

The Transition

SEELEY D. KINNE

VI. God's Great Universal Method-By His Word.

A general and more concise view of the extent of the application of the spoken word of God in correction, direction or destruction of the race of men would instruct us in the ways of God.

The Word of Jehovah created all, brought the curse to Adam and Eve, warned Noah, tried Joseph, directed Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, made Moses a mighty deliverer, made Samuel a prophet and David a king. "And the Lord appeared again in Shiloh, for the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the word of the Lord." I Sam. 3:21

Over and again the word of Jehovah was sent in warning and reproof to Israel, because of their idolatry and disregard of God's word to them. Their continued disobedience brought upon them severe judgments. "He hewed them by His prophets, and slew them with His Word." They lost their superior national position. They had abundant directions. They might have known by the prophetic Word just how to meet every occasion. But "Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord He hath rejected thee," was the sad note from the Lord.

When Dominion was given to the Gentile Kings, Jehovah proffered aid to them. Daniel the choicest of prophets, was in the courts of Nebuchadnezzar, and successive Kings. He was offered as guide to these rulers. Under great stress he was sometimes consulted to great profit. But to seek for general or continued guidance by the prophet they neglected. This did both Israel and Gentile Kings, till the prophetic office and word disappeared for several centuries.

Then came John Baptist and Christ speaking as prophets. Then Christ, through a general outpouring of the Holy Spirit, established His Church. It was equipped with apostolic prophets, other prophets and prophetic Teachers. Prophecy was so universal throughout the whole church, that it was said, "Ye may all prophecy." The stream of the living word of God flowed richly and freely in both the word of instruction and to some degree foretelling determinate prophecy.

But alas! soon again the stream of prophecy was neglected and failed with the slump of the church from its highly endowed state to spiritual poverty. Nor has its flow been but little known in all the revivals in the church. But

now we are in the beginning days of the restoration which is to accompany the coming of Jesus Christ. Acts 3:19,22.

The people called Pentecostal should have seen the stream of prophecy again flow copiously and powerfully. But it has scarcely passed the beginnings. However the Lord once more, according to His determinate counsel, is about to launch a company of men and women prophets, "Who shall utter mighty prophecies, prophecies that shall strike at the root of all opposing forces against My work, My program."

From these and other enlightened observations of God's dealings with the world, in all ages, we should see that always and continuously God's way of operation is by His spoken word; that is, by the kind of prophecy which has to do with shaping of the future, the rise and fall of nations, the birth and life of individual men, the ages or dispensations of time, the appearances and works of Jesus Christ. This comes forth by the mouth of God's prophets, and is the prophetic, "determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God." Acts 3:21.

From Enoch to Malachi the prophets spoke such prophecies. The Word of Jehovah came through their lips. By these determinate prophecies, kings reigned and were dethroned, Nations rose and were destroyed.

Christ, and the Apostles, also, spoke the same kind of prophecy, which is foretelling, controlling, determinate dominion, and authoritative in its nature and power. Almost unknown since the Apostolic times, it is now beginning to be restored, as promised in Acts 3:21.

The scope of this mighty Word of God as it is beginning to come forth has not yet dawned upon the understanding of men. Its awfulness is not comprehended. Its results upon the race will be greater than the flood, or any other recorded catastrophe. Its power to close up past dispensations, and open the coming Millennium will fill the beholder with wonder and admiration. The climax of its exhibition will be by the White Horse Rider, with the two edged sword and rod of iron which are the Word of God, also to be used by His accompanying White Horse Army—when they suddenly appear and end rebellion by destruction of the hosts of Armageddon.

VII Transition Ministries.

The Lord has had great ministries for His called servants in the past. But the varied and surpassing ministries of the Transition period are best gifts well worth coveting.

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Communion

While Luther repudiated the false doctrine of transubstantiation, he was never fully delivered from the Romish literal interpretation of Hoc est corpus, which means, this is my body. Zwingli received light on the Communion in advance of Luther, for he emphasized the thought expressed in the words, "This do in remembrance of Me," and declared the Communion to be a memorial service which brings the believer into a state of recollectedness of the Saviour's suffering, at the same time honoring the Redeemer's memory. The French reformer, Calvin, had still light in advance of the other two. He taught that in the Lord's Supper Christ is spiritually present and imparts special grace in a manner different and more direct than in any other ordinance.

"Very few, even in the enlightened twentieth century, have real vision of the Communion, which means fellowship, and being lifted up in Him and drawn into His bosom, which imparts a glow in the inward parts. In receiving the emblems of the Saviour's broken body and shed blood, life, divine life, is imparted to the believer who is brought into fellowship with the Saviour's feelings and experiences.

To the believer the communion means glory, light and revelation in the inward parts. There is much yet to be revealed. The Reformation saints had great light for their time. Saints of the present day may receive more light and revelation than their predecessors. In the Communion there is healing, liberty from all cares and burdens and the communicant can be lifted above all things in the natural!"

How we thank and praise the Lord, who through the Spirit has given believers, in this current year of grace, light and inward experience which some of us had not dreamed of until the message came forth by the Word of the Lord, disclosing God's mind about the Communion for present day believers.

Have we not the example of believers of whom we read in Acts 2, "who continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers---continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, praising God, and having favor with all the people." Whether or not we accept Mr. John Wesley's interpretation that the breaking of bread in Acts 2 is identical with the Lord's (Continued on Page 12)

They lie along the path of preparation for the Translation. It is now high time to awake for salvation in its fuller phases is at hand. Soon it will be heralded, "Now is come salvation and strength, and the Kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ." Rev. 12:10.

The greatest of ministries is that determine prophecy which is to deal with every church, Babylon organization, government and business that is not wide open to the power and message of God. Where is the place that will open to and welcome the prophet who comes with a message from God in his mouth? Every cluster and institution that is fortified against the power of God must be dynamited with the Word of God. To get a call from God, one should be in an attitude of earnestly seeking God, with whole-hearted obedience to the Spirit's orders.

A ministry close of kin to the above is that of the sons of God to groaning, travailing creation. Rom. 8:13,14, 19-23. This ministry is by the children of God, now grown to be sons of God, by being led by the Spirit. Through their ministries will be given a foretaste of deliverance from the curse in various respects, by the mighty power of the Spoken Word of God through their mouths, ending in entire lifting of the curse.

Another closely related ministry, accompanying and preceding these two, is that of intercession, and soul travail. This lies underneath the coming forth of all other ministries. It is described in Rom. 8:26,27.

Then there is a ministry to perfect the Bride company, a miraculous prophetic wisdom ministry cleared of all legalism. Then there is a ministry of each of the gifts; such as healing, miracles, wisdom, discernment, knowledge, etc., Apostolic ministry, and Latter Rain ministry.

All these must be restored and come forth in great power, profusion and variety. "The ends of the ages are upon us." Happy he who understands the times and is fitted into His nitch in God's great plans for the Transition.

The Latest Tract

Every reader will be glad to learn that the article entitled "Fellowship," by Ivan Q. Spencer, in this number of the paper, is already in tract form at the usual price, 10¢ per dozen.

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.