

Evangelism Part 8

We as Church of God we continue to honor the command of Jesus in **Mark 16:15** *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.”* Therefore we commissioned all our trained workers to go forward with the message and the command of Jesus to go and make disciples by preaching to the people the Gospel and teaching them the Word of God, **“19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”** (Matthew 28:19-20 KJV)

God's Word is a hammer and is a fire against the work and the strongholds of devil, and toward those whom devil is using to fulfill his purpose. Even in the New Testament and even in the message of Jesus, the Word of God was used not only to reach the crowd and to save the sheep, but the Word of God was used valiantly to combat those who oppressed the sheep and who had led them into wrong direction and away from God.

The following are good example of that:-

“33 Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country: 34 And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it. 35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another. 36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise. 37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son. 38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him. 40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen? 41 They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons. 42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? 43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. 44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. 45 And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. 46 But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.” (Matthew 21:33-46 KJV)

The Lord had sent His son the Lord Jesus Christ who died on the cross for our sins and was buried and on the third day He rose from the dead. So Jesus paid the price for our sins and now we have forgiveness and we have received eternal life. So God did His part toward the whole mankind and toward us His people and His church.

In this parable that we read in **Matthew 21:33-46**, the Lord was targeting the religious leaders of the Jewish at that time, who represented by the chief priests and Pharisees. He targeted them very clearly about their sins of departing from God's Word and ordinances. Jesus explained in this parable that the Lord had done His part toward mankind, when He told them, **“Hear another parable: There was a certain householder, which planted a vineyard, and hedged it round about, and digged a winepress in it, and built a tower, and let it out to husbandmen, and went into a far country.”** (Matthew 21:33 KJV) The Lord had planted His church, had given His Word, He taught His commands and His will, He provided all what is needed for His people to be fruitful and productive. He entrusted all the good that He had in the hand of His people to bring the fruit that he desire to have. He gave them the time needed and when the time had come He sent his servants looking for the fruit, **“And when the time of the fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the husbandmen, that they might receive the fruits of it.”** (Matthew 21:34 KJV) In the same way for you today, God had done His part toward you very well. He had revealed Himself to you, and He had granted you eternal life, and He had trained you so that you will go and serve Him. God had provided you with all the material things that you may need in your life and for your family.

The Lord had given you the enough time and the opportunities that you need to go and serve Him. Therefore, every now and then, the Lord is sending His servants to you to ask you and question you to give back to Him the fruit of what He had entrusted you.

You are called to be a good steward of all what you received and you are called to bear the fruit of that and give them back to God and for His own glory alone.

Those whom He had entrusted with the good things, instead of showing faithfulness toward Him of what they received and to give Him back the fruit that He desired to harvest, they misused and abused His servants, **“35 And the husbandmen took his servants, and beat one, and killed another, and stoned another.”** (Matthew 21:35 KJV) Along the history of God's people and even to this day, those who call for reformation and deal with the sin of God's people and His church, including prophets and teachers, are highly persecuted and is treated like a criminal. Those servants of God who rebuke the people and correct them, they will be treated badly and would receive what adulterous, thieves, drunkards, traitors and idolatrous deserve.

But the Lord without failing continues to send His servants, and even to this very day, and even if they will be treated in the same bad way He will continue to send them, **“36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.”** (Matthew 21:36 KJV) Therefore you should be different from such kind of people. You should not treat the Word of God with contempt, and you should be thankful for all the teaching, the correction, the rebuke and the admonishing that you receive from God and through His church. You should continue to be faithful to what God had entrusted to you from time, resources, opportunities, material and spiritual blessings and need to give back to God the fruit and what He is asking from you.

You ought now to go forward as God's servant to the people around you and speak to them boldly the Word of God and His message for them to repent and to renounce their sins. **“36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.”**

(Matthew 21:36 KJV) Now you should be among those servants that God is sending to others and you should not be afraid if you are not treated well. The Lord had sent others to you and that is why now you are saved, therefore now without failing you need to obey God to go to others so they will be saved.

Ultimately, in this parable that we read in **Matthew 21:33-46**, after the Lord had sent repeatedly His servants the prophets, and His people and their leaders did not heed the instructions, the Lord sent His son, the Lord Jesus Christ, that they should feared Him and revered Him, **“37 But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son.” (Matthew 21:37 KJV)** But, Jesus was even treated the same bad way of what the prophets and those whom previously God sent received. They treated the Son of God, Jesus Christ in a very bad ways as we read in the following: **“38 But when the husbandmen saw the son, they said among themselves, This is the heir; come, let us kill him, and let us seize on his inheritance. 39 And they caught him, and cast him out of the vineyard, and slew him.” (Matthew 21:38-39 KJV)** Truly they crucified Jesus outside Jerusalem, He died on the cross, He was buried, but rose victoriously on the third day over all His enemies, giving salvation to those who repent, and bringing God’s judgment on those who disobey God and rejects Him and His Word.

Jesus obeyed the mission that God had entrusted to Him to do and He suffered in the manner God ordained for Him to suffer in order to bring God’s salvation and His Word to others. We in the same way, we need to comply with God and go and do what we are asked to do, bearing the suffering, the mocking, and the ill treatment of the people toward us. We need to persevere in doing all of that in order to let the salvation of God to flow to reach others.

Then the Lord Jesus asked this question after He narrated the parable: **“40 When the lord therefore of the vineyard cometh, what will he do unto those husbandmen?” (Matthew 21:40 KJV)** Jesus was asking them, what God will do to those who will treat His son in such a bad way, who caught Him and brought Him outside the vineyard and killed him? This was their answer to Him: **“41 They say unto him, He will miserably destroy those wicked men, and will let out his vineyard unto other husbandmen, which shall render him the fruits in their seasons.” (Matthew 21:41 KJV)** Truly the Lord dealt with the Jewish church and gave His church to others. In the same way, the Lord shall take away from those who did not give Him the fruit, all what they have received from Him or services and ministries and He will give it to those who are willing to give the fruit that God desires.

The Lord will continue to convict those whom we are reaching out and who had rejected God’s Word and God’s instruction that they received from us. God will continue to question them and convict them and show them what will be the consequences of their disobedience and their bad treatment and all the wrong things that they did against us.

Here the Lord faced those who rejected Him more valiantly, **“42 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?” (Matthew 21:42 KJV)** This Scripture Jesus caught from **Psalm 118:22-23**,

“22 The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. 23 This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.” (Psalm 118:22-23 KJV) The builders here are the Jewish church leaders who rejected Christ as the Messiah, who is the head stone of the corner. The Lord ordained it in this way and it is marvelous matter in the eyes of those who believes on Christ and who obey His Word. God will continue to vindicate us and make our work fruitful as long as we are doing our part toward Him in accordance to what He entrusted to us.

Christ further faced them with this statement: **“43 Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof.” (Matthew 21:43 KJV)** God took the church from the hand of the Jewish and gave it to the nations who will bring the fruit that God desire to receive. In the same way God will take ministries and opportunities from those who are doing their own and not following the Lord. Therefore, we should not be afraid from persecution, but continue to combat those people who are not doing right with what they are entrusted with from the Lord, for God is keen to fulfill His Word.

Jesus further spoke valiantly against the leaders of the Jewish church who opposed Him and His mission. He waged a war against them with God’s Word. He told them the following: **“44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)** Christ is the stone that the builder rejected but He is the head stone of the corner. Those who build their lives in principles against God’s Word, and against Christ’s principle, they are as the builders that had rejected Christ. In such a way they had stumbled on God’s Word. Christ for them is a stone that they met in their lives and that stone tripped them and caused them to fall on. It is like when you walk, and you are not aware, and your feet trip on a stone and you fall on that stone and got hurt.

Many people when they hear the Word of God they stumble and fall and got hurt and broken because it does not suit them and they don’t like to obey it. And that is what Christ said, **“44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)** Further Jesus added to the Jewish leaders the followings: **“But on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)** More than what had happened to them being broken, when they will persist on their disobedience, Christ who is the living Word, shall fall on them not only to crush them but to make them powder.

To understand what Jesus had said to the chief priests and to the Pharisees, we need to know certain events from the Jewish life and the practices of their religion. When there will be someone deserved to be stoned. They will do the stoning in the following way:

First, from a height of about three to four meters he will be stricken on his loins and to be push down falling on the ground. The first hit for him is the stone that he come across when he fall from height on the ground, and this correspond to what Christ said, **“44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)** After this first hit, they will observe and see if he is still alive and has breath. If he still alive, then two of them will carry a stone big as much as they can to carry, then they will throw it to fall over his chest to crush him. Then they will observe him further and see, if he is still alive, then the

rest of the men will stone him, till the stones that they will throw on him will grind him to power, and this correspond to what Christ said, ***“But on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)***

The same valiant message is what needed to be said to the present age church believers and leaders who corrupted the ways of God with worldliness and their idols worship, practices and sinful ways of life that they took and adopted from all pagans who does not know God or His Word.

“45 And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them.” (Matthew 21:45 KJV) Christ intentionally spoke the parable against them in their ears so to be sure that they hear it. This was His true love to them that they might be led to repentance. With what Jesus told to them: ***“44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” (Matthew 21:44 KJV)*** He was telling them face to face that you deserve to be stoned. What a profound and shaking message! Christ faced sinners with the truth to bring them to repentance, and to release those who are under their oppression to be set free and come to Christ and to His Word, and receive eternal life, and life to the full.

This then how we need to evangelize this very day to release the sheep of Jesus from those church leaders and workers who had withhold the truth from the sheep and deprived them from God’s Word and who did not tell to them or led them into the whole will of God. We would need to tell them, ‘You would end up in hell’, even with this heavy and valiant message, we would face them, that they might repent and come to repentance and acknowledge of truth and live based on Christ and His Word.

“46 But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.” (Matthew 21:46 KJV) They were not able to do anything to stop Him or to arrest Jesus because the time had not yet come for Him to be arrested. The chief priests and the Pharisees they feared the multitude for they considered Him for a prophet.

My Dear and Beloved: In the same way, the Lord will provide a way for us to protect us and will not allow people to harm us or do bad things to us before the appointed time. We should not fear people, even the very influential people, knowing that the Lord is with us and He will defend us as we continue to do His will.

In the same way God wants us to do the very will of Him in persevering in delivering the exact message that He wants us to deliver. We should not be afraid or intimidated by influential people or leaders who do wrong, knowing that if we abide with God’s Word and will, He will rescue us and save us from all perils.

We need to be honest in using the Word of God that we receive from the Lord. We need to be strong and courageous and stand firm in proclaiming His Word that will bring life to the lost who are under people who are misleading them and who are keeping them slave under sin. God will neither leave us nor forsake us. He will defend us and protect

us till He achieve His purpose through our lives and through our ministry in order to bring salvation to others.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life.

Let us come to the Lord in repentance _____

Let us renounce all our sins _____

Let us commit ourselves to serve God in the way that we had read in His Word.

Lord I commit myself to go and serve you and do the work that you had prepared in advance for me to do. Lord I am willing to go to wherever place or people you are going to send me. Lord I abide with your will and plan to deliver the message that you want me to deliver. Lord fills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need to serve you to evangelize and to make disciples. Lord protect me and provide for me, trusting you my future and my life.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and my Sisters who committed their lives to go and evangelize, Lord Baptize them with the Holy Ghost, and give them the spiritual gifts to go and spread your Word. Lord I pray that you will protect them and provide their needs and do marvelous miracles in their lives and in their ministries.

Lord bless your church, and enable us Lord to reach new people, new villages, and new areas with the gospel impacting new cities, countries and nations with the gospel of Jesus. Lord enables us to preach boldly your Word and to rebuke those who are leading others in wrong direction and contrary to Your Word.

Lord enables us to plant more Bible studies and more congregations in various places. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf
The Church Overseer
Church of God
United Arab Emirates
Email: thebread1@gmail.com
Mobile Tel #: [00971551902647](tel:00971551902647)

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