

Evangelism Part 15

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 Scripture is a 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)***

Here in this parable the Lord Jesus Christ was targeting the religious leaders of the Jewish at that time, represented by the chief priests and the 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 did 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 God is speaking to us as a church, that He saved us through the work of His son Jesus Christ on the cross to give us eternal life, He gave us the Holy*

Spirit to go and do His work in this world, and now the Lord would come and ask us to present to him the fruits that we need to offer to Him.

Those whom He entrusted with the good things that He did, instead of showing toward Him faithfulness toward what they received and give Him the fruit that He desired to harvest, they misused and abused His servants, ***“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 criminals. They 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 they will be treated in the same bad way, ***“36 Again, he sent other servants more than the first: and they did unto them likewise.” (Matthew 21:36 KJV)*** Even today, many times when we are teaching His Word and declaring God's will and challenging people to give their lives to God, they will hate us and trouble us.

Ultimately, The Lord sent His son, the Lord Jesus Christ, that He would be feared and revered, ***“But last of all he sent unto them his son, saying, They will reverence my son.” (Matthew 21:37 KJV)*** But, He was even received the bad treatment that the other prophets and those whom previously God sent to them. The Jewish leaders 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 was buried, but He rose victoriously on the third day, declaring the victory over all His enemies, giving salvation to those who repent, but bringing God's judgment on those who disobey God and rejects Jesus and His Word.

Don't be amaze of what the Jewish did to Jesus, many of people and maybe even you today, when they are confronted by God's Word, you or they might even do the same or worse of what the Jewish did to Jesus and to them who had been sent by Him to declare His Word and His will to you or to them.

Then the Lord Jesus asked this question to the Jewish leaders 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)*** 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)*** Their answer is that the Lord shall destroy those wicked men and He will give His vineyard to others who deserve it. True, that the Lord will take away from those who did not give Him the fruit, all what they received from Him. In return He will give it to those who are willing to give the fruit that God desire. Even for you today, if you are unfruitful and not giving to God what He expect from you, then He will take from you what He had given you and will give to others who are fruitful in their conducts toward the Lord.

Here the Lord faced them 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) Not only He faced them but He is facing those among us who are not willing to comply with God, to repent of their sins and bring out the fruit that God desire to see in their lives.

"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 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, but He is the head stone of the corner. The Lord ordained it in this way and it is marvelous things in the eyes of those who believe on Christ and who obey His Word.

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, to the Gentiles, who will bring the fruit that God desire to receive.

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 explained to them their resistance toward God and their disobedience toward Him, will bring unto 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 because it does not suit them. 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 leader and those among us today, who persist in their disobedience, the followings: *"But on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder." (Matthew 21:44 KJV)* When they will persist on their disobedience, Christ, being 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's life and the practices of their religion. When there will be someone deserved to be stoned, they will do it in the following way:

First, from a height of two men (three and half meter) they will throw him on the ground. With this 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 will 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)* This first hit will cause him fractures and might cause him to loss his life.

Second, after this first hit, they will observe and see if he is still alive and has a breath. If he still alive, then two will carry a big stone, as much as they can carry, then they will throw it to fall over his chest to crush him.

Third, after this they will observe him further and see, if he is still alive, then the rest of the men of Israel 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 leaders who corrupted the ways of God with worldliness, their idol worship, practices, unlawful marriages, and the sinful ways of life they took and adopted from all pagans who does not know God or His Word.

The same valiant message is what needed to be said to those who blasphemed God's Word and had pulled out from God's church others after them.

"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 is 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 message, Christ faced sinner 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.

Even today, this how we need to evangelize to release the sheep of Jesus from those church leaders who had withhold the truth from the sheep and deprive them from God's Word and will. We would tell them, 'You would end up in hell', even with this heavy and valiant message, we would face them, that might repent and come to repentance and the knowledge of truth.

"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) Jesus was persecuted and was targeted for His Word that was hitting the sins of the Jewish leaders. But they were not able to do anything to stop or arrest Jesus because the time had not yet come for Him to be arrested. The chief priests and the Pharisees feared the multitude.

In the same way, people will hate us because we face them with God's Word and God's will. They will even do all what they can to trouble us in order to stop us. But the Lord will provide a way 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 one, knowing that the Lord is with us and He will defend us and He will provide for us as we continue to do His will, preaching His Word, reaching new people and declaring to them the will of God in their lives and what He wants them to do for Him.

My dear and beloved:

Humble down and repent of your sins when you confronted with God's Word, and do not react and cause trouble to those who reach you out with God's Word and decalred to you God's will, for God will discipline you for such.

You, whom God entrusted you with good things, His salvation, His Word, His Holy Spirit and the ministry, you need to show faithfulness toward Him and toward what you received and give Him the fruit that He desired to harvest.

True, that the Lord will take away from those who did not give Him the fruit, all what they received from Him. In return He will give it to those who are willing to give the fruit that God desire. Even for you today, if you are unfruitful and not giving to God what He expect from you, then He will take from you what He had given you and will give them to others who are fruitful in their conducts toward the Lord.

God's Word is a hammer and is a fire against the work and the strongholds of devil, and towards those whom devil is using to fulfill his purpose. Therefore use God's Word to bring glory to Him.

As we go forward preaching God's Word, calling for reformation and dealing with the sin of God's people and His church, we will be highly persecuted and might be even treated like criminals. We might receive what adulterous, thieves, drunkards, traitors and idolatrous deserve. But we need not to give up. As the Lord is sending us then without failing we need to proclaim the message that God wants us to give and to deliver to sinners and to His people who left Him and left His Word.

Valiant messages are needed to be said to the present age church leaders who corrupted the ways of God with worldliness, their idol worship, practices, unlawful marriages, and the sinful ways of life they took and adopted from all pagans who does not know God or His Word.

Valiant messages are needed to be said to those who blasphemed God's Word and had pulled out from God's church others after them.

Even today, this how you need to evangelize to release the sheep of Jesus from those church leaders who had withhold the truth from the sheep and deprive them from God's Word and will. You need to tell them, 'You would end up in hell', even with this heavy and valiant message, you would face them, perhaps may come to repentance and to the knowledge of the truth.

You need to face sinner 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.

You should not fear people, even the very influential one, knowing that the Lord is with you and He will defend you, He will make a way to protect you, He will hide you, and He will provide for you as you continue to do His will, preaching His Word, reaching new people and declaring to them the will of God in their lives that He wants them to do for Him.

Let us pray

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 confess and renounce our sins to the Lord. Lord I renounce the following sins

Lord I thank you for your Word that caused me to repent.

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 I am willing to face the people with their sins and I am willing to face the ringleaders who are taking the people, misleading them in a direction away from You.

Lord refills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to serve you, to evangelize and to proclaim your Word and your will. Lord sustains me with a good health and the needed strength to do this ministry. Lord I trust you to protect me and provide for me as I go forward to spread your Word to the lost world. Lord hides me from wicked people. Lord I am 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 gives them boldness to stand firm and to abide in your Word and to do your will in full. Lord I pray that you will protect them and provide all 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 families, 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 do the very thing that you wants us to do.

Lord enables us to plant new 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.

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