

Lesson #14

The Next Move of God

The Third Great Awakening Has Begun

The belief that the Third Great Awakening is currently beginning is based largely on patterns seen in history, and the promises of God in His word. Remember the axiom: *Our Path into the Future is determined by how we relate history to the present.* However, the emergence of apostolic and prophetic voices confirm this belief in a way that even the most skeptical will find amazing!

On April 29, 2016, I attended an Appeal To Heaven Conference in Moline, Illinois, which was hosted by Dutch Sheets Ministries. The name, “Appeal To Heaven” is based on the motto which was written on the flag which flew on the masts of a squadron of 6 ships commissioned by George Washington in 1775, as they prepared for the Revolutionary War. The flag has an image of an evergreen tree with the words above it: “An Appeal To Heaven.” The story of how Dutch Sheets came to focus on this flag is truly amazing, and we will not go into it here. But in general, it is a historical statement about how the founders relied upon God and believed He had a purpose for the United States of America.

During this conference, simultaneous events were taking place on the eastern shore of America at the location where in 1607, the Jamestown settlers landed to plant the first colony in this new land. It was at this location, Cape Henry, that Chaplain Robert Hunt planted a cross and dedicated this land to God and the spreading of the gospel. Below is Dutch Sheet’s account of the events that took place on April 29, 2016 in Moline, Illinois.



It is wonderful when our hopes and expectations are met; it’s even better when they are exceeded. Each of our three Appeal to Heaven conferences have done just that, however, increasing in depth, weight, and anointing. In Moline, Illinois, several leaders in attendance said that the second day, Friday, April 29, ranked as one of the most impacting, glory-filled days of their lives.

I didn’t realize it at the time, but that particular Friday, April 29th, was the actual anniversary of Robert Hunt planting a cross at Cape Henry in 1607, and dedicating the land to the spreading of gospel. Unbeknownst to me, my friend, Rick Curry, who had one of the confirming dreams about my involvement with the Appeal to Heaven flag (in which he saw me waving it over seven generations of Americans) was actually praying at Cape Henry as we were gathered at the conference. An amazing encounter he had while there confirmed to us the significance of the prayers and breakthrough we experienced. Here is his statement.

With a cold breeze sweeping across my shoulders and a biting, cold, misting rain rolling across my brow, I stood alone at Cape Henry. I stood at this remark-able place and remembered those who landed here on this date in 1607, the day a nation was conceived. Interestingly, that date in 1607 was the 8th day of Passover and today, April 29, 2016, begins the 8th day of Passover. [The number 8 in scripture symbolizes new beginnings; Passover pictures the cross.] I was making an

“appeal to heaven” when suddenly I realized I was not alone. Three ladies were standing behind me. One of them interrupted me, asking if she could tell me something. “Of course,” I responded.

She said they were on a prayer assignment from Maine, adding that Pat Robertson had prayed for them that morning [Pat is a direct descendent of Robert Hunt]. She then told me they were given a word from Holy Spirit for a man they would meet at Cape Henry. Since I was the only person there, they assumed the word was for me. “The Lord would say to you that the appeal has been heard in the Court of Heaven and the time for awakening has come!” She said.

I was speechless. They had no idea I was the man who had the dream about Dutch Sheets and the Appeal to Heaven flag. Nor did they know that an Appeal to Heaven conference was taking place at that very time.

(Rick Curry, April 29, 2016, Cape Henry, VA)

You can imagine the excitement in our conference as I read the text from Rick. I had just told the story of the flag and declared that awakening had begun! Could a more powerful confirmation have been given that God is hearing our appeals, and awakening is coming to this nation?

Friends, be assured that God is hearing our appeals and the Third Great Awakening has begun. Let’s not stop, however, but continue appealing in faith, feeding the movement that has begun and fueling the angelic help that is taking place!

As Walter Wink so eloquently states, we are forming the future today. “Prayer infuses the air of a time yet to be, into the suffocating atmosphere of the present. History belongs to the intercessors who believe the future into being.”

Let’s go get our future!

-Dutch Sheets

Is Now the Time?

At the first outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts Chapter 2, Jesus has told His disciples, “...you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you shall be witnesses to me ... to the end of the earth” (Acts 1:8). But remember that this statement was an answer to the disciples’ question: “Lord, will You at this time restore the Kingdom to Israel?” (Acts 1:6). We are at a point in history where we too must ask a similar question. Could this Third Great Awakening that is now starting be a powerful move of God that will prepare the way for the appearing of Jesus Christ and His Kingdom?

Our study of history has brought us to the present. We have seen the restoration all the elementary principles that lead up to the resurrection, the appearing of Christ and His Kingdom, and the age to come. We do not know how much time remains in this present age. But what does remain is the continued application of these principles in our personal lives, our churches and our missions. Since the days of the apostles, there has never been a time when the Church has been more equipped to fulfill the great commission!

This leads me to believe that the 21st Century will see the emergence of true apostles moving in true apostolic authority and power and a restoration of the New Testament Church that mirrors what we see in the Book of Acts. With the principles leading up to the resurrection and the day of the restored,

it is now time for the church to begin “firing on all cylinders,” by operating in all of the restored principles with a vision of the Kingdom God in sight as a real goal. The Third Great Awakening which is currently building steam, will be carried by people who, do not camp around just one of the foundational principles that has been restored, but who have found the synergy of them all. As a result they will reach into the future, take hold of resurrection power and eternal judgment, and manifest them in this present age as the early church did.

Preparation Theology

Paul wrote to the Ephesians, encouraging them to stand firm in the battle, comparing spiritual virtues to the weapons and equipment worn by soldiers in his day. In verse 15 of chapter 6, he writes...

“...and having shod your feet with *the preparation* of the gospel of peace...”

— Ephesians 6:15 (NKJV -italics added).

It is common for people to skim over this passage and simply view it as a reference to evangelism, that is that we should have our feet shod with the gospel. This is certainly included, but the key word here is *preparation* - we are to have our feet shod with the *preparation*. Preparation for what? The gospel of peace. This implies a broader purpose in our work of preparation than just getting souls saved. The gospel (good news) of peace is a reference to the return of Jesus Christ and the appearing of His kingdom, which will bring peace on earth.

In the last verses of the last chapter of the last book of the Old Testament, Malachi wrote about preparing for the coming of this day as well. He described its coming as the result of the hearts of the fathers being restored to the children and the hearts of the children to the fathers. Luke was speaking from this passage when he wrote about the preparatory nature of John the Baptist’s ministry.

He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, *‘to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children,’* and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

— Luke 1:17 (NKJV)

So we can see that the concept of Kingdom preparation has been a common thread running through scripture. It should also be pointed out the “*restoration of the hearts of the fathers to the children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just*” is embodied in the concept of laying on of hands, which we have described as impartation, and discipleship restored to the church through the 20th century revivals. It is through generational discipleship and impartation that the new generation of Christians are able to receive the benefits and the anointing of the previous generation and move forward with the work of preparation.

Having looked at where we are going and where we have come from, the next part of our study will reveal the foundational and strategic nature of the five foundational elements that we have placed in our Destiny Diagram. We will also see them in the ministry of Jesus, in Peter’s sermon on the Day of Pentecost, and more.

Let’s close this close this lesson with a reminder from 1 Peter 1:13 and the exhortation by Dutch Sheets.

Therefore, prepare your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:13 - NASB)

“Let’s go get our future!”