body...” Since the pentacostalists refuse to deal with sins and pursue further into the truth, they are not built up into one body under the leading of the apostle, even though they have received the Spirit baptism.

There is another category of people who have received the Lord’s precious blood, the Spirit baptism, and the water baptism by immersion. They can be considered having received the complete truth. However, each of them walks in his own way and does not submit to the leading of the apostles. They refuse to be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets but insist on having their **own ways** and **constructions**. They are puffed up with pride.

Looking over the above-mentioned conditions of the denominations, we can say that none of them is in conformity with the biblical standard. They are merely deceiving themselves as well as others in claiming that they have apostles in their midst. I repeat, apostles are sent by God to preach the complete truth, build the church, and testify to the unity of the body of Christ. Some preachers sound very spiritual, saying: "We never force anyone to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We certainly respect the freedom of others. We will not stop anyone from receiving the Spirit baptism, nor will we force anyone to receive it." This is a downright deception of Satan. These arrogant people are not faithful to the truth nor do they fear God. They are unaware that man is duty-bound to absolutely obey the truth. No one can accept or refuse it at will. Is the truth (will) of God optional? No. Their "freedom" is indeed outrageous!

Those who are faithful in preaching the word of God will not speak equivocally to deceive people. As far as God's word is concerned, Yes is Yes, and No is No; it is not Yes and No. (See 2 Cor. 1:18.) Christians should receive the Spirit baptism because it is the teaching of the Bible and the commandment of the Lord. Man has no choice at all. The attitude of saying, "If people are not willing, we will not force them," is apathetic and compromising. It is certainly displeasing to God. Those who say these things prove that they are not apostles.

When the apostle Paul was in Ephesus, he asked some believers, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" This indicates Paul's faithfulness to God and his concern (love) for God's children. Since he was an apostle, he had to preach the truth in its fullness. The New Testament Church is doing the same today. We often ask those who come in to our midst: "Have you received the Holy Spirit?" "Have you given yourself to the apostles?" We are not trying to elevate ourselves by asking them these questions. We are only being mindful of God's heart and faithful to the Lord's trust. Since God has chosen us as His apostles and entrusted us with the complete truth, we must be faithful to make the truth fully known, so that people may receive it completely.

Master Builder

The foundation of the church is laid by God through the apostle, the master builder.

The apostle Paul said, “According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise **master builder** I have **laid the foundation**, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 3:10–11). “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone” (Eph. 2:19–20).

Most of God’s children know that the foundation of the church is Jesus Christ. But how is this foundation laid? Many do not know. The Bible tells us that God laid this foundation through the apostle who is the master builder. This foundation is not laid by anyone else. Ephesians 2 states that the church is built on **the foundation of the apostles and prophets**. Once someone who did not understand this asked me, “The foundation of the church is Christ. Why do you say it is the apostles and the prophets?” He thought I was making the apostles and prophets the foundation. I told him, “No, you have misunderstood. I did not say that the apostles and prophets **are the foundation**. I said, **the foundation of** the apostles and prophets. There is a great difference between ‘are the foundation’ and ‘the foundation of.’ For example, ‘I **am** a book’ is different from ‘this book **of** mine’. ‘I **am** a book’ means I myself am a book; ‘this book **of** mine’ means this book belongs to me. Similarly, when I say that the church is built on **the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, I mean that this Christ who **is the foundation** is revealed to the apostles and prophets, and is preached by the apostles and prophets.” The revelation of Christ and the responsibility to preach it belongs to the apostles and prophets. Apart from the apostles and prophets, no one can understand the mystery of Christ nor preach it in its fullness.

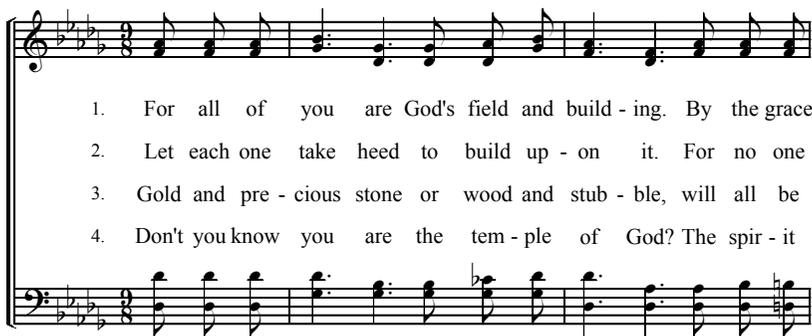
For more than a thousand years after the apostles of the early church

had died martyrs, God did not raise up any apostle. So the complete truth fell into oblivion and the church came under the heretic Roman Catholic Church and the Greek Orthodox Church. Thus the chastity of the church was defiled. Erroneous preaching of the truth continued, and the Protestant Church split into sects and denominations. The body of Christ disintegrated, and the unity of the church ruined.

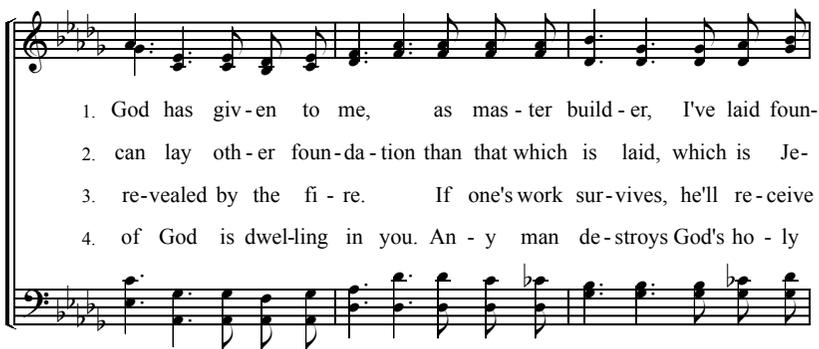
Thanks be to God, for in this last era He has raised up His maid-servant, Sis. Kong Duen Yee, from the East. He revealed her ministry as an apostle and entrusted her with the preaching of the complete truth — Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit, as well as the epochal truth from revelation — 7.21 the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church. Through her, the foundation of the church was *once again laid*, and the complete truth that was lost for more than a thousand years was restored! She had brought about the greatest and most glorious revival of the last days! May the Lord be gracious to us. Let us understand that the church is built on Christ — the Rock, the complete truth of **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit** — revealed by the Father. In other words, the church is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets.

May God also let us have a true recognition of the apostles whom He has appointed, so that we may submit to their leading and be deeply rooted in the glorious New Testament Church, that we may receive the inheritance among those who are sanctified.

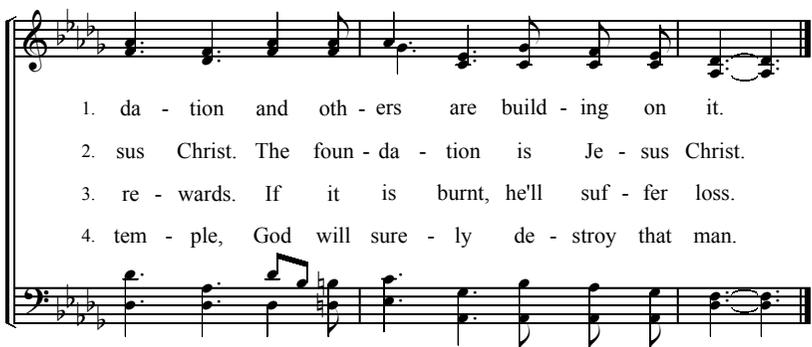
Master Builder Laid the Foundation



1. For all of you are God's field and build - ing. By the grace
 2. Let each one take heed to build up - on it. For no one
 3. Gold and pre - cious stone or wood and stub - ble, will all be
 4. Don't you know you are the tem - ple of God? The spir - it



1. God has giv - en to me, as mas - ter build - er, I've laid foun -
 2. can lay oth - er foun - da - tion than that which is laid, which is Je -
 3. re - vealed by the fi - re. If one's work sur - vives, he'll re - ceive
 4. of God is dwell - ing in you. An - y man de - stroys God's ho - ly



1. da - tion and oth - ers are build - ing on it.
 2. sus Christ. The foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ.
 3. re - wards. If it is burnt, he'll suf - fer loss.
 4. tem - ple, God will sure - ly de - stroy that man.

3 | **The Apostle Has Spiritual Authority**

Spiritual Authority

And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

(Matt. 10:1)

Now some are puffed up, as though I were not coming to you. But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord wills, and I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power. For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power. What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?

(1 Cor. 4:18–21)

God chooses the apostles, entrusts them with the ministry, and also gives them the authority to carry out their mission. With God-given authority, the apostles deal with the enemies and protect God's sheep. Therefore, spiritual authority is also an important sign of an apostle.

The authority of apostles is given by God. Whoever opposes the apostles is opposing God, and he will end up facing the awesome power of God. Paul had a rod. This rod stands for the heavenly authority. To those who abide by the teachings of the apostles, this rod is their protection and assurance. But to those who do not abide by the apostles' teachings, this rod means punishment. The power of the truth will come against anyone who opposes the truth preached by the apostles. He will not pass his days in peace. In some serious cases, he might even die. How awesome! Therefore, this authority is an assurance to the apostles when they undertake their ministry. God gives the apostles

this authority to build the church and also to deal with His enemies.

In the Church of Corinth there were some people who were puffed up and despised the sound gospel preached by Paul. Filled with divine wrath, Paul said he would go with a rod to punish those arrogant people who refused to repent. Before Paul came to Corinth, those arrogant people disguised themselves as apostles and deceived the simple-minded believers with their flattering words. Paul, the true apostle said he was going to them with a rod and he wanted to see where was their power. Those false apostles would then be exposed and would no longer continue in their deceit.

Paul also said, “For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance” (1 Thess. 1:5). He also said, “In the day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my [apostle Paul’s] gospel” (Rom. 2:16). The gospel preached by Paul is really powerful, for it brings all the unrighteous to God’s judgment. Anyone can imitate words and sermons but not the Holy Spirit and power.

Elymas, the sorcerer, opposed the apostles, trying to turn the proconsul away from the faith. Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, “O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.” And immediately a dark mist fell on Elymas, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand. (See Acts 13:8–11.) In another incident, a certain slave girl possessed with the spirit of divination followed Paul and cried out, saying, “These men are the servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to us the way of salvation.” And this she did for many days. But Paul, greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And he came out that very hour. (See Acts 16:16–18.) What an awe-inspiring power!

The apostle Peter also had such authority. It is written, “But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession.

And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, 'Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself? While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.' Then Ananias, hearing these words, fell down and breathed his last. So great fear came upon all those who heard these things. And the young men arose and wrapped him up, carried him out, and buried him. Now it was about three hours later when his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. And Peter answered her, 'Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?' She said, 'Yes, for so much.' Then Peter said to her, 'How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Look, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out.' Then immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. And the young men came in and found her dead, and carrying her out, buried her by her husband" (Acts 5:1–10).

All the above stories illustrate manifestations of the spiritual authority of the apostles.

Moses was the vessel of the era appointed by God to build the tabernacle. He symbolized the chief of the apostles who builds the church in the New Testament times. When the LORD God sent him to speak to Pharaoh and the Israelites, He also gave him a sign, which was the **rod** in his hand. This rod was the rod of God (see Exod. 4:20), for it was used to display the authority of God. No one could afford to offend Moses. Whoever offended Moses would be smitten by this rod. Pharaoh was stubborn. He opposed Moses time and again. Therefore, God's rod came upon him time and again. Miriam became leprous after she slandered Moses. The earth opened its mouth and swallowed up Korah and his company when they gathered themselves together against Moses. (See Exod. 5–11; Num. 12:1–10; 16:1–35.) All these proved that Moses was sent by God and he had the authority of God.

Thanks be to the Lord. In these last days, God had chosen Sis.

Kong Duen Yee in the East to be His apostle. The spiritual authority given to her was also very evident. Some people asked us, “How do you know that Sis. Kong is the apostle chosen by God?” We answered, “It’s very simple. You don’t have to ask us. Every one of you can test her apostleship with your own life. If anyone can still live in peace and joy when he opposes her and slanders the truth she preaches, then Sis. Kong is not the apostle. On the contrary, if he becomes gloomy and depressed, loses God’s presence, and is filled with darkness, fear, hopelessness, and death, then it proves that Sis. Kong is the apostle ordained by God.” Learning to know the true apostle is a very bitter lesson. There were many events which showed how the wrath of God was kindled against those who opposed the truth preached by Sis. Kong and slandered her ministry. When God’s rod of punishment came heavily upon them, they could not but acknowledge that she was the maidservant of God, the apostle of Christ.

Many brothers and sisters and even some co-workers have had this experience: when they *offended the apostle* of God, they would become spiritually weak. Their spiritual eyes would grow dim and their work would be fruitless. A person will inevitably fail in his deeds due to his tender spiritual life. But in the eyes of God, this failure is not as serious as having conflicts and disagreements with the apostle or spiritual ministers sent by Him. It is a very grave offense to *go against the way God works* and *violate His administration*.

In the denominations, nothing will happen to the members if they disobey their leader or fight with their president. This is because their leader and president are not sent by God nor do they have His authority. The members are of the flesh, and so is the leader. Both parties do their own will, not God’s. But this is not the case in the New Testament Church where the Holy Spirit rules. Here, there are apostles and spiritual ministers appointed by God. If you disagree with the spiritual ministers, you are kicking against the goads. God’s rod of punishment will be upon you and you will know that violating the administration of God is a grave offense. All the manifestations of this authority are signs of the apostles.

The Authority of the Apostle is Constructive

*Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to **the authority which the Lord has given me for edification** and not for destruction.*

(2 Cor. 13:10)

*For even if I should boast somewhat more about our authority, which the Lord gave us **for edification** and not for your destruction, I shall not be ashamed.*

(2 Cor. 10:8)

The authority given to the apostles is for edifying the saints and building the church. This authority is **constructive**, and is certainly not for oppressing or destroying others. At times the apostles may be filled with divine wrath and use the rod of punishment, but this does not mean that the apostles are oppressing God's children. Rather, they are dealing with the things which prevent God's children from doing His will. This authority helps keep God's children from perversion. It is their assurance and, therefore, constructive. It is like a shepherd's staff which is protection to the sheep but death to the wolves (the predators). In both aspects it is constructive. It is absolutely wrong to think that only protecting the sheep is constructive but killing the wolves is not. If the ravenous wolves are not killed, the sheep will not be safe. Therefore, killing the wolves is another action of protecting the flock. Killing the wolves is "eliminating the bad" and protecting the flock is "safeguarding the good."

The best way to **safeguard the good** is to first **eliminate the bad**. The ministry of the apostle is set for **eliminating the bad and safeguarding the good**. The authority which God gives to the apostles is for this very purpose. Be it **eliminating the bad** or **safeguarding the good**, they are both constructive. The spiritual authority of the apostles is to protect the saints who love God with a pure heart. On the other hand, it is to attack man-made denominations, heresies, evil religions, and

idols which harm the saints. When the works of the devil Satan are destroyed, the saints will be established in God's will and their spiritual lives will grow speedily. And so, the authority of the apostles is constructive in all respects.

IV

Giving Oneself to the Apostles

- 1. The Importance of
Giving Oneself to the Apostle**
- 2. The Manifestations of
Giving Oneself to the Apostle**
- 3. Observing the Apostles' Teachings**
- 4. Teachings of the Apostle
and Teachings of the Anointing**
- 5. Coordination of Spiritual Ministers —
One-Chief Leadership
and Congregational Coordination**
- 6. Your Attitude Towards the Vessel of the Era**
- 7. Come to the Vessel of the Era**

Since the rebuilding of the New Testament Church twenty years ago, many Christians have been greatly revived and returned to the New Testament Church after receiving the full truth preached by the apostles. However, some of them left the church after a short while. Why did they leave despite having tasted the heavenly gift? It is because they did not know the ministry of the apostles nor did they give themselves to them.

In these last days, the Spirit of God has not only restored the full truth, but the spiritual ministers as well. God's children do not only have to receive the full truth, but also give themselves to the apostles. If one merely receives the truth of the New Testament Church, but is ignorant of submitting to the apostles' leading, he is not permanently established in the New Testament Church. Until now, doing this aspect of the truth — giving oneself to the apostles — has been a very important lesson and a great hurdle for everyone.

1 | The Importance of Giving Oneself to the Apostle

And this they did, not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God.

(2 Cor. 8:5)

This portion of the Scripture clearly indicates that it is God's will for us to not only give ourselves to the Lord, but also to the apostles. This is the restoration of an epochal truth. According to the traditional concept, Christians only need to give themselves to God. Many feel that God is the only One we can give ourselves to. Only He is worthy of our offering. It is right that we give ourselves to God. Yet 2 Corinthians 8:5 states, "... they first gave themselves to the Lord, and

then to us [the apostles].”

Perhaps some people will think: “Apostles are men, how can we give ourselves to them? If we give ourselves to them, are we not exalting them as gods?” Certainly not! In fact, giving oneself to the apostles is the practical way of giving oneself to God; giving oneself to the apostles is offering oneself to God. God accepts man’s offering through the apostles whom He has appointed in the church.

Giving Oneself to the Apostles is the Way to Unite with God

1. To Unite with God, One Must Unite with the Apostles

That which was from the beginning, which we [apostles] have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life — the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us — that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

(1 John 1:1–3)

Many who regard themselves as spiritual say: “We want to have direct fellowship with God, and receive words from Him directly, and be united with Him directly...” But how do the saints unite with God? How do they receive the words from Him? They do not know. The apostle John showed us a very clear and definite way. It is a very wonderful chain-relationship:

God \longleftrightarrow **Apostles** \longleftrightarrow **Church(Saints)**

This chain-relationship shows us a practical way to unite with God. Actually, the word of *God* (the word of life that is from the beginning)

is preached by **the apostles to the church**. When the church has received the word of life preached by the apostles, she has fellowship (is united) with the apostles, who have fellowship with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, in order to receive the words of God and unite with Him, saints must receive the truth preached by the apostles and unite with the apostles. If anyone wants to have fellowship with God but refuse to accept the truth preached by the apostles and have fellowship with them, he is talking nonsense. He will be like someone who wants to switch on the fan: instead of putting the plug in the socket, he fancies the idea of connecting the plug directly to the power station. That will be an ignorant act. All those who try to “skip rank” (bypass the apostles to unite with God) will never succeed in their union with God.

2. **Giving Oneself to the Present-day Apostles** (To Unite with the Present-day Apostles)

Giving oneself to the apostles is the only way to unite with God. Whoever wants to unite with God must recognize the **present-day apostles** set up by God, and unite with them. The Lord Jesus said, “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.” (Matt. 22:32). The Lord Jesus clearly presented Himself as the God of the present, not of the past. He is the God who walks vividly in the midst of His church, not merely the God written in the Scripture. Apart from this, He also stated that He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (He is the God of Abraham during Abraham’s era, the God of Isaac during Isaac’s era, and the God of Jacob during Jacob’s era). This means that **He is the God of the vessel of the era**. In the Old Testament era, He was the God of our forefathers: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and so on (the vessels of their eras). Similarly in the New Testament era, He is also the God of the apostles, Peter, Paul, John, and so on (the vessels of their eras).

In every era God chooses a vessel of the era to be His representative. God’s destined will for every era is preached through

the vessel of the era whom He has appointed. God's epochal works among His children are initiated by the vessel of the era. God's power in the nations is manifested through him, and God's blessings are also conveyed to men by him. In every generation, God's children who want to understand the epochal will of God, serve according to His will, and unite with Him, **must recognize that God is the God of the vessel of the era.** They must unite with the vessel of the era and be of the same vision, mission, and footsteps with him in order to serve his God. In this way, the God of the vessel of the era will be their God.

If God's children do not recognize that God is the God of the vessel of the era (present-day apostle), and do not submit to his leading, they will not meet God, even if they spend all their life trying to serve God. All their ministrations and constructions will be nothing more than the works of wood, hay, and stubble, without any everlasting value. In these last days, God wants His children to know that He is the God of the vessel of the present era.

God raised up His maidservant, Sis. Kong Duen Yee, in this last generation to continue the ministry of the apostles of the early church. After Sis. Kong was received by the Lord, God appointed me, His lowly servant, to succeed her ministry. All God's children should know that God is the God of their fathers, the God of the apostle Paul, the God of Kong Duen Yee and the God of Elijah Hong. When we say that God is the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Peter, and Paul, every one will say "Amen". But when we say that God is the God of Kong Duen Yee and of Elijah Hong, many people will no longer say "Amen". Why? It is because they only believe in the vessels of the past eras (who are recorded in the Bible) but not in the vessel of the present eras (whom they see today). Satan's wile is to make man believe only the olden-day vessels of God, but not the present-day vessel. God's children must carefully guard against this wile of the devil Satan.

Some people say, "I greatly respect Peter and Paul, the apostles in the Bible. I only need to submit to their leading!" Such claim is a downright error, highly impractical and groundless. In short, whoever wants to satisfy God with his ministrations, let him know that God is the God

of the present, and the God of the vessel of the era. He shall submit to the present-day apostles and be closely united with them.

Giving Oneself to the Apostles is the Way to Be Established in the Body of Christ

God wants men to believe in the Lord Jesus and accept the complete truth. He also wants them to be established into the church, for what He wants to gain is the testimony of the church (the body of Christ). The Bible states, “[The church] is His [Christ’s] body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all” (Eph. 1:23). “For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power” (Col. 2:9 – 10). Therefore, if the saints want to find grace and blessings, they need to be in Christ, that is, to be in the body of Christ (the church).

Regrettably, many Christians today have the misconception that once they believe in Jesus Christ, they are spontaneously established in the church. This is wrong. For the Bible says, “You also, as **living stones**, are being built up a **spiritual house**” (1 Pet. 2:5). Here it mentions “living stones,” “spiritual house,” and “being built up.” Evidently, for the living stones to be built into a spiritual house (the church), they must undergo a process of construction. Otherwise, they will remain as pieces of living stones (building materials).

As we know, building materials (steel bars, cement, gravel, sand, timber, etc.) are not houses. Building materials have to be built up to become a house. Otherwise, they will remain as building materials. Therefore, saints (living stones) must be built up into a spiritual house.

How are the saints built into a spiritual house? Ephesians 2:19 – 22 says, “Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built **on the foundation of the apostles and prophets**, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in

whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.” It is clear that to become a spiritual house, the saints must be built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. Therefore, the saints must submit to the leading of the apostles.

The Bible also states, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets... for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:11–12). Whoever wants to be built into the body of Christ and have a share in the testimony of unity, needs to give himself to the apostles. If anyone refuses to give himself to the apostles, he will not be equipped by the apostles and other ministers. Without being equipped, how can the saints be built up? It is very wrong to think that church will appear just by gathering the saints together. If the saints are not built, they will not become a church (the spiritual house in which the Holy Spirit dwells). For instance: No matter how big a pile of good quality building materials may be stacked, if they are not built up, they will remain a heap of building materials, and never become a house.

When I was in Singapore, a group of foreign professors from a certain theological college invited us (a few co-workers) over for fellowship. When we talked about the testimony of unity, these professors claimed that since they had received the complete truth, they were already part of the church. We told them, “Receiving the complete truth will only make you a living stone. This living stone has to be built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets to become a spiritual house — the church. Otherwise, you will remain a living stone which is yet to become *part of the spiritual house*.” Stupefied, the professors asked, “Do you mean that we are just pieces of building material?” We replied, “Exactly, you are just pieces of building material because you have not been built up.”

Construction always needs builders (the apostles and other ministers appointed by God). The saints must accept the equipping of the builders to be built into a spiritual house, in order to display the testimony of unity. So your building into the church depends on your submission to the apostles’ leading. If you have not given yourself to the

apostles, you are definitely not part of the church but are merely building materials. In Christianity today there are countless denominations that are not led by the apostles. No matter how large their congregation is, they are merely a big heap of materials and not the spiritual house God wants to have. Hence, God still cannot dwell in their midst in the Holy Spirit.

I came to understand the truth of “giving oneself to the apostle” only after a decade of much effort. The Christian Assembly and the Sparks’ group kept saying, “The flow of the Holy Spirit has been flowing continuously ever since the Day of Pentecost. The church is in the flow of the Holy Spirit. All our fellowships, testimonies and works are carried out in this flow of the Holy Spirit!” But if you were to ask them, “How do you live in the flow of the Holy Spirit? How do you live in the body of Christ? Where is the body which I can practically live in? Where is the flow of the Holy Spirit so that I can move along in it?” They cannot give you a reply! They can give you theories and principles, but not the way to tread on. They preach the knowledge of the mind, not their experiences in life.

By God’s mercy, He has made known to us this glorious truth on “Apostleship.” He shows us a **practical way to the testimony of unity — living in the body of Christ, that is, to submit to the leading of the apostles.** After we submit to the apostles’ leading, we no longer have our own “thrones.” We put away our seniority complexes acquired in the Christian Assembly over the past few decades, as well as Sparks’ doctrines, men’s ideas and traditions. Then we could truly integrate ourselves in the main flow of the Holy Spirit. Thus the testimony of unity appears. This testimony of unity does not depend on the number of people, nor on the art in delivering sermons, but on whether everything is initiated by the apostles. If an assembly is initiated and confirmed by the apostles, it will be remembered by God. And there, the body of Christ will appear. On the contrary, if an assembly is not started by the apostles or if the congregation does not submit to them, God will not remember the service. No matter how large its congregation, or how excellent its sermons may be, it remains an individual

construction, a man-made denomination. It is not in the body of Christ. Therefore, after the saints have received the complete truth of **Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit**, they shall give themselves to the apostles. Only in this way can they be built into the church in accordance with God's heart.

Giving Oneself to the Apostles is the Way to Preserve One's Life

Christians in general have the concept that they must come to the Lord to preserve their lives. True enough, the Lord Jesus is the stronghold of our lives, but such recognition is incomplete and unpractical. God wants His children to have a more concrete recognition: **the way to preserve life is to come to the vessel of the era**. Such recognition is a divine and surpassing concept, based on an extremely sacred and a spiritual principle, a biblical truth. Now we shall use an example in the Old Testament to illustrate this truth.

*And of every living thing of all flesh you shall bring two of every sort **into the ark**, to **keep them alive with you [Noah]**; they shall be male and female. Of the birds after their kind, of animals after their kind, and of every creeping thing of the earth after its kind, two of every kind will **come to you to keep them alive**.*

(Gen. 6:19–20)

*Two by two they went into the ark to Noah, male and female, as God had commanded Noah . . . And they **went into the ark to Noah**, two by two, of all flesh in which is the breath of life. So those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in . . . So He destroyed all living things which were on the face of the ground: both man and cattle, creeping thing and bird of the air. They were destroyed from the earth. Only Noah and those who were with him in the ark remained*

alive.

(Gen. 7:9,15–16,23)

The Scripture clearly states, "... will come to you [Noah] to keep them alive." Another version states, "... shall come to **seek you** to keep them alive." In order to preserve life, all the living things on earth had to seek Noah (the vessel of the era). Only with him could life be preserved. This does not mean that Noah was the stronghold of the life of mankind. But rather, God who is the stronghold of all lives gave the living things a way to preserve their lives, that is, to enter the ark prepared by God. But where was the ark? And how was one to enter? God built the ark through Noah. If anyone wanted to enter the ark, he had to first **find Noah** (recognize the vessel of the era), and then **follow him** into the ark. That was the only way to enter the ark. If one had found Noah, and yet refused to obey his leading (refused to submit to the leading of the vessel of the era) then he could only see the ark but not enter it. Therefore, after you come, you still need to submit. Otherwise you will have no share in the riches of God's salvation. You will only see it but not enjoy it.

When the flood came, all living things on earth were destroyed. Only Noah and **those who were with him in the ark** remained alive. (See Gen. 7:23.) From here, we see an important spiritual principle: In order to survive tribulations, you must come to the vessel of the era and submit to his leading. Many Christians know that God is with the New Testament Church and that there are apostles in the church. But they refuse to put away their own ways of construction and come to His church. Some of them come but they refuse to submit to the apostles' leading. So they fail to find more grace. Instead, they gradually fall from grace. Therefore, giving oneself to the apostles is the only way to preserve life.

Though we often encounter hardships, persecutions, and battles, when we give ourselves to the apostles, the God who preserves life will be with us. No harm will befall us. What great assurance! In the past, when Saul was in hot pursuit of David, Ahimelech, the priest and

his family were killed because they had helped David. Only one of his sons, Abiathar escaped and fled to follow David. David said to him, “Stay with me; do not fear. For he who seeks my life seeks your life, **but with me you shall be safe**” (1 Sam. 22:23). David, who was being pursued by Saul, told Abiathar that he would be safe if he stayed with him. This unintelligible statement of David can only be understood by a spiritual man.

While David was wandering in the wilderness, many people came to join him, until he had a great army. (See 1 Chron. 12:22.) This group of people clearly knew that David was on the run and the situation was difficult and dangerous. Nevertheless, they knew that God had chosen David and He would help him. They believed that peace would be with David and with them who helped him. With such recognition, they came to join David fearlessly. (See 1 Chron. 12:18.)

In these last days, the Holy Spirit has rebuilt the glorious New Testament Church (the present-day ark) and chosen the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade (the present-day Noah) to undertake ministry in all the world. God wants to show this generation that the way to preserve life and to gain peace is with the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. Blessed are those who co-work with the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade and advance towards Zion! The Lord will keep us from the hour of trial, which shall come upon the whole world.

This is an insecure generation, filled with fear and turmoil. The Great Tribulation is at hand. Realizing that the times are evil, many people are starting to seek refuge. They are prepared to flee to the place which they think is the safest corner on earth. Here we would like to proclaim seriously to this generation: “The impending Great Tribulation is worldwide. There is nowhere man can escape to. Only by returning to the New Testament Church rebuilt by the Holy Spirit, submitting to the apostles’ leading, treading on the path of entering God’s kingdom (returning to Zion), can man escape the impending Great Tribulation. This is the only way by which lives can be preserved.”

Giving Oneself to the Apostles is the Only Way to Enter God's Kingdom

From the Israelites' coming out of Egypt and entering the land of Canaan, we can figure out the only way God has destined for His people to receive His redemption and enter His kingdom: to submit to the leading of the vessel of the era.

The Bible says, "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized **into Moses** in the cloud and in the sea" (1 Cor. 10:1–2).

Here, it is not stated "baptized into God" but "baptized into Moses". Do you find it strange? Actually, to submit to Moses is to submit to God. If you do not submit to Moses, you can never submit to God. So, **submitting to Moses is the way to submit to God**. Only after the Israelites had submitted to this vessel of the era could they come out of Egypt and enter the land of Canaan (signifying entering God's kingdom). Moses was the waymark and the guidepost to the Israelites throughout their entire journey to Canaan. Today, the apostle whom God has appointed in His church is also the waymark and the guidepost for God's children on their way into God's kingdom.

The apostle Paul said to the Church of Thessalonica, "As you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, that you would have a walk worthy of God who calls you **into His own kingdom** and glory" (1 Thess. 2:11–12). "Which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted **worthy of the kingdom of God**" (2 Thess. 1:5).

The apostle Peter also said, "Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure; for if you do these things you will never stumble; for so **an entrance** will be supplied to you abundantly **into the everlasting kingdom** of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 1:10–11). Therefore, whoever wants to enter God's kingdom, let him give himself to the apostles. Otherwise, he will never

have the way nor the direction. I repeat, submitting to the apostles is the only way to enter God's kingdom.

The Only Way to God's Kingdom

This is the way, this is the way, 'Tis the on-ly way to God's king-dom,

give our-selves to the Lord and the a-pos-tles. This is the on-ly way.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The first system contains the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system contains the next two lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Submit to Master Builder

Lord, I'll o - bey the mas - ter build - er, I will have a life tie

The first system of music features a treble and bass staff in 2/4 time. The melody in the treble staff begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords such as G2-B2-D3 and F2-A2-C3.

with him. He's the mas-ter-piece of Your hand, he re-pre-sents You to work on

The second system continues the melody with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The bass staff accompaniment includes chords like G2-B2-D3 and F2-A2-C3.

earth. If I leave him, I will have no way, for the will of God is made known thru

The third system features a more active melody with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff accompaniment includes chords like G2-B2-D3 and F2-A2-C3.

him. I'll de - ny my old self, go on this path of God's king - dom.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final cadence. The melody ends on a half note G4. The bass staff accompaniment includes chords like G2-B2-D3 and F2-A2-C3.

2 | The Manifestations of Giving Oneself to the Apostle

Care for the Apostles

*Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy — **meditate on these things.** These things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do and the God of peace will be with you. But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your **care for me** [Paul] has flourished again; though you surely **did care**, but you lacked opportunity.*

(Phil. 4:8–10)

*[We are comforted,] and not only by his [Titus'] coming, but also by the consolation with which he was comforted in you, when he told us of your **earnest desire**, your mourning, your zeal for me, so that I rejoiced even more.*

(2 Cor. 7:7)

God is pleased when the church cares for the apostles. This may puzzle many people. Why does the church not care for the Lord, but for the apostles? Is this not heresy? No, it is not. This is a biblical truth, a spiritual mystery. Take a look at the Church of Philippi: They **cared for the apostle** Paul, and **the God of peace was with them**. Why? It is because the apostles are God's representatives on earth. Those who care for the apostles care for God who sent the apostles, so the God of peace will be with them. Such care and concern is just like children care for their parents and vice versa. It is a natural manifestation in life.

The apostles are the ambassadors of the heavenly kingdom whom

God ordains on earth. They are also the parental ministers God appoints in the church. Hence, it is natural that the saints show concern for them. Such concern depicts the life-tie between the saints and the apostles — a life-tie that makes the saints enjoy more of God's presence and peace. After God revealed His maidservant Sis. Kong as an apostle, many brothers and sisters gained strength out of weakness once they showed concern for her. This is not a superstition, nor is it a deification of Sis. Kong. It is the result of the absolute faith of brothers and sisters in the God who chose Sis. Kong.

If one treasures and cares for the apostles sent by God, he will please God. If the spiritual condition of a church is normal and flourishing, the church will definitely care for the apostles. Therefore, by her "care" for the apostles, one can tell the spiritual condition of the church, just as a child's filial obedience can be judged by his care for his parents. If a church feels their apostles are dispensable and unimportant, her spiritual condition will be abnormal. Her attitude about the Lord's affairs will be sluggish and nonchalant, and she will surely be desolate. The churches in Philippi and Thessalonica obtained immense grace when they were caring for the apostles. They pleased the Lord greatly and brought much comfort to Paul. The spiritual condition of these two churches was normal and satisfactory to the Lord.

Remember the Apostles and Pray for Them

*Now I praise you, brethren, that you **remember me in all things.***
(1 Cor. 11:2)

*For you **remember**, brethren, **our labor and toil**; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God.*

(1 Thess. 2:9)

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and brought us

good news of your faith and love, and that you always have good **remembrance** of us, greatly desiring to see us, as we also to see you—therefore, brethren, in all our affliction and distress we were comforted concerning you by your faith... we rejoice for your sake before our God.

(1 Thess. 3:6–9)

You also **helping together in prayer for us**...

(2 Cor. 1:11)

... and (**pray**) **for me**, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

(Eph. 6:19–20)

Meanwhile **praying also for us**, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak.

(Col. 4:3–4)

Paul praised the Corinthians for remembering him in all things. Was Paul being carnal only to praise those who remembered him? No. Paul spoke all these solely for God. As an apostle, Paul brought the will of God to the saints. When the Corinthians remembered Paul, they were actually remembering the will of God, so they were able to walk on the path destined by God and build in conformity with God's will. Therefore, those who remember the apostles are commendable. God had these words written in the Bible in order to crush the concept of the natural man and to establish the humble. If the saints treasure the apostles appointed by God, they will naturally remember them in the spirit. They will also remember the sacred works entrusted to them, their commissioned footsteps, their condition, their afflictions and chains, etc.

One of the concrete manifestations of remembering the apostles is praying for them. The saints should pray often for the apostles, that God may open to them a door for the word to testify to all mankind (see Col. 4:3). They should also ask the Lord to help the apostles accomplish the sacred works entrusted to them and to raise up more faithful workers and stewards to offer up earnestly for these works. They should beseech the Lord to execute awesome judgment on the whole earth according to the proclamations of the apostles, smash the human kingdoms, cast out the prince of the world, make the way of Zion accessible, lead all nations back to Zion, and so on. In short, the saints should pray for all the burdens in the hearts of the apostles. This is a concrete manifestation of the saints' submission to the apostles and their remembrance of them.

Imitate the Apostles

Therefore I urge you, imitate me [apostle].

(1 Cor. 4:16)

Imitate me [apostle], just as I also imitate Christ.

(1 Cor. 11:1)

Brethren, join in following my [apostle's] example.

(Phil. 3:17)

And you became followers of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit.

(1 Thess. 1:6)

But you have followed my teaching, my conduct, and my purpose in life; you have observed my faith, my patience, my love, my endurance, my persecutions, and my sufferings.

(2 Tim. 3:10–11, TEV)

Christians in general know only they should imitate the Lord Jesus, but do not know they should also imitate the apostles. They feel that since the apostles are only human, that imitating them is tantamount to imitating man. They don't realize that imitating the apostles is a biblical teaching. The apostles are followers of Christ, so, following the apostles is following Christ (see 1 Thess. 1:6). Paul even said to the Church of Thessalonica, "You became followers of us and of the Lord." He put "followers of us" before "followers of the Lord." Was Paul being arrogant? Was he putting himself before the Lord? No. He was declaring the truth: The church has to follow the apostles before she can truly follow Christ. If she does not follow the apostles, she will never follow Christ.

Hence, ***following the apostles is the concrete manifestation and the way to follow Christ.*** If someone claims he is following the Lord but not the apostles, "his following" will not be acknowledged by the Lord. Many people do not understand this truth of imitating the apostles, and try to follow the Lord's example according to their own concept of godliness. Consequently, they fail to imitate the Lord and go against Him instead. In short, to imitate the Lord, we have to imitate the apostles, and follow all the good examples they have left for us.

Now let us look at some examples set by Paul. He once said, "We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things" (2 Cor. 6:3–10).

He also said, "According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now

also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death” (Phil. 1:20). Today’s English Version translates the last sentence as “**with my whole being I shall bring honor to Christ.**” This was Paul’s outlook on life and a good example he set for the saints. If the saints imitate the apostles with all their heart and all their strength, they will receive a prize from the Lord.

We Should Follow the Spiritual Leader

By faith, we fol-low the spir-it - ual lead - er, just as how he
has fol-lowed the Lord. Do re - mem-ber him, and his teach-ings,
con - duct, faith, love, pa-tience, pur-pose, suf - fring, en-dur-ance in per-se-cu-tions.
On - ly then we're a - ble to build the Bod-y, ful-ly dis-play the Church's
glo-rious u - ni - ty, ful-fill-ing the Lord's pray-ers in Geth-sem-a - ne.

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of six systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are placed between the vocal and piano lines. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody. The piece concludes with a final chord in the piano part.

3 Observing the Apostles' Teachings

Continue Steadfastly in the Apostles' Teachings

“Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you [apostles]; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.

(Matt. 28:20)

*Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they **continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

(Acts 2:41–42)

But you, beloved, remember the words which were spoken before by the apostles [apostles' doctrine] of our Lord Jesus Christ.

(Jude 17)

*Now I praise you, brethren, that you remember me in all things and **keep the traditions just as I delivered them to you.***

(1 Cor. 11:2)

*Finally then, brethren, we urge, and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should **abound more and more, just as you received from us** [apostles] how you ought to walk and to please God; for you know what commandments we gave you through the Lord Jesus.*

(1 Thess. 4:1–2)

*Therefore, brethren, stand fast and **hold** the traditions which you were taught, whether **by word or our** [apostles'] **epistle.***

(2 Thess. 2:15)

*Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me [Paul the apostle], in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, **keep** by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.*

(2 Tim. 1:13–14)

The above-mentioned Scriptures show us that observing the apostles' doctrine is a biblical truth. It was also an example set by the early church. Regrettably, this truth was not furthered after the deaths of the early apostles. It was not restored until God raised up Sis. Kong Duen Yee. However, when we preach this truth, telling the saints to continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine, many of God's children think that we are exalting man instead of Christ, and that we are obeying man instead of God.

Some people even say, "We will obey God, not man. We will exalt Christ, not man. And we will preach Jesus, not apostles." Their words show that they do not know **the way God works**. They do not know that observing the apostles' teaching was what the Lord commanded just before His ascension. The Lord wanted the apostles to teach God's children to keep His commandment. Observing the apostles' teaching is not at all obeying or exalting man. It is obeying the Lord's commandment and obeying His will.

The Church of Jerusalem observed the apostles' doctrine and devoted themselves to fellowship, to breaking of bread and to prayers. This shows that observing the apostles' doctrine is the concrete way to have fellowship in the body of Christ and to enjoy the riches of the body. If the saints want to advance in the body of Christ (in the flow of the Holy Spirit), they must continue steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine.

God has restored the ministry of apostles in these last days. The apostles and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade have preached many precious epochal messages, calling on God's children to accept the complete truth, so that they may come to the unity of the faith. Regrettably, most of God's children do not know the leading of the Holy

Spirit in the New Testament Church, and are unwilling to serve God according to the teachings of the present-day apostles. For this reason, they are weak, depressed, and languish in their spirits. Their conditions reflect God's warning for them. May all God's children observe the apostles' doctrine, advance swiftly in the flow of the Holy Spirit, and congregationally abide by God's will that they may gain His pleasure.

The Apostles' Teachings are the Lord's Commandments

*I want you to remember the words that were spoken long ago by the holy prophets, and the **command from the Lord and Savior which was given you by your apostles.***

(2 Pet. 3:2, TEV)

*For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received **the word of God which you heard from us**, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as **it is in truth, the word of God**, which also effectually works in you who believe.*

(1 Thess. 2:13)

*If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are **the commandments of the Lord.***

(1 Cor. 14:37)

*I rejoiced greatly that I have found some of your children walking in truth, as **we received commandment from the Father.***

(2 John 1:4)

The Scriptures clearly tell us that the words of the apostles are the words of God and the Lord's commandments. How can the saints refuse to obey the apostles' teachings since they are the Lord's

commandments? Many people who reject the apostles' teachings still sound high and mighty, saying, "I don't listen to man's words, only to God's!" Do these people truly reject the words of man and only accept the words of God? No, the facts prove the contrary. These people have simply stuffed their ears with the words of man, even the words of the devil. There is no way they will let God's words sink into their minds.

When the foxes among the ruins (false preachers) say, "Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not necessarily evidenced by speaking in tongues. The New Testament Church is a cult, and of the evil spirit. Denominations are also the church. The era of apostles is over; there were only twelve apostles. Sis. Kong is not an apostle..." and other such devilish nonsense, these Christians believe everything. But they have no appetite for the truth which we tell them in accordance with the Bible, such as: "Saints should receive the complete testimony of Blood, Water, and Holy Spirit. Baptism of the Holy Spirit must be evidenced by the speaking in tongues. In these last days, the Holy Spirit has rebuilt the New Testament Church. Christians should depart from the denominations which are man-made organizations, and return to the New Testament Church..." God has expounded the mysteries of the truth through His appointed apostles. These people do not listen to the apostles, yet they claim to listen to God. They are deceiving themselves and others!

Some Christians ask worriedly, "Do you mean that listening to the apostles is listening to God? Won't the apostles go wrong? What if they go wrong?" I had the same fear when I first met God's maidservant Sis. Kong. This fear hindered me from accepting her ministry, for I had always adopted an attitude of "listen not to man, but to God." I left the Christian Assembly because I found that it had become an organization of man's ideas. The Holy Spirit had no position in their midst, and I was not willing to follow men, nor be manipulated by men. But now, the truth of apostleship I preach is from revelation. God enlightened me to know that, if we follow a man chosen by God, we are not following man but the God who chooses the vessel. On the contrary, if we follow a person not chosen by God, we are following

man! So the only issue is the choice of God.

We admit the fact that vessels do have weaknesses. But the truth brought out by the vessel used by God is absolutely trustworthy. Even Moses had imperfections. His marrying a Cushite woman was his personal weakness. Nevertheless, the pattern of the tabernacle which God revealed through him was strictly accurate. We must trust the choice of God and believe that He will be fully responsible for His chosen vessel.

When Sis. Kong mentioned that each local church should put up the signboard of the church, I initially found it difficult to agree with this. I was worried that she might be wrong. I thought to myself, "I'm now forty years old. I might not have another forty years to waste. If I were to follow her on the wrong way, it would not be worth it." I said to the Lord, "O Lord! I don't want anything from man, only from You. I want the best and all that is found in the Bible." Sis. Kong said, "Even though the Bible doesn't mention putting up signboards, it doesn't state that you need not do so either. Since the leading of the Holy Spirit is this way today, we just have to follow and do it. Perhaps someday, we may be persecuted to an extent that we will not be able to put up signboards and may have to hold our meetings in caves. At that time, we will not have to put up any signboard. Today there are denominations everywhere. To let people distinguish the church from the denominations, the signboard is needed. Within the church, we have the actual testimony of the truth, but we must also have the consecrated testimony outwardly." Nevertheless, I still could not be at ease. The story of the old prophet deceiving the young man of God came to my mind. I said to the Lord, "O Lord! I don't want to be that young man of God! The Bible doesn't mention putting up the signboards. Is Sis. Kong trying to deceive me?"

Thanks be to the Lord. Later, through the help of a brother and Sis. Kong's prayer amid her afflictions, the Lord finally enlightened me. When I read the Acts of the Apostles, it dawned on me that God assumed full responsibility for all the works done by the apostles, and I was relieved.

I hope that all believers in the last days will know that God has

raised up His mouthpiece to preach His end-time will. The messages (the truth) preached by apostles by God's will are the words of God and the commandments of the Lord. He who has an ear, let him hear!

The Apostles' Teachings Are Not Man's Teachings

Once an elderly brother wrote to Sis. Kong: "We have the Holy Spirit to teach us, so we do not need man's teachings." This comment reveals his ignorance of the difference between the teachings of the Holy Spirit and the teachings of man. This brother often mistook his own concepts for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. But the truth which God preached through the apostles, he mistook for the teachings of man. Sis. Kong replied, "Yes! **We can ignore the teachings of man, but we must not despise the truth which the Holy Spirit preaches through His workers.**" For the Bible says, "Do not despise prophecies" (1 Thess. 5:20). Therefore, do not regard the truth which by God's will has been preached by the workers as the doctrines of man.

Many people make the same mistake. They take their own feelings for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, and the truth preached by God's workers for man's teachings. They are confounding right and wrong. If someone preaches by his own interest without God's entrustment (or the revelation of the Holy Spirit), he is indeed preaching the words of man. But the truth preached by the apostles appointed by God is the word of God, not of man. Therefore, the preaching of the apostles shall not be despised in any way.

How can we prove that the preaching of the apostles is the word of God? The truth will effectively work in those who believe, and produce the power of life. Just as Paul said to the Church of Thessalonica: "When you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe" (1 Thess. 2: 13). The truth preached by God's maidservant Sis. Kong carries the dynamic power of the Holy Spirit and works in those who believe.

This power becomes the aroma of life so that those who believe will gain life and be built up. To those who disbelieve, it is the aroma of death to death. With such power manifested, we know that the truth preached by Sis. Kong is the word of God, not of man.

Thanks be to God! He has also commended our ministry (and that of the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade) to the conscience of every saint. All who humbly accept our messages can testify in one accord, "The messages of today's apostles and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade are indeed powerful. These are the words of God, not of man."

One Must Hold Fast to the Verbal or Written Teachings of the Apostles

Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our epistle.

(2 Thess. 2:15)

Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

(2 Tim. 1:13)

Paul did not only preach by word of mouth, but also by epistles. Either way, his teachings were the words of God, the pattern of sound words. Therefore, Paul commanded the church to hold fast to the teachings he passed on to them, whether by word of mouth or by epistles.

Some Christians say, "We do everything according to the Bible. We follow that which is mentioned in the Bible and not what is not mentioned." They say this because they want to avoid observing the apostles' teachings. The Bible clearly states that the apostles' teachings shall be held fast, whether they are written in letters (the epistles of Paul recorded in the New Testament — Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, etc.) or preached by word of mouth (unrecorded).

It is evident that God's children shall not restrict themselves only to the teachings recorded in the Bible. They shall also observe the apostles' unrecorded teachings. If God's children were to say, "Let's only observe the teachings of the apostles which they wrote in the Bible. If the teaching has not been written in the Bible or is only verbal, we will not observe it," then they would be wrong. This is against biblical truth.

In the last days, by God's mercy, we, the lowly servants of God (Elijah Hong, Victor Pi and Caleb Kuang), have obtained mercy of God and have been called to be the apostles of Jesus Christ. Time and again, the Holy Spirit moves us to preach the epochal messages. We also regularly write open letters to all churches and saints worldwide. These messages and open letters are doctrines of the present-day apostles. Blessed are those who humbly accept and abide by these doctrines. Many churches and saints testify that they are greatly revived and spiritually strengthened after listening to our taped messages and reading our open letters. They gladly receive and faithfully abide by these teachings. They receive our teaching not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the word of God (see 2 Thess. 2:13). Hence, the presence of God and the glory of His power are with them. Great revival also come upon them. We thank God unceasingly for this. We hope that all God's children will find greater blessings with regard to this.

How Does God Treat Those Who Do Not Observe the Apostles' Teachings?

*But we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you **withdraw from** every brother who walks disorderly and not according to tradition which he received from us.*

(2 Thess. 3:6)

*And if anyone does not obey our word in this epistle, **note that person and do not keep company with him, that he may be***

ashamed. Yet do not count him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

(2 Thess. 3:14–16)

Disobeying the apostles' teachings is tantamount to **walking disorderly**. On a racetrack, athletes must not break any rule in competitions. No matter how fast a runner is, all his efforts will be in vain if he breaks a rule. It is the same on the spiritual racetrack: not only do we have to run fast and offer up as best we can, but we also have to avoid breaking rules.

Many dedicated Christians offer up everything including fasting and prayers. However, the more they fast, the more conceited and deceived they become. Why? It is because they do not walk according to the truth, nor do they observe the apostles' teachings. Since they do not *walk orderly*, all their works are futile no matter how much they labor. Moreover, they mislead people into leaving the body of Christ, the source of blessing. Therefore, Paul specially commanded the church, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, to take special note of the one who did not obey the apostles' doctrines and not to keep company with him, so that he might be ashamed. Nevertheless, Paul did not want the church to regard him as an enemy, but to admonish him as a brother. This means that apart from imparting the truth to him, there should not be association with him. It's clear that disobedience to the apostles' teachings will lead to shame.

Miriam enraged God when she disobeyed Moses' leading (Moses' teachings). She was stricken with leprosy and was shut out from the camp for seven days. How miserable and shameful! Therefore, God's children should beware of those who do not observe the apostles' teachings. We should not tolerate them with carnal affection. But rather keep away from them so that they may be ashamed and be awakened!

... Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck; of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they

may learn not to blaspheme.

(1 Tim. 1:19–20)

Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm. May the Lord repay him according to his works. You must beware of him, for he has greatly resisted our words.

(2 Tim. 4:14–15)

But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness. And their message will spread like cancer. Hymenaeus and Philetus are of this sort, who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

(2 Tim. 2:16–18)

This you know, that all those in Asia have turned away from me, among whom are Phygellus and Hermogenes.

(2 Tim. 1:15)

1 Timothy 1 mentions that some rejected their faith and a good conscience. They greatly opposed the apostles and their doctrines, and even tried to influence others. They said things attempting to overthrow the faith of others and cause the gospel to be obscure. They made Paul greatly suffer by adding affliction to his chains. They intended to destroy the work of God that had been built through Paul. They were truly the enemies of all righteousness. Let them be cursed! In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, Paul the apostle delivered them to Satan, that they might learn not to blaspheme.

In these last days, the apostles chosen by God have been commissioned to all the world. They are the messengers of the heavenly kingdom. If anyone does not respect, believe, and obey the apostles, the God who ordains and sends the apostles will intervene and let that person have a taste of His awesome power. Since the rebuilding of the New Testament Church twenty years ago, we have witnessed how those

who opposed Sis. Kong were judged and punished by God one after the other. Those who oppose us today will also fall into the hands of the living God. This is something most horrifying! May this generation be awakened. Do not remain obstinate and persist in opposing the apostles and their teachings, lest you be condemned by God to everlasting damnation!

Everybody Ought to Know

1. Ev'r - y bod - y ought to know, ev'r - y
2. Ev'r - y saint ought to re - ceive, ev'r - y
3. Put a - side our pre - ju - dice, pull down

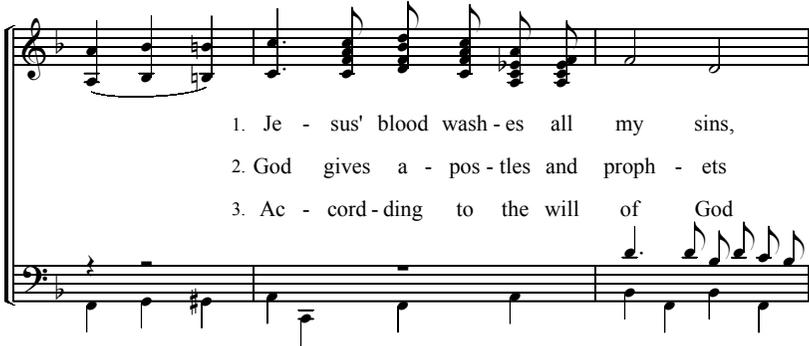
The first system of music features a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. A half note G4 is held across the first two measures of the second system. The bass line starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G2, A2, B2, and C3. A half note G2 is held across the first two measures of the second system.

1. bod - y should be - lieve, ev'r - y bod - y should re -
2. saint ought to o - bey, ev'r - y saint should hold fast
3. our own con - struc - tion, re - nounce all our own path -

The second system continues the melody from the first system. The treble clef part has a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. A half note G2 is held across the first two measures of the third system.

1. cieve Blood, Wa - ter, Sprit.
2. to 'pos - tles' teach - ing.
3. ways; join the main flow.

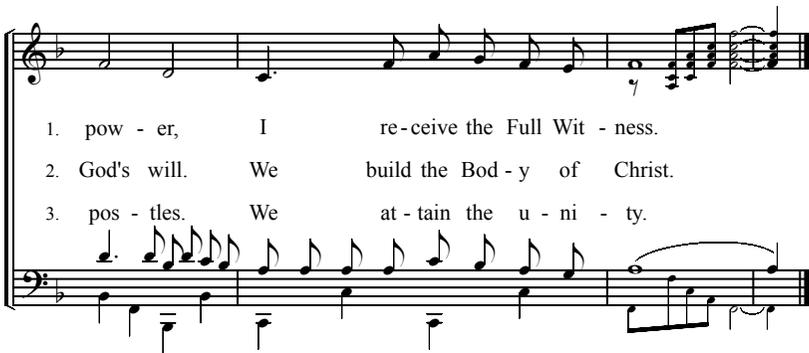
The third system continues the melody. The treble clef part has a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line has a half note G2, followed by quarter notes A2, B2, and C3. A half note G2 is held across the first two measures of the fourth system.



1. Je - sus' blood wash - es all my sins,
2. God gives a - pos - tles and proph - ets
3. Ac - cord - ding to the will of God



1. wa - ter the word cleans - es me. Spir - it fills me and gives
2. to make known the will of God, lead - ing all saints to do
3. we give our - selves to the Lord, and sub - mit to the a -



1. pow - er, I re - ceive the Full Wit - ness.
2. God's will. We build the Bod - y of Christ.
3. pos - tles. We at - tain the u - ni - ty.

4 | **Teachings of the Apostle and Teachings of the Anointing**

When we preach on “Apostles’ Teachings,” many think that we are exalting man and preaching heresy. They show us the Bible and question confidently, “It is clearly stated in 1 John 2:27: ‘But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you, and you do not need that anyone teach you, but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it [His anointing] has taught you, you will abide in Him.’ Why do you want people to observe the teachings of the apostles when they already have the teachings of the anointing? Is it not enough that we abide in the Lord by the teaching of the anointing?”

What they say sound reasonable. In fact, they don’t really know what the teaching of the anointing is. They think that man’s teachings are unnecessary since the anointing can teach them all things. But we want to ask, “If the teaching of the anointing is enough and we don’t need the teachings of man, why does God set up so many spiritual ministers in the church?” As it is written, “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Eph. 4:11–12).

Are these spiritual ministers necessary? Why do the denominations still hire pastors and preachers? If it’s enough to abide in the Lord according to the teaching of the anointing, why should the pastors and teachers preach at all? Why should the saints attend services and listen to sermons? Shouldn’t the so-called evangelists and pastors shut their mouths? If not, wouldn’t they be speaking in place of the anointing? Evidently, those who make such comments, have misunderstood this phrase, “You do not need that anyone teach you.” They have considered the apostles ordinary men.

It is true that we need not and should not heed the teachings of

man. However, apostles are no ordinary men. They are the spiritual ministers God sets up in the church to teach and perfect the saints. Mark this phrase: “the anointing teaches you concerning all things” so that we will not go astray. Now, let us see what is the teaching of the anointing.

The Role of the Anointing

1. Showing the saints who are the antichrists

*Little children, it is the last hour; and as you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come . . . They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would have continued with us; but they went out that they might be made manifest, that none of them were of us. But you have an **anointing** from the Holy One, and you know all things . . . Therefore, let that abide in you which you heard from the beginning [**apostles’ teachings** — 1 John 1:1–3] . . . you also will abide in the Sn. . .*

(1 John 2:18–24)

The Lord’s anointing will tell us who are the antichrists and who do not belong to the apostles. In other words, the anointing teaches the saints to discern the true and the false apostles, as well as the antichrists. Many people like to use 1 John 2:27 to express the importance of the teachings of the anointing. They even say that this is the first verse in the Bible that mentions the anointing. We want to tell them that the first verse, which mentions the anointing, is verse 20, not verse 27. In order to have a better understanding of the role of the anointing, we have to start reading from 1 John 2:18–24. This passage of the Scripture mentions a group of people who went out from the apostles and would not continue with them. They were those who did not belong to the apostles and were the antichrists. In conclusion, the anointing which

we receive from the Lord will teach us concerning all these things — the things pertaining to recognizing the true and false prophets and the antichrists. The anointing will not teach us to reject the apostles' teachings, but will help us to have a surer recognition of the true apostles, and hold fast to their teachings. This anointing will also show us that those who leave the apostles and are not like-minded with them are the antichrists. To guard ourselves against them, we need to have a closer tie with the apostles.

2. Helping the saints to keep the apostles' teachings

That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.

(2 Tim. 1:14)

Paul charged the saints to keep, by the Holy Spirit who dwelt in them, the good thing (apostles' teachings) which he had committed to them. Was Paul being presumptuous, exalting himself above the Holy Spirit? Was he considering himself greater than the Holy Spirit by asking the saints to keep his teachings with the help of the Holy Spirit? It is not surprising if anyone thinks so. For this admonition of Paul goes against the traditional concept of Christians. Christians always think that saints should keep the teachings of the Holy Spirit (anointing), not of the apostles. But the Scripture says that Paul's (apostle's) teachings are to be kept by the help of the Holy Spirit. Was Paul greater than the Holy Spirit? No. Paul was not greater than the Holy Spirit. Rather, the anointing in Paul was greater than the anointing in the saints. Because Paul was an apostle, the revelation he received from the anointing was great. Saints could only understand and keep this revelation with the help of the Holy Spirit. In other words, ***the apostles' teachings are the teachings of the anointing in the apostles***. Hence, the teachings of the anointing in the saints help the saints to understand the teachings of the apostles, and to keep them.

The Scope of the Teachings of the Anointing

1. The anointing teaches all things within a scope.

The Bible says, “The anointing teaches you concerning *all things*.” This “all things” is not all-inclusive. It refers to all the things within the scope of an individual’s activity. But things that are outside the scope of an individual’s activity, that is, things which he does not need to know, will not be taught by the anointing. The anointing and teachings in the individual saints will definitely not exceed the apostles’ teachings. Unfortunately, most of God’s children do not have an accurate understanding of this “all things.” As a result, they deviate from the truth and even fall victim to Satan’s deception.

Once, a certain brother received good news from his younger brother that his sister-in-law was three months pregnant. According to the so-called “anointing” in him which taught him *all things*, he immediately told his younger brother, “The Holy Spirit has moved me to inform you that your wife will give birth to a baby girl. You shall give her the name X X X.” He did that because he wanted his brother to know that Jesus Christ whom he believed is the true God and he himself was a prophet. After he mailed the letter, he passed his days in anxiety and fear. He prayed anxiously everyday: “O Lord! Please answer my prayer concerning this matter! No matter what, let my words come true, lest Your name be disgraced!” As the day of delivery drew nearer, his heart grew heavier. Finally, the day came and the child was born. His brother sent him a letter which he was too nervous to open. After much prayer, he plucked up courage to read it. The letter said, “Dear brother, I must render thanks and praises to the Lord for what He has given us far exceeds our expectation and petition. Your sister-in-law has given birth to a baby boy on (a certain date). Both mother and child are fine.” This brother was so embarrassed, it was almost impossible for him to live on.

Could the teachings of the anointing be wrong? No! This brother was wrong! He had taken his own feelings for the teachings of the

anointing. He thought that since the anointing teaches *all* things, He would teach him and let him know whether his sister-in-law would deliver a baby boy or girl. He went beyond the scope of the teachings of the anointing and acted according to his own pleasures. Today many people are making the same mistake as this brother. They take their own feelings and preferences for the teachings of the anointing, and fall victim to Satan's deception. There is no problem with the anointing, but the recipient who does not have a pure and simple mind. The failure of this brother is a good lesson to us.

When the anointing teaches us in all things, there is a limited scope for this "all things". Some people crave for riches and seek the anointing for a lottery number that will win them the grand prize. Some are busybodies, always sticking their noses into others' business. So they ask the anointing: "Is the woman next door going to deliver a boy or a girl?" "Will the son of this brother be able to enter university?" "When will World War III break out?" "Who will be the next President of the United States?" and so forth. Just think, will the Lord's anointing teach them on such matters? Certainly not, because there is no need for them to know such things which do not concern them or help them in abiding by God's will. The anointing will not teach them.

The teachings of the anointing are definitely within a certain boundary. We need to have a clear understanding about this, lest we suffer loss and bring disgrace to the name of the Lord. Let us know this: the anointing will only teach us in "*all things*" which are *within our scope to know*, that is, all things which God wants us to know and do. Only with such recognition can we abide in the Lord by the teachings of the anointing.

2. The scope for the teachings of the anointing increases according to the level of ministry

The teachings of the anointing have a limited scope. But how wide is this scope? It varies in proportion to the measure of entrustment which each individual receives from the Lord. The higher his ministry

and the greater his entrustment, the wider the scope of the teachings of the anointing in him will be. For example, the chief administrator at the central government will definitely know more state affairs than the local officials, and the local officials in turn will know more of such issues than the common people. This principle never fails. It applies even more in the church of God. Among all the spiritual ministers, the apostles have the highest office and the greatest entrustment. Therefore the teachings they receive from the anointing are also the greatest — greater, wider, and deeper than the teachings of the anointing in the other workers and saints.

The teachings of the anointing in the workers and saints will definitely not exceed that in the apostles. This does not mean that God is partial or showing favoritism. It all depends on how great each person's entrustment is. God teaches each one according to the measure of his entrustment. Hence, if any saint claims that his revelation is greater than that of the workers, (or if a worker says that his revelation is greater than that of the apostles), he has undoubtedly been deceived by Satan. His revelations are certainly not from the Holy Spirit. He must humbly accept correction and deny his old self. Otherwise, he will be deceived by the spirit of delusion, and will not get out of the snare of Satan.

Once we met a group of arrogant people who said, "The apostles have revelations, so do we. Moreover, our revelations are greater than theirs." Obviously, they had gone beyond the apostles' doctrines. The revelation they claimed to have received was not from the Holy Spirit but from the spirit of deception. As a result of self-conceit, these people would not submit to the apostles' leading. Instead, they remained proud to the end, refusing to deny their flesh. Eventually, they fell from grace, turned apostate and disappeared from the New Testament Church. What a tragedy! Therefore, we should be humble and not think of ourselves more highly than we ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith. When each part is working properly, we will grow and be built up in the body. (See Rom. 12:3; Eph. 4:16.)

The Teachings of the Anointing and the Teachings of the Apostles

The teachings of the anointing and the teachings of the apostles may vary in degree and depth, but they never contradict each other, because they come from the same source — the Holy Spirit. The anointing will not reveal directly to the saints **God's epochal will, eternal plan, and the mystery concerning church building**. The anointing will **only teach and reveal these things to the apostles and prophets**, who will in turn preach these messages to the saints. If God's children want to understand God's will and serve Him according to His will, they must listen to the apostles and prophets, and advance in accordance with their teachings. By doing so, the saints are abiding in the Lord by the Lord's anointing. On the other hand, if the saints act in contradiction to the apostles' doctrines (the complete truth of the Bible), they are not obeying the teachings of the anointing. Whatever inspiration, revelation, vision, etc that they claim to have is not from God at all. Let them immediately deny all these by the Lord's grace, lest they fall into the deception of the devil.

Once a certain sister was deceived by Satan. In the beginning, Satan disguised himself as the angel of light and rebuked her in just about everything she did. He was acting like the Holy Spirit, convicted her concerning sins, righteousness, and judgement. After Satan gained her trust, he began to reveal his true hideous face. With deceitful tricks he tried to oppress her. Satan said to her, "My child, don't attend church services anymore. That's a congregation of man. You should come to me directly and listen to me. I will use you greatly..." Thinking that it was the Holy Spirit who spoke to her, she stopped coming for services. Shortly afterwards, Satan said to her again, "Behold, my child! Besides Kong Duen Yee, my maidservant, who else is faithful enough to preach for me? You have to consecrate yourself, listen to me, and live directly before me. I shall use you greatly, just as I had used Sis. Kong. Sanctify your mouth. Don't speak anything unless I command you. Also conse-

crate your hands and your feet. Don't do anything without my order..."

Later, she was fooled to an extent that whenever she opened her mouth to speak, she would immediately hear a voice saying, "Let your mouth be sanctified." As soon as she stepped out of the door, she would hear a voice inside reproaching her, "You have not sanctified your feet." In the end, she didn't even dare to speak to her own husband, or step out of the house to go shopping. Satan schemed to harm her again. He said to her, "Sis. Kong had only two suits of clothing for herself. You should not keep so many. Burn all away and only keep two. These clothes have become your world and you are not supposed to love the world..." She then searched through her wardrobe, collected all her clothes and was ready to burn them. Just before she threw them into the fire, we arrived, for the Holy Spirit had moved us to visit her. The minute she saw us, she asked, "Why are you here?" She reflected what the demon said in her. We knew at once that she had been deceived by Satan. So we asked her to pray in tongues together with us. But she was so oppressed that she couldn't utter a sound for a long while. In the name of the Lord Jesus, we laid hands on her and demanded the demon to come out of her. Then we commanded her to pray. She did and was released. When she finally came to her senses, she related to us how she had been oppressed.

Brothers and sisters, straying from the apostles' doctrines will incur such terrible consequences! Therefore we must be very careful! Saints should realize they are wrong if the teachings that they receive are in conflict with the apostles' doctrines. They must immediately discard the teachings they receive. There is no need to seek further confirmation, lest they fall into Satan's snare.

In another case, an elderly brother said, "I won't attend the Winter Convention because the Holy Spirit does not move me to go." He was completely deceived by himself and the devil. It was not that the Holy Spirit did not move him to go. It was because he did not like to attend the convention. He thought he was greater than the apostles and did not need to attend the Winter Convention. Therefore he came up with such a spiritual excuse. The apostle is appointed by God. Since he was

moved by the Holy Spirit to hold a Winter Convention, the Holy Spirit would want everyone to attend. Yet, this brother claimed that the Holy Spirit did not move him to attend. If he had abided in the teachings of the anointing, he would have been moved to attend the Winter Convention by the same Spirit which moved the apostles to hold the convention. He claimed that the Holy Spirit did not move him and this proved that he was not abiding by the teachings of the anointing. He was living in his flesh, taking his own preferences for the teachings of the anointing. This is something terrible! Whenever he found it difficult to obey the apostles' doctrines, he would use the teachings of the anointing as an excuse to have his own way. He has deceived others and himself. He will not prosper, but suffer loss.

Therefore, if your feelings ever contradict the apostles' leading, the problem is not with the apostles' doctrines but with you yourself. And the problem is not with the anointing in you but with you who receive the teachings of the anointing. The teachings of the anointing are absolutely correct. However, because you have your own likings, concepts and wisdom, you quench the motivation of the Holy Spirit. You replace the will of the Holy Spirit with your own ideas. Since you take your own feelings, pleasure, and viewpoints as the teachings of the anointing, they will of course contradict the teachings of the apostles. If you truly abide in the Holy Spirit, the teachings of the anointing within you will surely agree with the teachings of the apostles. For the anointing within you is to help you understand the apostles' doctrines and keep them.

Brothers and sisters, never think that after you have received the Spirit baptism and have the anointing within you, you no longer need the teachings of the spiritual ministers. If you don't have the teachings of the spiritual ministers, you will surely end up in an individual construction. We should know that the teachings of the anointing are to help the saints understand God's will in daily matters, so that they can press forward in one accord with the apostles and become the beloved children of God. However, the anointing will not teach the saints concerning the eternal plan of God, the mystery hidden for ages — the

truth on Christ and the church. God reveals this mystery only to His holy apostles and prophets. (See Eph. 3:5.)

Once a sister of the Christian Assembly came to attend the evangelical meeting of the New Testament Church. After the meeting, we told her, “Sister, you have to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit because this is the Lord’s command!” She replied, “The anointing within me does not move me to do so. I am following God and obeying the anointing.” Her words sounded very spiritual. In fact, they revealed her ignorance of the teachings of the anointing. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a biblical truth. Would the teachings of the anointing tell us to reject the biblical truth? Certainly not! So we know that her “anointing” was actually a feeling of her soul. Such a concept was from her natural self, and it is a denominational leaven. The teachings of the anointing will surely guide us into the truth.

The spiritual life of God’s children has various levels of maturity. Their perception of spiritual matters has different depths, too. Those who are spiritually young are more easily confused by their own concepts, ideals, prejudices, and viewpoints. Things often become worse because their soulish life has not been broken, and their flesh has not been dealt with. Added to that, they have complicated minds that do not comprehend spiritual things. As a result, they are often unable to hear the gentle whisper of God — the teachings of the anointing.

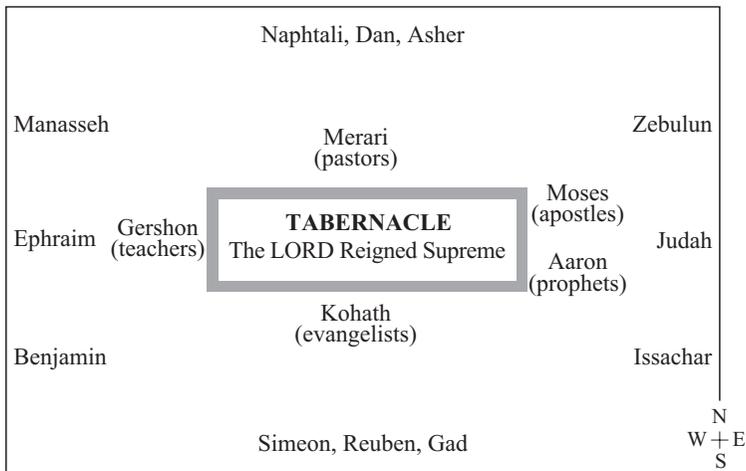
Once, there was a group of brothers and sisters who were fervent in serving the Lord. They had not received the Spirit baptism, nor returned to the New Testament Church, or submitted to the leading of the apostles. Nevertheless, every one of them longed to serve God according to His will. And so whenever there was a meeting, none dared to lead because they wanted the Holy Spirit to be in control of them. When the service commenced, all of them would kneel down to pray silently. After a while, someone would say that he was greatly moved by the Holy Spirit to request the congregation to sing a hymn of dedication. But another person would also say that he was strongly urged by the Holy Spirit to tell everyone to stand up to render militant prayers and be alert with the Lord... Everyone would claim to be moved by the

Holy Spirit, and all of them had the “evidence” to prove it.

Just think, would the teachings of the anointing contradict each other? Would the anointing bring confusion? Certainly not! The chaos was due to the impurity and immaturity of the vessels who received the teachings of the anointing. They regarded the impurities in their soul as the inspiration of the Holy Spirit. If we want to abide in the Lord by the teachings of the anointing, we must observe the apostles’ doctrines. In short, all those who do not observe the apostles’ doctrines cannot truly abide in the Lord by the teachings of the anointing, nor can they hold fast to Christ the Head, or coordinate among themselves in the main flow of the Holy Spirit to build up the house of God.

5 Coordination of Spiritual Ministers — One-Chief Leadership and Congregational Coordination

Diagram of the Tabernacle



Moreover those who were to camp before the tabernacle on the east, before the tabernacle of meeting, were Moses, Aaron, and his sons, keeping charge of the sanctuary, to meet the needs of the children of Israel; but the outsider who came near was to be put to death.

(Num. 3:38)

The families of the Gershonites were to camp behind the tabernacle westward.

(Num. 3:23)

The families of the children of Kohath were to camp on the south side of the tabernacle.

(Num. 3:29)

The leader of the fathers' house of the families of Merari was Zuriel the son of Abihail. These were to camp on the north side of the tabernacle.

(Num. 3:35)

In the olden days, God told Moses to command the Israelites to build the tabernacle. After it was built, God separated the Levites — the families of Kohath, Gershon, and Merari — to help Moses and Aaron do the work of the tabernacle. The Lord reigned supreme in the tabernacle. Moses and Aaron camped on the eastern side of the tabernacle at the entrance. Being located on the eastern side, they were the closest to God's will. They conveyed God's will to the Levites. Merari camped to the north of the tabernacle, Gershon to the west, and Kohath to the south. This testifies that all of the servants of God (evangelists, pastors, teachers, and so forth) should gather around the tabernacle (symbolizing the New Testament Church) with Moses and Aaron (symbolizing the apostles and prophets) to serve God together according to His will.

The twelve tribes of Israel camped around Moses, Aaron and the Levites. The positions of their camps were arranged by God Himself. No one was allowed to move around or exchange places with one another at will. Even Moses and Aaron couldn't say, "I just hate being in the same place all the time. It would be nice if I could swap places with Merari tomorrow, and Gershon the next day." No man can change the positions which God has assigned. The same applies to the offices of the spiritual ministers in the church today. After the New Testament Church has been built, God will reveal the various spiritual ministers in the church.

And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

(1 Cor. 12:28)

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some

evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.
(Eph. 4:11–12)

No one should try to overthrow the various spiritual ministers appointed by God. These ministers are to coordinate with one another in building up the body of Christ. But the mystery of Christ is not revealed to all of them. It is revealed only to the apostles and prophets through the Holy Spirit. For instance, Merari, Kohath, and Gershon camped around the tabernacle, with Moses and Aaron. They led the Israelites to advance. However, God's will was not revealed to them but to Moses alone. Moses then made known God's will to the people so that they would build the tabernacle according to His desire.

The Holy Spirit reveals God's mystery to the apostles who, in turn, make it known to the saints. Sometimes, due to their tender spiritual lives and dull spiritual senses, saints will still not understand the mystery and revelation brought out by the apostles. God sets up various ministers in the church to help them, so they may continue in the faith, grounded and steadfast, and not be moved away from the hope of the gospel (Col. 1:23).

The Chief Apostle

God gives His church various spiritual ministers, namely apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers. The apostle is the highest among all the ministers. There are different levels among the apostles, too. Paul said, "I am not at all inferior to the most eminent apostles" (2 Cor. 11:5). "For in nothing was I behind the most eminent apostles, though I am nothing" (2 Cor. 12:11). These verses indicate that Paul ranked first among the apostles. In spiritual construction, he was the spiritual master builder appointed by God.

1. There is Only One Chief Apostle

The chief apostle is “the leader in spiritual construction,” and he is ***the leader among the apostles***. There can be only one leader. This principle of one-chief leadership is an unchangeable rule. Some people may say, “Since Paul was the master builder, what about Peter? If Peter was not the master builder, who laid the foundation of the Church of Jerusalem? It could not have been Paul because he had not been raised up by God on the Day of Pentecost.” Our answer is: “Peter was the master builder in the beginning, and through him God laid the foundation of the Church of Jerusalem” (see Acts 2). But this does not mean that there are two master builders.

Not long after the Pentecost, there were two groups of workers who were commissioned to two different places. In every group, there was a leader. In the group of workers in Jerusalem, Peter, who was an apostle to the circumcised, was the leader. But in the other group of workers that were commissioned to the Gentiles, Paul, who was an apostle to the Gentiles, was the leader (see Gal. 2:8). At that time, these two groups of workers were sent by God to work in two different regions. Therefore, the Holy Spirit raised up a leader in each group. But when these two groups of workers came together, the Holy Spirit revealed the more eminent one to be the leader. So there was still one master builder instead of two. Galatians 2 shows how the Holy Spirit revealed Paul’s position was higher than Peter’s when they came together (when they gave each other the right hand of fellowship). After that, Paul was the leader. God always follows this principle of unitary leadership, which remains forever unchanged.

The devil Satan always wants to disrupt unitary leadership by creating two leaders. He makes men disbelieve the only leader set up by God and causes them to deny one-chief leadership. He advocates collective leadership with the scheme of overthrowing God’s principle of unitary leadership. He either causes men to deny the leader, stray from the leader, or believe in the wrong leader.

The Israelites committed a serious offense in following the wrong leader. They forsook Moses and upheld Aaron as their leader. God didn’t appoint Aaron as the leader, but the people gathered themselves to

him. Aaron, instead of staying in his own position, accepted the support of the people and became their leader. He even made a golden calf for the people and led them into great sin, provoking God to anger. Therefore, it is very important that God's children acknowledge the only leader appointed by God. If they follow the wrong leader, what they get is not blessings, but punishment.

Some people say the mission of leading the Israelites out of Egypt into Canaan was fulfilled by both Moses and Joshua, and the mission of building the temple was accomplished by both David and Solomon. So they claim there is more than one leader. Such notions are a fallacy of the devil Satan to disrupt one-chief leadership! We agree the mission of leading the Israelites out of Egypt and into Canaan was accomplished by Moses and Joshua *successively*. But they were not both leaders at the same time. When Moses was still alive, he was the leader and Joshua was his aid. It was only after Moses had died on Mount Nebo that God raised up Joshua to continue leading the Israelites forward. When God raised up Joshua, He promised him: "No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you ... for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land..." (Josh. 1:5–6).

Joshua had to meet certain conditions before the promise of God could be fulfilled on him. He had to observe to do according to all the law which Moses had commanded him; he should not turn from it to the right or to the left. The Book of the Law of Moses was not to depart from his mouth. He had to meditate in it day and night, so that he might observe to do according to all that was written in it. (Josh. 1: 7–8)

God said, "For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success" (Josh. 1:8). Obviously, God's entrustment was handed over to Joshua after Moses' death. This was a succession of mission. Though Joshua was then a leader raised up by God, he did not stray from Moses' vision, but advanced in this vision. From then on, God wanted the Israelites to press on under Joshua's leading until they entered the Promised Land.

The Israelites indeed obtained grace in following the leader. They knew that God had raised up for them a new leader to succeed Moses' ministry. So they said to Joshua, "All that you command us we will do, and wherever you send us we will go. Just as we heeded Moses in all things, so we will heed you. Only the Lord your God be with you, as He was with Moses. Whoever rebels against your command and does not heed your words, in all that you command him, shall be put to death. Only be strong and of good courage" (Josh. 1:16–18). Henceforth, the Israelites obeyed the new spiritual leader Joshua, whom God had raised up for them, just as they had obeyed Moses.

Similarly, the mission of building the temple was accomplished first by David and later by Solomon. David made preparation for the construction while he was alive (see 1 Chron. 28:2). After his death, Solomon began to build the house of the Lord at Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the Lord had appeared to his father David, at the place that David had prepared (see 2 Chron. 3:1). Solomon and his father David were not leaders at the same time. Solomon, as leader, was to continue his father's mission and walk in his father's footsteps.

In these last days, the great work of the **Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church** was entrusted to God's maidservant Sis. Kong Duen Yee. After she rested in the Lord, God chose me, His lowly servant, to succeed her ministry, to hold fast to the word of life which was from the beginning, and to continue the work of building the church on the foundation she had laid. This work shall be continued until the church has grown to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ, until she is ready to be presented to Christ. May God's children know that in each era, God would only raise up one spiritual leader to lead His children forward. This is the way God works — the unchanging rule of one-chief leadership.

2. A Master Builder is Needed in the First Construction as well as in the Work of Rebuilding

Some people say that a master builder is required in the first con-

struction because the blueprint is crucial. They say in the work of rebuilding, however, he is not needed because the blueprint is already there. This is an erroneous theory. Without a master builder, who will be the leader? How will everyone coordinate? Let us see how God worked from the restoration of the temple in the Old Testament times.

When the seventy years of captivity were over, the Lord God said, “I am returning to Jerusalem with mercy; My house shall be built in it, and a surveyor’s line shall be stretched out over Jerusalem” (Zech. 1: 16). “**The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this temple;** his hands shall also finish it... For these seven rejoice to see **the plumb line** in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the Lord, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth” (Zech. 4:9–10). It clearly states that it was Zerubbabel (the spiritual leader set up by God at that time) who stretched out the surveyor’s line over Jerusalem, laid the foundation of the temple, and accomplished the work of rebuilding the house.

The rebuilding of the Lord’s house would have been impossible if Zerubbabel (the spiritual leader) had not held the plumb line and stretched out the surveyor’s line over Jerusalem. No wonder when the builders finished laying the foundation of the temple, the people shouted with a great shout. And the old man who had seen the first temple wept with a loud voice. (See Ezra. 3:8–13.) Therefore, the master builder was still needed in the rebuilding of the temple.

Let us also look at the restoration work of the wall of Jerusalem. Before this great work started, God first brought Nehemiah back to Jerusalem from Shushan. Then He appointed him the master builder to accomplish the work of repairing the city wall. Only Nehemiah knew how serious was the damage to the wall, and how it should be repaired. The Israelites carried out the restoration according to the arrangement and leadership of Nehemiah. (For details please read **The Book of Nehemiah** written by me.) Evidently, there was a master builder in the second construction as in the first.

In these last days, God raised up His maidservant Sis. Kong to rebuild His church. As the spiritual master builder (the chief apostle),

she relaid the foundation of the church. In 1966, Sis. Kong was called to rest in the Lord after having accomplished what the Lord had entrusted to her. The Lord revealed Cheung to succeed her as the master builder. But in 1976, Cheung followed her husband to turn apostate, and renounced her honorable ministry. God, in His mercy, gave me this ministry as the spiritual master builder, to continue the work of rebuilding the spiritual house in these last days. In order that God's children may obtain grace, I am compelled to tell God's children, servants, and maidservants about the ministry He has given me. May all God's children join me in accomplishing His great work of revival in these last days and have a share in His reward.

3. Apostleship is Not a Lifelong Ministry

According to His purpose in election, God gives the ministry of apostle to the vessels He chooses. The chosen apostles become the stewards of God's mysteries. The Bible says, "It is required in stewards that one be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:2). God will discard an apostle if he is not faithful to the vision from heaven, or not faithful in defending the truth or tending God's sheep. Even though the apostleship is the highest ministry, it is not a lifelong office. Judas, one of the twelve apostles appointed by the Lord, was an example. Acts 1:25 states that Judas left his ministry and apostleship, and went to his own place.

Ever since the New Testament Church was rebuilt, God has revealed several apostles one after another. But over the past twenty years, we saw some apostles were discarded by God because they disobeyed the vision from heaven and were not faithful to the Lord's trust. First, it was Fan, then Tan, and later, even Cheung, who was the chief apostle at that time. As her mind was corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ, she betrayed the truth, the co-workers, and the entire New Testament Church. Thus she was discarded by God. How solemn! For this reason, we all the more magnify the ministry we have received from the Lord with reverence and godly fear (see Rom. 11:13). Therefore Paul said, "But I discipline my body and bring it into subjection, lest, when

I have preached to others, I myself should become disqualified” (1 Cor. 9:27).

Coordination Among the Ministers

The chief apostle is the leading center. God’s children will have direction and a goal only when there is a chief apostle. However, besides the chief apostle, there must also be various ministers, elders, deacons and saints coordinating together. Only then will the work be done. For the New Testament Church is a congregational construction, not an individual one. The chief apostle is only the leading minister among all the ministers. He cannot cover or replace others’ ministries, and vice versa. All ministers, elders, deacons, and saints need to be closely united with the chief apostle. Only with the coordination of all members can the work of building the body of Christ be done.

How do the ministers, elders, deacons, and saints coordinate? This is an important issue. We know that in coordination, there is a ministerial order. How is the ministerial order arranged? Do we arrange it any way we like? Or do we obtain it through prayers? Neither of these! The ministerial order is arranged by the vessel of the era (the chief apostle). In the past, God sent Nehemiah to call upon His people to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem. “Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests and built the Sheep Gate; they consecrated it and hung its doors. They built as far as the Tower of the Hundred, and consecrated it, then as far as the Tower of Hananel. **Next** to Eliashib the men of Jericho built. And **next** to them Zaccur the son of Imri built ...” (Neh. 3:1–2). There are altogether thirty-one “next”s or “after him”s found in Nehemiah 3. Who assigned them next to one another? They were assigned by Nehemiah, the vessel of the era who was instructed by God. The story of Nehemiah indicates the vessel of the era is the center and standard in arranging the spiritual order. This is the principle in congregational construction and coordination.

1. Coordination Between Ministers and Apostles (Based on the level of their ministerial position)

When the various ministers coordinate with one another in God's house, they have to be mindful of the spiritual order. Among the various ministers, the apostle ranks the highest. Therefore, all ministers have to **be likeminded with the apostle and accept his leading**. Now let us see how Paul's co-workers coordinated with him.

* *Tychicus and Onesimus:*

But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, Tychicus, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you; whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, that you may know our affairs, and that he may comfort your hearts.

(Eph. 6:21–22)

.... With Onesimus, a faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will make known to you all things which are happening here.

(Col. 4:9)

Paul sent Tychicus to the Church of Ephesus, and Onesimus to the Church of Colosse, so that the churches might know how he was faring. Some might say that Tychicus and Onesimas were preaching about Paul, a man. However, they did not hesitate over Paul's sending. They went immediately to make known all Paul's affairs to God's children. Tychicus and Onesimus knew that Paul was **an apostle sent by God** and that he was **God's representative** on earth. **Paul's affairs were God's affairs** and relating **Paul's affairs** to the church was equivalent to making known to the church **the movement of God** and the flow of the Holy Spirit. Hence, they were totally submissive to Paul's sending, without having their own concepts, ways, and works. When Tychicus and Onesimus undertook their ministry in this way, they brought great

comfort to the churches. And they themselves were confirmed by the Holy Spirit and were called faithful servants of God.

*** Timothy and Titus:**

Be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. Send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their journey with haste, that they may lack nothing.

(Titus 3:12–13)

Do your best to come to me soon . . . Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful in serving me. And Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments.

(2 Tim. 4:9–13 RSV)

But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one likeminded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel. Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.

(Phil. 2:19–24)

Timothy and Titus readily obeyed Paul's instructions, whether that meant sending Zenas and Apollos to begin their journey, visiting the Church of Philippi, coming to Paul quickly, and so forth. These things which Paul asked them to do seemed trivial. Sometimes, these things even contradicted man's concepts, like Paul's asking them to bring along his cloak and books, or to bring Mark to him because Mark was very useful in serving him. (Paul asked Mark to come and serve him, not the Lord.) However, Timothy and Titus submitted to all of Paul's leading and did their best to follow his arrangements and instructions.

They were not laboring for man, but for God. They were serving with Paul for the furtherance of the gospel. Hence, they were commended by God.

The coordination between Paul and his co-workers is a model example to us. All the co-workers accepted Paul's arrangement. They did not have their own choice, work and way. When they co-worked with Paul, they were co-working with God, as Paul was co-working with God. The work of building the church was entrusted to Paul. This work was done when Paul's co-workers joined him in the work of construction under his leading, arrangement and guidance. Such coordination of ministrations is a good model example to all the workers who are called by God to serve Him.

Some people may wonder, "If I continue to serve and labor likemindedly with the chief apostle, and even serve the chief apostle as Mark had served Paul, will my main role in the church be concealed?" Co-workers, you can rest assured. Your role in the church will surely not be concealed. Instead, it will be manifested by the Holy Spirit. One who is always worried about his role being concealed and refuses to labor in one mind with the chief builder will not have his role manifested. The more one labors likemindedly with the chief builder, the more he will be at the peak of the flow of the Holy Spirit and the more his role will be revealed. ***This is how the role of a minister is manifested.***

In these last days, God raised up His maidservant Sis. Kong and entrusted her with the mission of this era. In the past, I refused to return to the New Testament Church and co-work with Sis. Kong because I did not recognize her ministry. She wrote me many times and advised me to put aside my own way and construction, and co-work with her. I could not agree with her. I felt that it was good enough for each individual to show his own faithfulness to the Lord according to the measure of his entrustment, (some have a hundred talents, some have fifty, and some have ten). I did not believe it was necessary for everyone to co-work with her.

Later, God revealed that the work of those who did not co-work with Sis. Kong was fruitless, and not confirmed by the Holy Spirit. But

those who co-worked with Sis. Kong experienced God's presence and power. I could no longer ignore God's divine response to me through these happenings. So I prostrated humbly and started to serve God together with Sis. Kong. It was truly marvelous! When I believed in her ministry and co-worked with her in one accord, the presence and power of God were with me. My role in His church was also manifested by the Lord. I realized I did not have to deliver any special sermons. So long as I taught the church with the teachings of the chief apostle or told the church her affairs, the Holy Spirit would work and the spirit of brothers and sisters would be revived (see Eph. 6:21–22). This is indeed a great mystery of godliness.

All ministers have to note this: God evaluates one's work according to how much he follows the teachings and leading of the chief apostle. If one does not work in conformity with the teachings and leading of the chief apostle and still rejoices in his own works, he is making a "golden calf" (see Acts 7:41). He will not receive a reward, but will be judged. How solemn! We are familiar with the story of how Aaron led the Israelites to make a golden calf. This should serve as a warning to all servants and maidservants of God. I repeat: All those who do not work according to the teachings and leading of the chief apostle are making a golden calf. They will be severely judged and punished by God!

2. Coordination Among the Apostles

(Based on the level of their ministerial position)

Coordination is also necessary among the apostles because they are responsible to God not only as individuals, but as a whole. Their coordination depends mainly on the level of their positions. The one of lower position is to submit to the one of higher position. The Bible says, "Peter and John" and "Paul and Barnabas" (see Acts 3:1; 4:13; 15:22,35). If the apostle of lower position does not work likemindedly with the apostle of a higher position, he will end up doing individual construction (his own work), which will not be remembered by God.

In Antioch, “Paul said to Barnabas, ‘Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they are doing.’ Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus” (Acts 15:36–39).

After this incident, Barnabas’ whereabouts were no longer recorded in the **Acts of the Apostles**. However, “Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches” (Acts 15:40–41). When Barnabas had a dispute with Paul (an apostle of higher position) he refused to deny his own feeling, but insisted on it. For this reason, his work was no longer remembered by God, even though he was an apostle.

The apostates, Fan and Tan, also failed in this respect. They thought that they did not have to obey Cheung’s every instruction (Cheung was the chief apostle then), thinking that since they were also apostles, they could serve according to their own revelations. They did not submit to her sending and arrangement, and their ministration was totally **disconnected** from the chief apostle. Tan was particularly unrestrained like a wild donkey, for he took advantage of the fact that he was Cheung’s husband. He traveled to Taiwan, Singapore and Malaysia whenever he felt like it. He made a golden calf wherever he went, creating many problems among the churches. But God did not tolerate his unruly acts. When God’s appointed time came, he was purged from the New Testament Church.

In conclusion, if the apostles do not acknowledge the chief apostle and do not undertake the ministry with him according to his feelings and burden, their ministration will be like making a golden calf. No matter how spiritual their words may sound, the nature of their ministration is nothing more than molding a golden calf. They are not serving the Lord God.

The church is built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets. But the foundation is laid by the chief apostle. All the other apostles are to build on this foundation laid by the chief apostle. Otherwise, their construction will be a work of hay and stubble which will not stand the test of fire, but will be consumed.

Coordination Among Apostles, Ministers, Elders, Deacons, and Saints

The coordination in the New Testament Church is carried out in spiritual order. No one can overlook the principle of one-chief leadership. Coordination between apostles and other ministers; among the apostles themselves; or among saints, elders, and deacons must always follow this principle. Everything should be done in an orderly manner. For if there is no order, the movement of the Holy Spirit will be hindered, and coordination will not be harmonious. Satan is trying everything he can to oppose the movement of the Holy Spirit in the body of Christ. So we need to be on guard against the wiles of the enemy.

In the church, all the saints, elders, and deacons have to submit to the ministers (workers) sent by the apostles. The saints cannot say that they will obey only the elders and deacons, but not the workers. Such submission is *incomplete*. They have to obey not only the elders and the deacons, but also the workers. The elders and deacons themselves also need to obey the workers. Similarly, if the saints claim they obey the apostles, but not the workers, their submission is incomplete. To God, such *submission that bypasses ranks is a confusion of spiritual order*.

This can be likened to the situation in a country, where there will be much unrest if the people defy the local officials but claim to be under the rule of the central government. The administrative system will certainly not approve of such conduct. If the elders and deacons are truly submissive to the apostles, they will certainly listen to the workers sent by the apostles unless the workers have disconnected them-

selves from the apostles and cannot represent the apostles. Other than this, one must avoid submission that bypasses ranks.

In the coordination of the body, we need to avoid not only “**rank-bypassing**” submission but also “**remote-control**” leadership, for these cause confusion in the spiritual order and hinder the movement of the Holy Spirit. For example, when the central government wants to implement a national policy, it gives the order to local officials for implementation. It will not give the order directly to the people. Likewise, the apostles, in handling church affairs, will not directly instruct the saints, but will first inform the local co-workers. Harmony will surely be attained in this kind of orderly coordination. It will cause the whole body to be united with Christ the head. When each individual part of the body works according to its measure, the body will build itself up in love.

Some co-workers we have sent out pay constant attention to our state and the movement of the current flow of the Holy Spirit. They try their best to lead the saints to understand our earnest burden. Their works are thus blessed by God, and the brothers and sisters under their leading are revived. But some co-workers do not heed our feelings and burden in their ministration. They work according to what they deem important. They even ignore our leading and do not accept our arrangement and sending. As a result, the churches they serve encounter endless problems, and the brothers and sisters they shepherd become weak and spiritually depressed.

This is something solemn. Every commissioned worker has to be alert and mindful of the feelings and burden of the chief apostle, be likeminded with him, and walk in his footsteps. Only then will his ministries be remembered and blessed by God, and his works be able to withstand the fiery trial.

After Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt, they came to Mount Sinai. God called Moses to the top of the mountain to receive His law and commandments. “Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, ‘Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for

this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ And Aaron said to them, ‘Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.’ So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’ So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, ‘Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord.’ Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play” (Exod. 32:1 – 6).

This incident of making the golden calf provoked God to execute terrifying judgment on the Israelites! Although Aaron was also chosen by God and had the honorable ministry as the high priest, he was to co-work with Moses. The office of leading God’s people was entrusted not to him, but to Moses. Concerning the mission of bringing the Israelites out of Egypt and leading them forward, God said that Moses would be to Aaron as God (see Exod. 4:16).

At that time, the people went out of control and disconnected from Moses — the spiritual leader raised up by God. They joined Aaron whom they highly esteemed. They inclined more to Aaron than to Moses. Aaron did not bring the people to Moses, instead allowing the people to come to him when they lost confidence in Moses. And so, Aaron’s *desire to become the leader* and his *disobedience to Moses* were thoroughly exposed. Aaron’s desire for power made him step beyond the bounds of his position. He defied God’s authority and brought the people to himself. He had confused the spiritual order. Finally, he even molded a golden calf and brought a great sin upon the people.

The people sought another leader because they had lost confidence in Moses (the only leader). They followed Aaron who was not the leader. Aaron was incapable of leading the people forward. Instead, he pro-

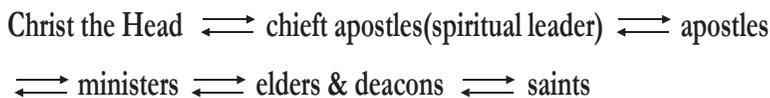
voked God to wrath when he tried to lead. Finally, apart from Caleb and Joshua, all the Israelites died in the wilderness and did not enter the Promised Land. This was because the Israelites regarded the golden calf as the God who led them out of Egypt, and offered sacrifices on the altar which they built before the golden calf. They sat down to eat and drink, and got up to play. How terrible was this matter! If the ministers bring people to themselves instead of to the vessel of the era set up by God, their consequences will be just as tragic!

Absalom was even more evil than Aaron. The Bible says, “Now Absalom would rise early and stand beside the way to the gate. So it was, whenever anyone who had a lawsuit came to the king for a decision, that Absalom would call to him and say, ‘What city are you from?’ And he would say, ‘Your servant is from such and such a tribe of Israel.’ Then Absalom would say to him, ‘Look, your case is good and right; but there is no deputy of the king to hear you.’ Moreover Absalom would say, ‘Oh, that I were made judge in the land, and every one who has any suit or cause would come to me; then I would give him justice.’ And so it was, whenever anyone came near to bow down to him, that he would put out his hand and take him and kiss him. In this manner Absalom acted toward all Israel who came to the king for judgment. So Absalom stole the hearts of the men of Israel” (2 Sam. 15:2–6).

All the while, Absalom longed to be king. He colluded with the people, trying to win their hearts to himself. To achieve his goal, he spared no effort to malign David. He **disrupted the harmony and unity between the people and David**. Such a rebellious spirit is extremely abominable in God’s sight! Absalom rebelled against David and came to a tragic end: While he was still hanging from an oak tree, three spears were thrust through his heart (see 2 Sam. 18:9–15)! May this serve as a warning to all ministers. Not only must they themselves have close ties with the apostles, but they must also in absolute faith bring the sheep to have such a tie with the apostles. They should not be disconnected from the apostles (especially the chief apostle), much less offend their ministry. Then will they have the same vision and mission with the apostles, and build God’s church on the foundation of the apostles

and prophets.

In summary, we can illustrate the order of coordination arranged by God in the New Testament Church with the following diagram:



Let all ministers and saints not to think of themselves more highly than they ought to think, but think soberly, according to the measure of faith which God has allotted to each person. Then all parts of the body will be fitted and held together through Christ; And with each part working properly and joined in all aspects to Christ, the Head, the body will grow gradually. (See Rom. 12:3–5; Eph. 4:15–16.)

Edifying Oneself in Love

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. . . . But speaking the truth in love, we may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ — from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.

(Eph. 4:11–12,15–16)

The spiritual ministers in the New Testament Church are not from men nor through men. They are chosen by God and revealed by the Holy Spirit. Therefore, when these ministers coordinate among themselves in their ministrations, they have to do so in accordance with the spiritual order arranged by God. This spiritual order is also **an order of life** because we are members of the living body — the body of Christ (see 1 Cor. 12:27). Whether we are apostles, prophets, evangelists, pas-

tors, teachers or saints, we are all members of this body. The Lord arranges the position of each member as He wills. Since we are members of this body, we have to pay heed to **the order of life**. For the body of Christ is formed when all members are fitly joined together, with each individual in its own position in the body. It is imperative that all ministers heed this principle of life when they coordinate with other members.

God gave **Moses** the mission of **leading the people of Israel out of Egypt into the land of Canaan**. How did he fulfill this ministry, the heavy entrustment of God? He was educated in all the knowledge of Egypt and was powerful in speech and action. However, he did not rely on any of these to accomplish the great mission from God. He always prostrated and prayed before God, pleading with Him, looking up to Him and waiting for His guidance. He dared not run ahead of God nor lag behind Him. Whatever God commanded him to say, he would say without adding anything to it or taking away anything from it. He dared not have his own likings, anger, sorrow or joy. He dared not have his own choices, ideas and decisions. He dared not show favoritism or prejudice to anyone. In major or minor matters, he dared not make any decision by his own methods, capability or wisdom. He followed wherever the Spirit led, and he always trembled with fear before God. He was sober, cautious, diligent, meek, patient, laborious and faithful. To men, he was kind, evil-hating, righteous, tenderhearted, and full of integrity and love. Therefore, God praised him and said he was very humble, more than any man on the face of the earth, and that he was faithful in all His house (see Num. 12:3,7).

While leading the Israelites forward, Moses often encountered problems which he could not solve. For example, the problems caused by the mixed multitudes, the slander of Miriam, Aaron, who allowed the people to go out of control, the rebellion of Korah and his company, the Israelites who looked at things from their own carnal viewpoint, and so forth. Whatever the problem, Moses would not try to solve it with the knowledge he had acquired in Egypt, nor would he handle it with his intelligence. He brought all matters, big or small, before the

LORD, so that His glory might be manifested on him. Thus, there was no problem that he could not solve. In this way, all the people of Israel were established in the will of God.

Moses respected the ministry given to him by God, and naturally he also treasured the Israelites God had entrusted to him. When Moses delayed in coming down from the mountain, the Israelites went to Aaron and wanted him to make them a golden calf. The LORD God was exceedingly angry with them. He wanted to destroy them and make Moses into a great nation. Moses did not feel complacent. Instead, he pleaded with the LORD,

“LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, ‘He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’”

(Exod. 32:11–13)

And the LORD changed his mind about the harm He said He would do to His people. He only commanded the Levites to slay every man his brother, friend, and neighbor who had refused to come to Moses. There were about three thousand people killed on that day. The next day Moses pleaded with the LORD again, “Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold! Yet now, if You will forgive their sin — but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written” (Exod. 32:31–32). Moses had a spirit of love, a spirit which was willing to lay down his life for the brethren.

And the LORD said to Moses, “Whoever has sinned against Me, I

will blot him out of My book. Now therefore, go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you. Behold, My Angel shall go before you. Nevertheless in the day when I visit for punishment, I will visit punishment upon them for their sin” (Exod. 32:33–34). In the midst of much affliction, Moses led the Israelites toward the land of Canaan in the spirit of love.

Joseph was mistreated, harmed and sold into Egypt by his brothers, and was even put in prison. But later God exalted him and made him a ruler over all the land of Egypt. During the severe famine, Joseph brought his father and brothers to Egypt. When Joseph’s brothers saw that their father was dead, they feared Joseph would hold a grudge against them and pay them back for all the evil they did to him. So they fell before Joseph and said, “We are your servants.” “Joseph said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for **am I in the place of God?** But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones.’ **And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them**” (Gen. 50:19–21). Behold, Joseph’s ministrations of love had preserved and established the house of Jacob!

The spirit of love illustrated above is what all the ministers of the New Testament Church should possess. We do not receive the ministry from God to abuse our authority and oppress the saints. Our ministry is to **perfect (equip)** the saints for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.

Our Lord Jesus set a very good example for us. “Who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:6–8).

Paul also said to the Corinthians: “If we have sown spiritual things for you, is it a great thing if we reap your material things? If others are partakers of this right over you, are we not even more? **Nevertheless we have not used this right**, but endure all things lest we hinder the

gospel of Christ” (1 Cor. 9:11–12). He also said, “...Those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel. But ***I have used none of these things...*** for it would be better for me to die than that anyone should make my boasting void” (1 Cor. 9:14–15). Paul also had a spirit of love, once saying to Philemon his co-worker, “Therefore, though I might be very bold in Christ to command you what is fitting, ***yet for love’s sake I rather appeal to you — being such a one as Paul, the aged...***” (Philem. 8–9). Paul served the co-workers in love, setting a good example for the saints.

Therefore, all the ministers have to follow these good examples. Let us not abuse the power of our ministry, but be obedient to God and be humble in all things. ***Let us respect and perfect one another in love*** and bring glory to the name of Christ the Lord!

Workers of New Testament Church



1. Work - ers of New Test' - ment Church have no choic - es of their own. Fol - low
2. La - bor like mas - ter build - er, speak sound - ly be - yond re - proach, ho - ly
3. In the pow - er of the Lord, suf - fer with mas - ter build - er. Hard - pressed
4. Fol - low the mas - ter build - er, to serve God's child - dren in love, with meek -



1. the feel - ings of the lead - er, ac - cept his com - mis - sion, trans - fer - ring, and ar - range - ment.
2. and truth - ful, seek no glo - ry, live not by earth - ly wis - dom, but by the grace of God,
3. on ev' r - y side, but not crushed; per - plexed, but not in de - spair; struck down, but not de - stroyed;
4. ness, pa - tience, and for - bear - ing, as nurs - ing mo - thers ten - der - ly care for their chil - dren.



1. Bring to the Church his move - ments, teach - ings, bur - den and con - di - tions.
2. re - nounce the dis - grace - ful things, and man - i - fest the truth of life.
3. pers' - cut - ed, not a - ban - doned, for there's treas - ure in the ves - sels.
4. The pow - er giv - en by Him is for ed - i - fy - ing the Church.



Believe Without Doubt

1. O Lord, I want to go for-ward in the flow of Spir - it. Let me
2. O Lord, help me re - move my e - vil heart of dis - be - lief. Help me

1. have full faith in the mas - ter build - er. Trust with -
2. hold fast my first pure faith till the end, Un - til

1. out doubt, trust with - out doubt! Fou You can
2. the end. un - til the end! Then I'll have

1. keep what You've en - trust - ed him un - til that day.
2. a part in Christ Je - sus and en - joy His rest.

6 | **Your Attitude Towards the Vessel of the Era**

Respecting the Anointing of God

The vessel of the era chosen by God represents God to rule on earth. God is fully responsible for all the things he does. The vessel of the era himself is also convinced that God is able to keep what he has committed to Him until that Day (see 2 Tim. 1:12). Nevertheless, the natural man tends to worry that the spiritual leader, being a man, cannot be faultless. How can we believe him without doubt? What if he makes a mistake? Therefore, man always thinks that he should have reservations on what the spiritual leader does and says. He will carefully analyze, consider and judge the spiritual leader's works. Only if he finds them acceptable, he will believe him; if not, he will not commit himself. This notion stems from an evil heart of disbelief, showing one's lack of faith in the God who has appointed the spiritual leader.

The Israelites failed miserably in this respect. They fell in the wilderness because they disagreed with Moses and persistently tried to find fault with him. The leaders of the people particularly disliked Moses. They thought that Moses was autocratic. They even gathered themselves together against him, saying that he had taken too much upon himself and exalted himself above the congregation of the LORD (see Num. 16:3). However, God was always there to testify for Moses. He said, "My servant Moses...is faithful in all My house..? Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth" (Num. 12:7,3).

Korah and his company, who attacked Moses, met with the awesome punishment of God. The earth opened its mouth and swallowed them up, with their households and all the men with Korah, with all their goods. All those with them went down alive into the pit, and they perished from among the congregation. (Num. 16:31–32) How awful

it was!

The most vicious wile of the devil Satan is to destroy the plan of God. To destroy God's plan, he first destroys the ministry of the spiritual leader. Once the ministry of the spiritual leader is defied, the whole plan of God will be utterly destroyed. For forty years in the wilderness, the devil Satan used this strategy to go against God. He instigated the people of God to doubt Moses and murmur against him. They did not heed the choice and delight of God on Moses, but went all out to find fault with his conduct. As a result, there were many complaints and rebellions which led to their fall in the wilderness.

Brothers and sisters, do not think that it is a small matter to murmur against Moses. To murmur against Moses is irreverent to God's anointing. This malignant growth which emerges from the evil root of disbelief has to be removed. Miriam had long disagreed with Moses. When Moses married the Cushite woman, she finally found an excuse to attack him. It was true that Moses had married the Cushite woman. So Miriam and Aaron seemed to have a solid reason for disagreeing with Moses. Nevertheless, marrying the woman was a matter between God and Moses. God would take care of it; no one else needed to interfere. What Miriam did was directed at Moses' ministry with the intent of denying it. This was a violation of God's administration, a grave offense! Every natural man has shortcomings and weaknesses, and Moses was no exception. But Moses' ministry and his revelation about the blueprint of the tabernacle were from God. No one should have doubted that. Despite the human failings of Moses, his ministry should not have been damaged if God's children wanted to move on and accomplish God's will. If Moses' ministry were negated, how could the Israelites advance? How then could God's will be done?

I do not mean that Moses could do whatever he liked. But whether Moses was right or wrong was a matter between him and God. We trust that God, who had chosen Moses, would have His most righteous judgment on him. What we should care about was whether God could speak through Moses, and accomplish His work through him. Everything else rests with God, and we need not interfere. When Miriam and Aaron

slandered Moses, God intervened. God's words were solemn, "Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant Moses?" So the anger of the Lord was aroused against them, and He departed" (Num. 12:8–9).

Since they did not honor God's anointing, God's anger was aroused against them. Immediately, Miriam became leprous and was shut out from the camp for seven days. Brothers and sisters, in God's eyes, holding grudges, murmurings and slandering against the vessel of the era is equivalent to disrespecting God's anointing. It is an extremely serious matter. In no way could anyone complain against or slander Moses. They did not need to have hard feelings toward Moses because all his deeds were examined by God Himself. Satan often tricks God's children into disregarding the one justified by God, asking them not to acknowledge God's righteousness but their own ideals and works.

In the past twenty years since the Holy Spirit has rebuilt the New Testament Church, we have seen quite a number of people fall away from this path of entering God's kingdom. Why? It is because they did not look at the anointing and the delight of God upon the vessel of the era, but on his (her) outward appearance. They expected his (her) appearance to conform to their ideals and tastes. As a result, they stumbled. How I hope that all of us will learn from the painful experiences of the Israelites.

No man is perfect. However, God's choice on a person and the conduct of a person are two separate matters. The man used by God is not perfect, but rather is willing to submit to God. The spiritual leader also has his human weaknesses, but the truth and revelation he receives from God are always definite. If he deviates from the entrusted complete truth, God will expose his condition and discard him. God will not allow him to mislead His children.

Cheung was once greatly used by God. But when she disobeyed the heavenly vision and betrayed the truth, the Holy Spirit immediately discarded her and revoked her ministry. So we need not worry; we only need to advance in faith. We need not see whether the vessel of the era is perfect or not. Rather, we should note whether God's anointing,

delight, and presence are on him. Here we ought to learn an important lesson — **to respect the anointing of God**. The more we respect God's anointing, the more we will please God.

Even though Saul had been rejected by God, David still had great respect for him and dared not harm him. Thus, he found favor in the eyes of God and was set up by God to shepherd over His people. God testified of David: "... a man after My own heart, who will do all My will" (Acts 13:22).

God's children often fall into the wiles of Satan unknowingly. They harbor many dissatisfactions, complaints and grudges toward the vessel of the era. Gradually, they lose God's presence and delight, and finally, stray from the truth and walk on their own way. This is the result of not respecting the anointing of God.

It is imperative that God's children revere His anointing. To do that, God's children must have true insight and surpassing faith. They need to believe that the Holy Spirit rules in the New Testament Church and that no one can escape His control. God will reveal who is after His heart and who is not. Whoever is not after His heart will be purged away. The God who has rebuilt the New Testament Church will be responsible for keeping her until the Lord returns. The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy: "For I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him [or, which He has entrusted to me] until that Day" (2 Tim. 1:12).

Saints should have such confidence in the spiritual leader: firmly believing that God is able to keep what He has entrusted to him until that Day. May God's children deny all their concepts of conducts and instead heed and respect the anointing of God on him. In this way, Satan will have no foothold in our midst and we will swiftly progress in God's will.

The Attitude Toward the Vessel of the Era

The LORD said to Abram, "I will bless those who bless you, and I

will curse him who curses you” (Gen. 12:3).

Those who blessed Abraham (the vessel of the era) would be blessed by God, while those who cursed him would be cursed by God. Evidently, God’s response to a person is based on that person’s attitude toward the vessel of the era. This is a biblical truth. But the denominations find this truth unacceptable. They think that God’s response to a person should depend on that person’s attitude toward God, not on his attitude toward the vessel of the era, who is just a man. They also think that their attitude toward man is trivial and that only their attitude toward God is important. These erroneous concepts come from their denominational traditions and their ignorance of the way God works.

Let God’s children have this enlightenment: The vessel of the era is God’s representative on earth, and their attitude toward the vessel of the era is their attitude toward God. Let everyone regard this matter seriously. After David had been anointed king, he did not immediately sit upon his throne. Instead, he was pursued by Saul, the tyrant, and began the life of a fugitive. At that time, the attitudes of God’s people toward such an anointed one of God varied. Some defected to him, some sacrificed their lives to follow him, but others went against him. From the attitudes of God’s people toward David during his era, let us learn what attitude we are supposed to adopt toward the vessel of the era today.

1. The Attitude of Ahimelech toward David

Now David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest And he inquired of the LORD for him, gave him provisions, and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.

(1 Sam. 21:1; 22:10)

Out of jealousy and hatred, Saul was determined to kill David. He dispatched not only three thousand chosen men but also many informers to seek David’s life. He contacted the neighboring nations to in-

quire about David's living arrangements and whereabouts. He set up traps and snares to seek David out from among the people. Under such tense and dangerous circumstances, who dared to help David? David was considered a rebel by the tyrant Saul. Whoever helped David would be considered an accomplice in the rebellion and would not escape the fate of a rebel.

Yet Ahimelech the priest not only supplied David with bread but also gave him a sword. Didn't Ahimelech know that he would suffer a tragic end for doing that? Yes, he did. He was a priest and knew long ago that God had anointed David through Samuel. With this recognition — that David had been chosen by God — he helped David at the risk of losing his life and family. Despite the surveillance of the tyrant's lackeys, he handed David the sword of Goliath. This sword, which David had once used to cut off Goliath's head, was a symbol of the resounding victory that God had given David. And now that this sword was handed to David, it indicated that God had given David the power to subdue his enemy, the pursuing tyrant. This was a courageous feat of Ahimelech who, in the will of God, helped David to gain the kingdom.

Nevertheless, in the eyes of Saul, Ahimelech was the accomplice of a rebel, and Saul killed him and his whole family. Saul said: "You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father's house!" Then the king said to the guards who stood about him, "Turn and kill the priests of the Lord, because their hand also is with David, and because they knew when he fled and did not tell it to me." But the servants of the king would not lift their hands to strike the priests of the Lord. And the king said to Doeg, "You turn and kill the priests!" So Doeg the Edomite turned and struck the priests, and killed on that day eighty-five men who wore a linen ephod. Also Nob, the city of the priests, he struck with the edge of the sword, both men and women, children and nursing infants, oxen and donkeys and sheep — with the edge of the sword" (1 Sam. 22:16–19).

Ahimelech knew that it was risky to help David escape. But he was also convinced that God's kingdom could only be ushered in by David,

and that only if David lived could God's will be accomplished. That was why he was willing to risk his own life for the safety of David, even at the expense of the lives of his whole family. What a fragrant sacrifice!

Brothers and sisters, at a time when the tyrants are relentlessly pursuing the vessel of the era, may we, in the spirit of sacrifice, imitate Ahimelech and stand firm on the side of God's anointed. Fear not the tyrannical power of the human kingdoms, but courageously help the vessel of the era accomplish the great work of revival in these last days.

2. The Attitude of Joab Toward David

And David and all Israel went to Jerusalem, which is Jebus, where the Jebusites were, the inhabitants of the land. But the inhabitants of Jebus said to David, You shall not come in here!" Nevertheless David took the stronghold of Zion (that is, the City of David). Now David said, "Whoever attacks the Jebusites first shall be chief and captain." And Joab the son of Zeruiah went up first, and became chief.

(1 Chron. 11:4–7)

When David was fleeing from Saul and living in exile, people went to him daily at his stronghold in the wilderness. They knew for certain that David was God's anointed one, the king of Israel promised by God through the prophet Samuel. Ever since the day they joined David, they had been advancing with him in one mind, in the spirit of battling.

When David came to Jerusalem to conquer the stronghold of Zion, the Jebusites in Jerusalem said to him, "'You shall not come in here; but the blind and the lame will repel you,' thinking, 'David cannot come in here'" (2 Sam. 5:6). The stronghold of Zion was so fortified that it could not be conquered even during the time of Joshua. The Jebusites who occupied God's inheritance did not have to send troops to defend it. They only needed the blind and the lame to be on guard! They were very haughty and presumptuous, totally despising David.

They thought that David would never be able to enter the city and that even the blind and lame could ward him off. David was furious, he said to those following him, “Does anybody here hate the Jebusites as much as I do? Enough to kill them? Then go up through the water tunnel and attack those poor blind cripples.” (2 Sam. 5:8, TEV)

Conquering the stronghold of Zion was indeed a difficult and perilous mission. This trial came upon all those who joined David. Who were those of the same mind as David? Who were willing to receive instructions while facing deadly peril? Many are earnest to do the easy, glorious and self-profiting tasks, but not something life-threatening. However, Joab was willing. He risked his life to cast out the blind and the lame in contempt of afflictions, difficulties and dangers.

Joab succeeded in this heroic attack because he was mindful of David’s heart and **his resolution: to fight to the death for the stronghold of Zion**. He also shared **the wrath of David against the enemies of Zion, and he was determined to annihilate them**. Joab’s enlightenment made him fearless in face of dangers, hardships, and death. He finally conquered Zion’s stronghold and became David’s commander. Joab’s response to David’s unyielding determination in capturing Zion was well-pleasing and acceptable to God.

Today God has also given us the stronghold of Zion (Mount Zion in Taiwan) for an inheritance. However, the present-day Jebusites (Kuomingtang Party — the ruling party in Taiwan) have illegally plundered and occupied it. They are bragging that so long as they are in power, the people of Zion can’t ever dream of returning to Zion. Such maniacal atrocities have greatly provoked God to wrath. The fury of the Most High God shall be kindled against the present-day Jebusites. God wants us to reclaim the present-day stronghold of Zion. This is the main entrustment of God, and the focus of our mission today.

If we have spiritual insight into our mission, we will be like Joab. We will hold fast to David’s unfaltering vision of seizing the stronghold of Zion, and with the same divine wrath like David, we will exterminate all the enemies of Zion, not turning back until they are utterly annihilated. We will, with the determination of “If I die, I die” ad-

vance towards Zion, restoring Zion and returning to her in victory.

During the conquest of the stronghold of Zion, Joab proved his close tie with David. His connection with David greatly pleased God. However, there is one thing about Joab which serves as a warning to us! After David was anointed king, Abner and Amasa came and surrendered themselves to David. But out of jealousy and personal grudges, Joab murdered Abner and Amasa in total disregard of David's love for the mighty men (spiritual ministers). (See 2 Sam. 3 and 20.) This matter which greatly displeased God brought God's curse upon Joab and he met a tragic end.

May this be our warning: never defile God's sacred work with our personal grudges or our concern over loss and gain. Instead, let us be mindful of the feelings of the vessel of the era in all matters, and treasure the co-workers treasured by him. When we keep in step with the vessel of the era, going through thick and thin with him and remaining faithful even until death, we will accomplish God's entrusted mission.

3. The Attitude of Eleazar Towards David

And after him was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite, one of the three mighty men with David when they defied the Philistines who were gathered there for battle, and the men of Israel had retreated. He arose and attacked the Philistines until his hand was weary, and his hand stuck to the sword. The Lord brought about a great victory that day; and the people returned after him only to plunder.

(2 Sam. 23:9–10)

And next to him among the three mighty men was Eleazar the son of Dodo, the Ahohite. He was with David at Pasdammim when the Philistines were gathered there for battle. There was a plot of ground full of barley, and the men fled from the Philistines. But he took his stand in the midst of the plot, and defended it, and slew the Philistines; and the Lord saved them by a great victory.

(1 Chron. 11:12–14 RSV)

Eleazar had an even more profound life-tie with David. Like Joab he had faced a formidable enemy and gone through ferocious battles. At a time when everyone had fled from the Philistines, he alone stood firm, fighting courageously and resolutely to defend the position of Israel. And because he stood firm on the battlefield, the Lord saved the Israelites by a great victory.

Eleazar won such a glorious triumph because he **valued David's matters above everything else**. He strove to do whatever David entrusted him, even in the face of difficulties and dangers. He was a faithful vessel who would keep charge of the testimony of God.

Brothers and sisters, it will be easier for us to go on fighting if we have companions holding fast the Lord's truth together with us in one mind. But when everyone around us wavers and runs away, we will tend to follow everyone to run away from the battlefield, or even defect when confronted by the enemy. Some may even make excuses saying, "We never wanted to leave voluntarily, but were forced to by the circumstances." In fact, it was because they were timid, treasured their lives more than God's work.

In the New Testament Church today, we face such tests all the time. There was a period of time when everyone [even her own daughter] left Sis. Kong Duen Yee. All the co-workers wavered and everyone started to doubt: "Is Sis. Kong right? Is what she preached the truth?" At that time, God put many to test. Were they clear of the vision when they first believed? Perhaps they were clear of the vision, but were they willing to pay a higher price for it? Many people are willing to pay a price but only to a certain extent. Higher demand will kill them. When they see everyone fleeing, they will follow suit, or they may even run away before others do. Therefore, we should pray for the spirit of Eleazar. Let's be faithful witnesses till the end, holding fast our position till we win the ultimate victory.

In 1976, I was in Taiwan when the violent storm of apostasy, like a siege of the Philistine army, swept over the entire New Testament Church. I was very worried that the churches in Singapore and Malaysia might be carried away, for I was unable to go into their midst to

strengthen them. These churches were established by the Lord's maidservant Sis. Kong through the full gospel, in much bitter travail. I passed nights without any sleep, praying endlessly to the Lord to destroy the dominion of apostasy and preserve His own church.

Thanks be to the Lord! He remembered my prayers. Wonderfully, at a time when everyone was leaving the New Testament Church, He raised up a group of warriors to defend the Lord's truth, battling courageously by rebuking the erroneous doctrines of apostasy. And because of their firm stand, they managed to cast out the Philistines, and saved this large piece of barley field (Singapore and Malaysia). In the end, all the churches there were preserved. Hallelujah!

In 1979, God led me to settle down on Mount Zion to undertake the ministry of Prophet of All Nations. This was again a great trial for all saints and co-workers. Many people were greatly perplexed. "How are we going to undertake ministry in a remote mountain? How are we going to lead all nations back if we don't go out to preach? Is Bro. Hong's leading really from God?" In the following year, 1980, we were evicted from Zion. Everyone was even more perplexed: "If all nations are to flow back to Zion, why are we dispersed? If Mount Zion is the holy mountain, how can she be plundered?" These afflictions tried us time and again to see whether we were firmly standing by the side of the vessel of the era, and fully agreeing to his feelings and leading.

In early 1980, after we were scattered from the holy mountain, the three Tan and Liu families still remained on the mountain. The messengers of the devil Satan, who were the lackeys of the evil human kingdom, continually went up the mountain to threaten and entice them into coming down the mountain. Throughout the siege of dogs and evil gangs, the people of Zion stood firm, faithfully watching over the mountain of God's inheritance. Daily, they prayed on the Big Stone Hill, pleading with the God of Mount Zion all night long to fight for Mount Zion. They were just like Eleazar who did not stop killing the enemies until his hand stuck to the sword. Thanks be to the Lord! The people of Zion held on to their determination: they pledged to fight to the death in defending Zion. When they fought in one mind with the ves-

sel of the era, God let the victory of Zion be manifested all over the world.

Brothers and sisters, God surely wants us to have a closer tie with the vessel of the era. May we imitate Eleazar, at a time when all men run away, let us co-work with the vessel of the era, standing firm by the side of God. Let us highly regard the matters of the vessel of the era, go through thick and thin with him, and fight till the end for God's will. Then God shall lead the captives back to Zion.

4. The Attitude of Abishai and the Two Other Mighty Men Toward David

Now these were the heads of the mighty men whom David had, who strengthened themselves with him in his kingdom, with all Israel, to make him king, according to the word of the Lord concerning Israel.

(1 Chron. 11:10)

*Now three of the thirty chief men went down to the rock to David, into the cave of Adullam; and the army of the Philistines encamped in the Valley of Rephaim. David was then in the stronghold, and the garrison of the Philistines was then in Bethlehem. And David said with longing, (TEV: **David got homesick**) "Oh, that someone would give me a drink of water from the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate!" So the three broke through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem that was by the gate, and took it and brought it to David. Nevertheless David would not drink it, but poured it out to the Lord. And he said, "Far be it from me, O my God, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For at the risk of their lives they brought it." Therefore he would not drink it. These things were done by the three mighty men. Abishai the brother of Joab was chief of another three.*

(1 Chron. 11:15–20)

In order to satisfy David's longing for his home, the three mighty men risked their lives to break through the camp of the Philistines, drew water from the well of Bethlehem which was by the gate, and took it and brought it to David. Why should they pay such a high price for David, a man? According to the traditional concept of Christianity, it is right that one should love God more than his own life, but it is not worthwhile to risk one's life for a man like David. Such an action may be considered too impulsive, irrational, superstitious, and plain stupid. Some people may even regard this action heretical, thinking it is following and exalting man.

However, God let the account of their bravery and loyalty (the names of David's mighty men and their deeds) be recorded in the Bible to show that their deed was well remembered by Him, and was praiseworthy. Why? This is because the deeds of these three mighty men were not out of foolish zeal but out of ***their recognition of God's choice on David***. They had a profound insight, knowing that David was God's anointed, that the responsibility to shepherd God's people rested with him, and that God's will would be done through him. If they wanted to obey God and fight for His kingdom, they had to be of the same mind and footsteps as David, love him, and be prepared to sacrifice everything for him. They were clear that whatever they did for David was for the God who chose David. Only when they had reached such an intimate and strong tie with David could God's work be accomplished, God's heart satisfied, and David consoled. David said, "Far be it from me, O my God, that I should do this! Shall I drink the blood of these men who have put their lives in jeopardy? For at the risk of their lives they brought it."

These three mighty men risked their lives to get the water because they ***sympathized with David's homesickness***. . . . This is an important principle for all those who want to serve God: sympathize with the desire of the vessel of the era. If the three mighty men did not have this perception, they would surely be unhappy with David's pining for his home. They might have accused him, "What days are these? What place is this, that you dare think of drinking the water within the de-

fense line of the enemies? You're taking too much upon yourself! All you want is to gratify your own desires. You show no consideration for others. At this hour, you should drink any water! How could you desire drinking the water from home! You have come to fight for the LORD, yet you feel homesick! (Sigh!)”

But these three warriors were different. They **completely complied with David's feeling**. They could **enter into the feeling of David** and were always there to support him and act with him. This was an even firmer tie with David which consoled David and satisfied God. We should also have such a bond with the vessel of the era.

In these last days, the Holy Spirit has restored the ministry of apostles and raised up the spiritual master builder to relay the foundation of the church. God has him hold the plumb line in his hand to begin the work of rebuilding the glorious New Testament Church. When the church appears, she will destroy the dominion of darkness, deal with the prince of this world, overthrow the dens of Satan, cast Satan into the bottomless pit, and herald in the unshakable kingdom of God. May all of us have this strong desire to imitate the mighty men of David. Let us respect and obey the anointed one of God, enter into his feelings, follow him closely and bear the same yoke with him in the truth.

Many people wonder why there is such a great revival in the New Testament Church these years. The reason is there is a group of mighty men whose hearts are inclined towards the vessel of the era. Just as the three mighty men of David, these ministers and saints — today's mighty men, have one same spirit: they sacrifice themselves to support the vessel of the era, to appease his longing for Zion, and console his spirit. It is because they know that the entire will of God in these last days has been entrusted to him. If he can undertake his ministry, the work of God will be done. If he stops, all the other ministers will follow suit and the entire work of God will come to a standstill. This is like a train in motion. If the train's locomotive stops, all the carriages behind it will also stop. If it moves, all the carriages will also go forward.

So we rather sacrifice ourselves to constantly uphold the vessel of

the era in the spirit. Let him be encouraged, consoled, strengthened, and released in the spirit. This is the recognition and attitude we ought to have today. May the Lord add us grace and help us to have an intimate life-tie with the vessel of the era, to fight with him and to accomplish the God-entrusted work of revival.

5. The Attitude of Ittai towards David

*Then all his servants passed before him; and all the Cherethites, all the Pelethites, and all the Gittites, six hundred men who had followed him from Gath, passed before the king. Then the king said to Ittai the Gittite, "Why are you also going with us? Return and remain with the king. For you are a foreigner and also an exile from your own place. In fact, you came only yesterday. Should I make you wander up and down with us today, since I go I know not where? Return, and take your brethren back. Mercy and truth be with you." Then Ittai answered the king and said, "As the Lord lives, and as my lord the king lives, **surely in whatever place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also your servant will be.**" So David said to Ittai, "Go, and cross over." Then Ittai the Gittite and all his men and all the little ones who were with him crossed over.*

(2 Sam. 15:18–22)

Then David sent out one third of the people under the hand of Joab, one third under the hand of Abishai the son of Zeruiah, Joab's brother, and one third under the hand of Ittai the Gittite. And the king said to the people, "I also will surely go out with you myself." But the people answered, "You shall not go out! For if we flee away, they will not care about us; nor if half of us die, will they care about us. But you are worth ten thousand of us now. For you are now more help to us in the city.

(2 Sam. 18:2–3)

Though David had been anointed king, his life was full of sufferings and afflictions. He was relentlessly pursued first by Saul and later by his own son, Absalom, who rebelled against him. In order to escape from Absalom, David had to flee from Jerusalem. At that time, all his people and servants fled with him. Among them were the six hundred men from Gath. But David could not bear to let them wander and suffer with him. So he wanted Ittai to take his brethren back to the city.

Brothers and sisters, if you were Ittai, how would you react? Some might think, “That’s just fine! The situation now is too perilous, and following you may not make me prosper. Since you ask me to go back, I’ll do so. After all, it’s not my decision, it’s yours.” But it was not so with Ittai. He was determined to follow David, whether in life or death. He treasured David as himself. **In fact he loved David’s life more than his own.** Do you think that the attitude of Ittai to David was wrong? It should be God whom you must love more than yourself, not a man! Are you not treating man as God?

Brothers and sisters, Ittai’s attitude towards David was not wrong. He would not treat man as God. **He valued David more than himself** because he knew that David was the anointed king of God and he represented God. **This was the concrete expression of his love for God,** a correct attitude that was well-pleasing to God. Ittai knew that it was very risky to follow David. However, he firmly believed God’s kingdom would be ushered in by David. If only David could be safe and sound, God’s will would be accomplished. Therefore, he stayed with David in total disregard of his own life.

Ittai was not establishing a personal friendship with David. He was fully aware that David was the key man to fulfilling God’s will. That was why he loved David more than his own life. Ittai’s attitude towards David was extremely pleasing to God, and was thus recorded in the Bible to serve as an example to us.

When God’s maidservant Sis. Kong was alive, many brothers and sisters truly loved her in the Lord. When they knew her tongue was bleeding in excruciating pain, they said to God, “O God, I’m willing to endure the agonizing pain in Your maidservant’s stead. O God, please

heal her tongue so that she can deliver Your messages.” This prayer and determination was very precious and it truly touched the heart of God.

Brothers and sisters, how the Lord hopes that we can have such love for His anointed one, even to the point of sacrificing our own lives. I remember on Sept. 17, 1978, the Church of Keelung went preaching in Wanli. The devil Satan instigated the idol-worshippers to beat up our brothers and sisters. Nearly a thousand of them besieged the messengers of the gospel and attempted to overturn our gospel van. The situation was tense and dangerous.

When I heard the news, I wanted to rush to Wanli immediately. But the Lord’s servant Bro. Pi said to me, “Bro. Hong, the New Testament Church needs you. You mustn’t go. Stay back and pray for us. Let me go!” Bro. Pi is truly the latter-day Ittai. That night Bro. Pi sustained serious injuries after he was badly beaten by the evil men. When I learned about his condition, I felt very bad because he was beaten up in my stead. How I wished I had borne this suffering myself. On the other hand, I thanked God for giving us such a self-sacrificing servant. He is the pride and glory of the New Testament Church!

Later, we learned about the awesome power of God manifested continuously in Wanli. The evil-doers met with the severe punishment of God one after the other. The dominion of idolatry in that village was utterly shattered. Through this incident, God let us recognize that the spirit of Ittai — the spirit which treasures the vessel of the era more than one’s own life — is truly the spirit of helping the vessel of the era to accomplish God’s will. Whoever has the spirit of Ittai will surely experience God’s victorious power. May God richly fill us with the spirit of Ittai that we may fight together with the latter-day David until the coming of God’s kingdom.

6. The Attitude of Saul towards David

After God sent Samuel to anoint David, the Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD troubled Saul. The servants of Saul brought David to play the harp to drive out the evil

spirit in Saul. On seeing David, Saul came to love him dearly. At that time, Goliath the Philistine came to defy and challenge the armies of the living God. All the Israelites were terribly afraid and dared not meet the challenge. When David saw this he was stirred by the wrath of God and volunteered to go into battle. In the name of the LORD of hosts, David struck Goliath on the forehead with a sling and a stone, and cut off Goliath's head with Goliath's sword. So the whole army of the Philistines was defeated and the Israelites won a great victory. David had done a deed of merit and should have been rewarded. Ironically, since then he had to run for his life because Saul's attitude towards him completely changed.

Hating David out of Jealousy

Now it happened as they were coming home, when David was returning from the slaughter of the Philistine, that the women had come out of all the cities of Israel, singing and dancing, to meet King Saul, with tambourines, with joy, and with musical instruments. So the women sang as they danced, and said: "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands." Then Saul was very angry, and the saying displeased him; and he said, "They have ascribed to David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed only thousands. Now what more can he have but the kingdom?" So Saul eyed David from that day forward.

(1 Sam. 18:6–9)

In the beginning, Saul loved David dearly. But after David had killed Goliath, Saul became jealous of David and resented him. Why was there such a drastic change of attitude? It was because the women praised David singing, "Saul has slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands." Saul felt that he had really lost face. David's slaughter of Goliath was a heroic feat in defending the country. He should have been praised and rewarded. Saul did not reward David, instead, he was infuriated when the women praised David. He felt that since they had ascribed ten thousands to David and mere thousands to him, the only

thing left for David to acquire was the kingdom. Saul hated David and was jealous of him. He was worried that the people would uphold David as king.

Saul should have known that the king over God's people was not set up by man, but by God. Moreover, after David was anointed, God's Spirit left Saul and was with David. If Saul had truly revered God, he should have immediately abdicated his throne. Nevertheless, he did not, but instead, he became jealous and resented David. How terrible it was to show such disrespect for the anointing of God! He had in fact been hostile to God, not man. Saul's mentality was an exact portrayal of the tyrants in the human kingdoms.

In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, apostles Peter and John commanded a man lame from birth to rise up and walk. Many came to believe in Jesus because of this. But when the rulers, elders, scribes and high priest saw this, they were jealous of the apostles. Worried that the people would soon be following Jesus, they arrested the apostles and examined them before the council. Doing a good deed for the disabled, the apostles became wanted men to those in power!

Today, the evil human kingdom treats the New Testament Church just as how the rulers in the past treated the early apostles. The New Testament Church rebuilt by the Holy Spirit preaches the holy truth. She is full of God's power to lead sinners onto the right path, strengthen the weak, heal the sick, release the captives, etc. When people of all nations came to know about this truth, they accepted it and came to Taiwan in succession to entreat God's grace from the prophet. When the human kingdom saw these pilgrims at Taiwan's international airport, carrying banners reading: "To entreat God's grace from the prophet," "Going up to Zion to meet the Great King of Zion," etc, they were very displeased, envious, and angry. They felt that the pilgrims should have called on their administrative department instead. So they made things difficult for the New Testament Church, and persecuted her. Their attitude was just like Saul's toward David, an attitude that greatly offended God.

Going against David out of fear

Now Saul was afraid of David, because the Lord was with him, but had departed from Saul. Therefore Saul removed him from his presence, and made him his captain over a thousand; and he went out and came in before the people. And David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him. Therefore, when Saul saw that he behaved very wisely, he was afraid of him. But all Israel and Judah loved David, because he went out and came in before them.

(1 Sam. 18:12–16)

Thus Saul saw and knew that the Lord was with David, and that Michal, Saul's daughter, loved him; and Saul was still more afraid of David. So Saul became David's enemy continually. Then the princes of the Philistines went out to war. And so it was, whenever they went out, that David behaved more wisely than all the servants of Saul, so that his name became highly esteemed.

(1 Sam. 18:28–30)

Saul realized that God had departed from him and was with David. He also noticed that David was an excellent leader in the eyes of the people, invincible and successful in all his undertakings. This made Saul even more afraid of David. This “fear” was abnormal! The king and the whole nation should rejoice over such an excellent talent found in the country. This is a blessing to both the king and the country. Why should Saul fear? Because he was afraid that his throne would be taken by David. He saw that David had great success and was better than him in every respect. Not only the people and the servants loved David, even his daughter, Michal, was in love with him. On seeing the situation grew increasingly unfavorable to him, he became more panicky, confused, and afraid. The more his fear grew, the more he felt that he should eliminate David. He was not only opposing David, but God.

Today, the enemies of Zion are just like Saul. They become afraid when they notice the New Testament Church thriving daily despite

their repeated mobilization of national forces against her. They have sent troops up to Mount Zion many times to investigate the New Testament Church. Once, they even dispatched some military intelligence who stayed on Mount Zion for quite a while to conduct some on-site investigations. After living on Mount Zion for a few days, they praised us openly, "If the whole world were like you, the police would indeed be unnecessary." Who was to know that the authorities concerned became increasingly jealous of us. They worried that the New Testament Church might be stronger than they. So they planned to persecute the church. They plundered Mount Zion and evicted the people unlawfully. They thought that in this way Mount Zion would come to an end, and that their efforts would have a successful completion.

Unexpectedly, instead of coming to an end, Mount Zion is preached to all nations. Saints in all over the world are filled even more with the spirit of Zion; they earnestly long to return to Zion. To the authorities, Zion has become a thorn in their throats and a sword in their breast.

After we were evicted from our home, Mount Zion, we wandered at the Hsiaolin riverbed. We often encountered raging floods, with torrents of water rushing down from the mountains. Once we were besieged by flash floods and were cut off from all means of escape. When we almost gave up all hope of survival, the Lord's Spirit moved me to stand amidst the water to utter forth the prayer of Elijah. I rebuked the wind and rain, and commanded the water to recede. Immediately, the water began to subside. We were saved by the Lord from the flood, and none of us was lost. Hallelujah!

As a result, some people in Taiwan commented, "There is a spiritual being in Taiwan; he is Elijah Hong. Elijah is a man with *divine power*." The wonderful work of God had become well known, and the fame of the present-day David had spread far and wide. At this stage, the human kingdom furthered its persecution. They demolished the tents of the people of Zion who wandered at the riverbed. However, the saints were even more firm in striving toward Zion. They displayed this testimony: "We may be decapitated and our blood may be shed, but we vow never to rest until we return to Zion."

Therefore, those in power are even more jealous and afraid of the New Testament Church. In fact, their fear of the New Testament Church is uncalled-for. It only proves that their policy of persecuting the New Testament Church has greatly offended God. If they refuse to repent, they are destined to be destroyed by God.

Seeking David's Life

Saul had set a policy to kill David. (See 1 Sam. 19.) What sins had David committed that Saul should seek his life? Jonathan once said to Saul his father, "Let not the king sin against his servant, against David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his works have been very good toward you. For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the Lord brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?" (1 Sam. 19:4–5).

Saul was foolish, for he resolved to kill such a loyal and patriotic man as David. And because Jonathan helped David to flee from his pursuit, Saul reprimanded him, "How rebellious and faithless your mother was! Now I know you are taking sides with David and are disgracing yourself and that mother of yours! Don't you realize that as long as David is alive, you will never be king of this country? Now go and bring him here — he must die!" (1 Sam. 20:30–31 TEV).

Saul had no reason to kill David. If there was any reason, it was that David was God's anointed and a threat to his despotic rule. Saul wanted his son to be the heir to his throne, so that his descendants could be kings for generations to come. He felt he had to kill David. Such attitude towards God's anointed vessel is too wicked and will surely meet with the solemn judgment of God.

Saul resorted to all means in carrying out his persecution. When David was playing the harp to help him drive out the evil spirit, he attempted to kill David with a spear. He also slyly schemed to kill David by the hands of the Philistines. Superficially, he wanted to give David his daughter to be his wife, but the dowry was one hundred foreskins of the Philistines. He expected the Philistines to slaughter David. His

motive was so deadly. He sent out lackeys and spies (Doeg and the inhabitants of Ziph and Keilah) to investigate the footsteps of David. He himself led an army of chosen men to search for David. He vowed to search David out among all the thousands of Judah. He mobilized all his national forces to deal with David and he would not rest till he had killed him. Nevertheless, God did not give David into his hands. And so all his efforts came to no avail. Eventually he was defeated by the Philistines, and killed himself by falling on his own sword. (See 1 Sam. 31:2–6.) This was the dreadful end of Saul, who was determined to seek the life of God’s anointed. Sad to say, the present-day Saul is even more atrocious than the Saul of the past. His end shall be even more tragic.

Ever since the New Testament Church was rebuilt by the Holy Spirit, the truth we preach and the ministry we assume have benefited all peoples and nations, and have brought a great salvation to mankind. Yet the human kingdom has been anxious for nothing. Despite their failures to find any fault with the New Testament Church, the authorities kept investigating her for over two decades.

The New Testament Church believes in and preaches the holy truth. She is the spiritual church justified by the Holy Spirit. Of course she is not questionable.

Yet, the human kingdom is bent on eliminating the New Testament Church at all costs. The reason they give is “in consideration of security.” In their eyes, the righteous must not exist. When the righteous live, they pose a “security problem” to them. Under these groundless security reasons, the New Testament Church time and again becomes a victim of their dreadful persecution. They can press false charges and imprison us at their whims and fancies, giving no chance for us to defend ourselves. But thanks be to the Lord! Since He has let us walk on this path of David, He shall also let us experience David’s victory. We will behold with our own eyes God stretching out His hand to kill the present-day Saul just as He had killed the Saul of the past.

We are well familiar with Saul’s strategy of killing his enemies by another’s hand. The Doeg (the dogs and evil gangs) who are sent by

present-day Saul come under the pretext of serving God. Actually they are spies trying to find grounds of accusation against us. These people suppose that godliness is a means of gain and they serve God for their own belly. They have become the enemies of the cross. Woe betide them! God shall surely destroy these people, pluck them out of their house, and uproot them from the land of the living. (See Ps. 52:5.)

In short, God of heaven will not spare any ruler who persecutes the vessel of the era out of jealousy. Dreadful destruction will come upon him. May all the kings of the earth be warned, lest they perish in the fury of God.

7. The attitude of Jonathan towards David

The soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul... Then Jonathan and David made a covenant...

(1 Sam. 18:1,3)

Jonathan was different from Saul his father, who could never tolerate David's existence. Jonathan loved David as his own life. When Saul wanted to kill David, he stood up courageously for David. (See 1 Sam. 19:4 – 5.) When Saul began to rave, "David must die!" Jonathan questioned his father boldly, "Why should he die?" Besides this, Jonathan also risked his life to disclose his father's plot to David. The love of Jonathan for David was a deep brotherly affection, a rare and intimate friendship. For this reason, many Christians admire Jonathan and take him as their role model. But there was a blemish in Jonathan's way of following. Though Jonathan loved David as much as himself, he did not follow him unceasingly. This was the cause of his downfall.

Jonathan made covenant with David several times, but after each covenant, he did not follow David through thick and thin to live in exile. He always went back to the city to lead an easy and comfortable life. (See 1 Sam. 20:42.) Jonathan knew that the anointing of God was upon David. He once said to David, "Do not fear, for the hand of Saul

my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you” (1 Sam. 23:17). Yes! If only David became king, Jonathan would surely be next in rank. Though Jonathan knew that God had rejected his father and anointed David, he did not follow David in exile or to battle. Instead, he followed his father who had been discarded, to war and back home. (See 1 Sam. 23:16–28.)

Jonathan failed to follow David without reservation. He was always by the side of his father. Though he loved David very much, he could not sever himself from the love of his father. He was unlike Ittai who loved David more than his own life, and for David he was willing to sacrifice himself and all personal affections.

In short, Jonathan did not dare to fully mind God’s heart, to resolutely depart from his father’s hold, to break through his earthly relationship and submit totally to David. Because of all these weaknesses, he came to a very tragic end. He died together with his father on the battlefield. May this attitude of Jonathan to David be a stern warning to us.

Today God wants to gain the mighty men who will follow the vessel of the era limitlessly, the vessels who will submit without reservation to the apostles. ***In submitting to the apostles, one has to deny his own position and mastership. He has to obey and dedicate himself completely.*** A person’s submission will be impure and incomplete if he can only submit when he thinks what the apostles do is beneficial to him, but not when it is the contrary. God will not be pleased with such a submission.

In the past, the mighty men who helped David gain the kingdom not only had recognized God’s choice on David, but also took the action of going up to Hebron to anoint him king. Therefore, recognition without the action of submission is worthless. Today there are many people in the denominations who say they believe that the path of the New Testament Church is right and understand the truth on apostleship, and that they are revived when they attend the meetings of the New Testament Church. After knowing so much about the New Testament Church, what do they do? Do they separate themselves from

the denominations? No! Though they say that they want to mind God's heart and abide by His will, they still fear the slanders, persecution, and rejection from the denominations. They are afraid of "Saul" who is still on the throne. Those pastors are their good friends and are affectionate to them. Furthermore, they want to maintain their present prosperity and success. They also refuse to cut all earthly ties for the way of the cross — the blood path of the martyrs. How regrettable indeed!

Obviously, it is easier said than done. Not every one is willing to pay a price to obey God's will. Many people will hesitate, especially "the wise." But one should not hesitate in following the Lord. The most important thing is we have to be clear whether this path is in accordance with God's will. If it is, walk on it by faith without hesitation. Before God, we have no excuse to give, and no circumstances to fear. If you will only serve God when the circumstances are favorable, you will never make it because Satan will always create all kinds of difficulties to hinder you.

The heavenly path is always walked on by faith, just as the city of Jericho was conquered by faith. The work of God can never be analyzed, understood, and solved by the human mind. Therefore, we need to have simple faith in order to be the mighty men of David. After we have recognized the choice of God on the vessel of the era, let us submit to him immediately. Otherwise, we will not be able to battle with him and gain the reward together.

8. The Attitude of Abner towards David

Abner was the commander of Saul's army. When David was fleeing from the pursuit of Saul, he did not come to join David for he still had great power in Saul's house. (See 2 Sam. 3:6.) Only after the death of Saul did he come to join David. He came with his own ulterior motives. The Bible records: "And Saul had a concubine, whose name was Rizpah, the daughter of Aiah. So Ishbosheth said to Abner, 'Why have you gone in to my father's concubine?' Then Abner became very angry at the words of Ishbosheth, and said, 'Am I a dog's head that

belongs to Judah? Today I show loyalty to the house of Saul your father, to his brothers, and to his friends, and have not delivered you into the hand of David; and you charge me today with a fault concerning this woman? May God do so to Abner, and more also, if I do not do for David as the Lord has sworn to him — to transfer the kingdom from the house of Saul, and set up the throne of David over Israel and over Judah, from Dan to Beersheba” (2 Sam. 3:7–10).

Abner knew well that God would renounce Saul and make David king over both Israel and Judah. Though Abner had known God’s will, he did not care to abide by it. He committed adultery with Saul’s concubine and was reprimanded by Ishbosheth. It was only after such embarrassment that he angrily turned against his master to join David. He did not come to join David with a pure motive. He did not come because of God’s will and vision, but for personal gains. If Ishbosheth had overlooked his deed, and let him do whatever he liked in Saul’s house, would he be willing to come and join David? Obviously, this man had very little fear for God. How haughty and carnal he was!

Before going over to join David, he sent someone with a letter to David, saying, “Who will rule this land? If you make a covenant with me, then I’ll help you win all Israel over to your side” (2 Sam. 3:12 TEV). From this letter we can see even more clearly Abner’s ulterior motive for joining David. He did not follow David unconditionally out of submission to God. He wanted an agreement with David and even negotiated with him. If David refused to make an agreement with him, he would not help David rule the kingdom of Israel. This is a selfish and arrogant spirit. He acted as if he were greater than God. Abner was actually blackmailing David. He was evil.

In fact, Abner was nothing more than a vile opportunist. He came to David only when he met setbacks in Saul’s house. If one day, he lost his position in David’s house, what do you think he would do? God will not be pleased with those who come to join the anointed one of God with a selfish motive and a spirit of blackmailing. In the process of joining David, Abner died a tragic death. May the attitude of Abner towards David serve as a warning to all.

Shortly after the New Testament Church was rebuilt, many people left the denominations and returned to the New Testament Church. They said they wanted to submit to the leading of the maidservant of God, Sis. Kong. But these people wanted very much to preach on the pulpit. When they did not have a chance to do so, they snatched away the microphone during meetings. There were selfish ambitions and motives behind their return to the New Testament Church and their submission to the apostles. They did not return because they had seen the vision of ***the Holy Spirit rebuilds the New Testament Church*** and the choice of God on Sis. Kong, but because they wanted to deliver sermons. Such “return” was not reliable and they were soon purged away by the Holy Spirit. There were some who came because they wanted to play the piano, while others came to lead hymns. They all stopped coming because they were not arranged to serve in the church as they had wanted. This is the spirit of Abner which displeases God.

Those who come to the church with their own ideals and requirements will not go far in their ministration. But those who have truly seen the vision and recognized the chief apostle set up by God will come without any condition. They will not boast of their history nor covet future gains. They will work and serve humbly and willingly, even if they are told to clean the bathroom everyday.

Some came to the New Testament Church in order to join the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade. They often worked throughout the night and served diligently, trying hard to please the chief apostle. But when other spiritual ministers spoke frank words to them, they murmured, “I have done all I can for the New Testament Church, why are you still so mean to me? Forget it!” Such people had the spirit of Abner. One has to deal with this spirit if he wants to have a share in God’s kingdom.

When all the tribes and warriors helped David gain the kingdom with undivided loyalty, the house of David grew stronger while the house of Saul grew weaker. The LORD God was with David and established him king over Israel. The LORD had also exalted his kingdom for the sake of His own people Israel. And the fame of David spread throughout every land, and the LORD brought the fear of him upon all

nations. (See 2 Sam. 3:1; 1 Chron. 14:2,17.)

May the Lord enlighten all His children who desire to serve Him. May He let them recognize the present-day David (the chief apostle and the co-workers — Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade) that they may completely submit to him, putting aside their own standards, concepts, ideals and ambitions. May all God's children follow the chief apostle and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade to advance unceasingly till all the kingdoms of this world become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ. Amen!

Mighty Men of David



1. Let's come to the wil-der-ness! Join the wand-'ring Da-vid, be-come a host like
2. Face like li-on, swift as deer, ex-pert with all wea-pons, men who un-der-stand
3. Well e-quipped for the bat-tle, with un-di-vid-ed heart. Risk their necks to help
4. Where a-noint-ed Da-vid is, there al-so we will be. Life or death we will



1. God's host, real might-y men we are. O Da-vid! We are all yours, we
2. the times, who bold-ly charge at foes. The least re-sists a hun-dred, the
3. Da-vid to pos-sess the king-dom. House of Da-vid grows strong-er, house
4. fol-low, hold fast to right-eous-ness. God's king-dom is vic-to-rious, men's



1. have come to help you. We will en-joy peace with you, for your God will help you.
2. great-est a thou-sand. De-stroy the band of raid-ers, cap-ture Zi-on's strong-hold.
3. of Saul be-comes weak. All the na-tions fear Da-vid, and his fame spreads a-broad.
4. king-dom has fal-len. Christ reigns as King for-e-ver and Zi-on fills the earth.



7 | Come to the Vessel of the Era

Exalting Christ

Some Christians claim they exalt Christ, not man. But in reality, they are exalting man (the pastors or evangelists whom they adore) instead of Christ. When they hear us preaching “Apostleship,” they comment that the New Testament Church exalts man, not the Lord Jesus. Their comments reveal their ignorance of the way God works. It is right for God’s children to exalt the Lord Jesus, but how do they exalt the Lord Jesus? The Lord Jesus Christ is exalted through His chosen vessel.

“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life” (John 3:14 – 15). It clearly states that the bronze serpent (representing the Son of Man, Jesus Christ) was lifted up by Moses (the vessel of the era).

When the Israelites murmured against God and Moses in the wilderness, they greatly provoked God to wrath. God sent fiery serpents among the Israelites, many of whom were bitten to death. When the people came to plead with Moses to pray to the LORD to take away the serpents, the LORD asked Moses to make a fiery serpent (bronze serpent) and put it on a pole, that whoever was bitten would live when he looked at it. (See Num. 21:4 – 9.)

This bronze serpent, which was God’s way of redeeming His people, was lifted up by Moses, the vessel of the era. When the Lord Jesus was on earth, He specially mentioned this incident so that man would know that just as the serpent was lifted up in the wilderness by Moses, the Son of Man would also be lifted up by the vessel of the era (the chief apostle) appointed by God. The Lord Jesus cannot be lifted up without the chief apostle (the vessel of the era).

Whoever is on the Lord's Side, Let Him Come to the Vessel of the Era

Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained, (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies), then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, "Whoever is on the LORD's side — come to me!" And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.

(Exod. 32:25–26)

In the eyes of man, Moses was too proud and unspiritual to ask people to come to him. Some might even think that he was wrong and that he should have said, "Whoever is on the LORD's side, let him come to the LORD!" How could he say, "Let him come to me"? Many might feel that Moses had brought the people to himself, not to God. Moses preached about himself, not God. That was actually not the case. Moses was the spiritual leader and the representative of God. Coming to Moses was coming to God. When the sons of Levi came to Moses, they were greatly blessed by God. God consecrated them from among the twelve tribes of Israel to shoulder the holy office of the priests. This shows how pleased the LORD was with their coming to Moses!

In these last days, whoever is on the Lord's side (whoever is spiritual), let him also come to the present-day Moses — the chief apostle and the Grace of Jesus Christ Crusade set up by God. Coming to the vessel of the era is pleasing to God and the way to God's blessing.

The Latter-day Elijah Has Come! Come to the Latter-day Elijah!

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 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.

(Mal. 4:5–6)

Then Elijah said to all the people, **“Come near to me.”** So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down... And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, “LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again.” Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!”

(1 Kings 18:30,36–39)

We mentioned earlier that the practical way to offer to God is to offer to the apostle (vessel of the era) appointed by God. We can clearly see this principle in Elijah’s battle on Mount Carmel. If God’s people wanted to offer their sacrifice, they had to find the altar of the LORD, which was with Elijah (the vessel of the era sent by God). Apart from this altar, all the other altars belonged to Baal. Before being zealous and making offerings, God’s children need to know the right altar where God will accept the offerings. This altar was with Elijah.

On Mount Carmel, the key to the glorious triumph of the Israelites rested entirely with Elijah. When Elijah came and repaired the torn-down altar of the LORD (according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, he took twelve stones and built an altar in the name of the LORD), the testimony of unity and the offering of pouring out one’s life (pouring out the twelve waterpots of water) appeared. How contented was the heart of God! He answered at once by fire to show

His acceptance of the sacrifice. Next, the prophets of Baal were annihilated and the rain poured down. Hallelujah! All these successive glorious works of God and the powerful ministration which shook the heavens and earth resulted from the people **coming to Elijah**.

There are many Christians who love the Lord with a pure heart and are willing to offer themselves to live wholly for Him, but they fail to find the right altar. Some of them mistake the altar of Baal for that of the LORD. Consequently, their ministrations are not answered by fire, and they cannot see any sign of revival. It is no wonder there are many people who lose faith in serving God.

While desolation is prevalent in Christendom, the New Testament Church stands out. She is prosperous, revived, and full of vitality. Her ministration carries dynamic power and is answered by heavenly fire. There is no end to the narration of God's glorious works. How does this glorious revival come about? There is only one reason: The New Testament Church comes to Elijah, and is of the same spirit and footsteps with him.

Behold, the latter-day Elijah has come! He is the vessel of the era set up by God in these last days. Come to the latter-day Elijah, all who want to understand God's will! Come to the latter-day Elijah, all who want to worship the true God! Come to the latter-day Elijah, all who want to behold the glorious works of God! Come to the latter-day Elijah, all who want their ministration to satisfy God! Come to the latter-day Elijah, all who want to bring revival to this generation! These are the last days. Let all people, kings, and rulers come to know the way to revival — **come to the latter-day Elijah!** May God greatly bless all who come to the latter-day Elijah! Amen!

Elijah Has Already Come!

I'll praise the LORD Je - ho - vah, I'll praise
the LORD Je - ho - vah, for E - li - jah has now
come (to)re - store all things.
My heart is to - ward the pro - phet, he's the
lat - ter E - li - jah. He u - nites fa - thers and
chil - dren; lest all the earth be ac - cursed.

The musical score is written in a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The score consists of six systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "I'll praise the LORD Je - ho - vah, I'll praise the LORD Je - ho - vah, for E - li - jah has now come (to)re - store all things. My heart is to - ward the pro - phet, he's the lat - ter E - li - jah. He u - nites fa - thers and chil - dren; lest all the earth be ac - cursed."