

The Revelation of Righteous Judgment Series

PART 6

JUDGMENT AT THE HOUSE

(CONTINUED)

I Peter 4: 17... *"For the time is come that JUDGMENT MUST BEGIN AT THE HOUSE OF GOD..."*

II Thess. 2:3, 6-10... *"Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition... and now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way. And then shall that Wicked one be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of His mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: even him whose coming is alter the working of satan with all ppower and signs and lying wonders, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness..."*

Hopefully, our studies so far have provided the reader with a better understanding of what is manifestly declared in Scripture to be the present primary emphasis of the Spirit. As Peter wrote in his day, "THE TIME IS COME" for judgment at the house; and our experience attests to the fact that it *continues even now!* Homeward judgment is *still* foremost on God's agenda, just as it has been for the past two thousand years. And it will not cease, until His objective has fully been accomplished!

Once we established what (or rather, who) the "house of God" was, we were then able to explain why it was necessary for judgment to begin there. Plainly stated, He is systematically setting His house in order! He is routinely dealing with the root cause of our problems! And He is preparing us for the Throne, that together we might judge the world in righteousness! This is why *"the whole creation is on tiptoe to see the wonderful sight of the sons of God coming into their own"* (Rom. 8:19; Phillips translation); for it is as we enter into that place prepared for us that *"the whole of created life will be rescued from the tyranny of change and decay"* (verse 21)! Having shown this, we would now like to examine some of the procedures God employs to execute that judgment, and the means by which He teaches us to follow the Spirit's lead. Thank God, "the sufferings of this present time" are not all meaningless exercises; there is a definite purpose in the

process (Rom. 8:18)! And that purpose shall be openly manifest in due season, for all the world to behold! Praise His wondrous Name!

Before proceeding, however, we would like to share a quote from Paul Mueller, to confirm these thoughts. He writes, "There is a 'man' within us who attempts to divert us from the truth. This man would sit 'in the temple of God (which temple we are), showing himself that he is God'. He is always working in our lives to try to keep us from attaining to spiritual maturity. If he could, he would cause us to be content with limited spiritual growth, or make us think that religious efforts make us spiritual. That man within us is a subtle force masking as light. Yet he does not reveal his true identity and purpose to us. He hides behind half-truths and perversions of truth to make us think that we are spiritual, when in fact we all lack the fullness of Christ.

"Within you and me is that man who has troubled the world for many centuries, ever since the fall of Adam. But as long as we continue to look outside of ourselves to see only the results of the evil, we will never get down to business to deal with the cause...

"The real issue that concerns us all is not the results or effects of darkness, but the origin and cause of all darkness and evil. If we would see the end of satan, the end of all darkness, the end of all wars and strife, the end of man's inhumanity to man, the end of the dominion of carnal, Adamic man, the end of the rule of the man of gin, and the end of the conglomerate Babylon systems, then we must focus on the cause of the problem, and not merely on the results. And I know by the Spirit that God is now beginning to deal with the cause of all sin, darkness, and iniquity, by causing us to look within.

"When we realize and understand, by the Spirit, that the cause of it all is within us, and in all mankind, and that God must first deliver us of that carnal 'man', we will repent and turn to the Lord. Just a glimpse of the Christ of glory will cause us to abhor ourselves and repent as Job did, and we will then seek the Lord for deliverance.

"When this carnal, Adamic nature, the man of sin and the real antichrist, is conquered and destroyed IN US, we will then be able to say of the devil, as Jesus did, 'the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in Me'. By the cleansing, redeeming, and restoring power of the Christ within us, we shall be free of this disruptive, destroying carnal nature. Then, the devil will find nothing in us that will respond to his evil thoughts and *ideas*"---end quote. To this we would loudly proclaim, AMEN!

This, in a nutshell, is God's present emphasis. He is revealing this "man of sin" in the temple, that we might gain an education in righteous judgment. Certainly He could have annihilated him in a single effort; but the purpose of God would have gone lacking. You see, by allowing him to continue for a season, God has intentionally provided opportunities for us to be proven and tested, that we might learn the invaluable principles of reigning with Christ. Did He not say, "*A man's foes shall be those of his own household*"? This being the case, we have found that as we hearken to the Spirit, He is continually revealing vital keys to our hearts to resist this inward foe, and to render his activities ineffective. This, in turn, enables us to advance a step further in our spiritual

development. Therefore, as we willingly and honestly judge ourselves now, not only are we insuring ourselves that we will not be included in the general judgment of the world, but also that we will be His tried and sanctioned "SUPREME COURT" for that day! We have His Word on it!

"TALES FROM THE CRYPT"

For the sake of good humor, suppose we took an imaginary journey behind the veil of our temple. And let's suppose we went to pay old "Adam" a surprise visit! What conditions do you think we would find?

(Please bear with us in our folly)!

As we make our way down the long and winding corridor which leads to his place of abode (in the soulish realm), the first thing that we become aware of is the sudden change in the atmosphere---the closer we get to his habitation, the darker it becomes. It is a gross, pervading darkness; so powerful, so gripping, it can actually be felt! Coming into view of his house, we can see that the curtains remain drawn; the doors remain closed. It's clear that he prefers darkness rather than light (John 3:20). Now mind you, artificial light doesn't bother him (as long as he's in control of it); but he's highly allergic to direct "Sonlight"! He has violent reactions to it!

After walking through the many obstacles, blockades, and barricades he has set up, we finally gain access through the main entrance of this seeming "walled fortress". From a distance, it appeared to be a mighty, strong citadel.. heavily armed, and practically impenetrable. But as we draw near, we realize that it was all a front; an illusion of massive proportions; the deceptive result of "smoke and mirrors", and imagery! Upon closer examination, we see that his house is fashioned very much like a mausoleum. It is like a "white-washed sepulchre" . . . giving the impression of purity and righteousness without, but within is full of "dead men's bones" (that is to say, of hypocrisy and iniquity, Matt. 23:27-28)! In fact, his house actually resembles an eroding little "sand castle" (steadily being washed away with the water" of God's Word); a mere "mud hut", made from the dust of the earth! Besides sand, it has absolutely no foundation (Matt. 7:26-27); and the walls are built with untempered mortar -Ezek. 13)! The truth is, he is extremely vulnerable to attacks! He has virtually no defense, outside of his strong delusions!

(Those who know him say that while he frequently comes out, rarely does he entertain guests at home. This is because he is suspicious of everyone! Besides, few even know where he lives! He tries his best to keep it a secret)!

As we step through the front door, we are taken back by what we see. Now we can understand why he doesn't like company! The place is a wreck! Pausing briefly to survey the scene set before us, there are several things that immediately come to our attention. First is the horrendous heaps of garbage piled everywhere. There is trash and debris stacked so high, it is nearly impassible!

Cleanliness is certainly not one of his virtues.. though he often boasts that it is. His house smells like a barnyard! Within his "living room" (if you can call it that), it is cold, damp, and musty (as one might expect a tomb to be); swarms of flies encircle everything; and the stench of DEATH permeates the air! And though he tries to mask the scent with perfumes and potpourri, with ointments and spices, the aroma is unmistakable! It's the sickening smell of vermin and squalor; of filthy, sweaty, rotting, stinking flesh, offending one's spiritual nostrils! It's an unbearable mixture!

Another thing of note is the flagrant lack of order and coordination in the house. Nothing seems to match! There are clashes and contrasts throughout the room; conflicting patterns and color schemes that tend to fight with each other. The effect of all this is a nauseating sense of chaos and confusion, of anxiety and stress! There is simply no rest in this house!

(It should be pointed out, however, that though the furniture is disorganized and scattered around the room, he certainly decorates with "creature comforts" in mind! He really goes all out to provide for the flesh! Be it old or new, he will pay any price he has to, to get what he wants. And if it comes right down to it, he will overlook it's appearance, just so long as it feels good! He knows he can always throw a "cover" over it, anyway, when company comes)!

That he has an unhealthy preoccupation with himself is apparent. The "man" is sick! From every angle, from every wall, from every corner of the room, his portrait is staring at you! His corrupted image is proudly displayed, that he might sit back and admire himself all the day long! He never tires of it! And though he has expressed himself in many forms over the years (he has been "clothed" in the "skins" of every race under the sun; Gen. 3:21), and at various stages of his life, there are always those old familiar facial features, that are so conspicuous in every picture! Be he manifested in young or old, black or white, male or female, rich or poor, bond or free, the characteristics are always the same!

Among his treasured photos are other images... representing a vast assortment of passions and interests that have fascinated him through the ages. And, of course, there are those old familiar images... such as lust, greed, jealousy, pride, hatred, variance, strife, etc. These "inner icons" have been a part of his household for many years (approximately six thousand)! He truly loves them!

Also cluttering the floor and walls are countless trophies, awards, ribbons, and plaques, all paying tribute to the many fine achievements, accomplishments, and contributions he has provided for mankind. These monuments to the flesh cover the entire spectrum of man's life. He has certainly left his "mark" on society (Rev. 13:16-17)! You name it, he's done it! He has excelled in every field! (We would also note that for identification purposes, lest anyone should try to take what belongs to him, every item in his house has been marked with his name and number; Rev. 13:18! He doesn't want to take any chances)!

While he has accomplished much in the secular world, his proudest achievements are in the ranks of religion. Strangely enough, though, it is here that he receives the least amount of credit! Why, if the truth were known, he would be recognized as the rightful founder of the vast majority of religious institutions; and the author of many of their time-honored traditions! He is a bonafide "professor" in Babylon's system; a regular theologian in matters of spirituality! Ah, yes, he is very religious; so much so that he has formed cunningly devised fables (all supported by Scripture, of course), in order to justify his selfish motives and deeds! He can prove almost anything with the Bible!

Without doubt, he is his own greatest fan! There is no one, in his opinion, as great and wonderful as he! He thinks that he is the perfect role model; and therefore, believes that everyone should be like him! This explains why he spends so much time looking at himself; for he is busily "shewing himself that HE IS GOD"!

Finally, we get a glimpse of the "old man" himself! He is laid back in his throne (a well-worn "lazyboy" recliner), which is set up on a swivel base, and positioned in the center of the room (this is so he can conveniently turn to see his many photos, tokens and mementoes. You might say that he is self-centered)! To one side of him, there is an ever-present basket of spoiled fruit (full of worms, we might add), picked right from the tree of knowledge of good and evil (without question, his favorite snack), along with a nice, hot bowl of red pottage soup (another big favorite of his; Gen. 25:30)! Anyone who has ever dined with him knows he has an insatiable appetite for these! He can never get enough! To the other side are innumerable volumes of books he has written, pertaining to the subject of judgment... as well as laws by which to govern his kingdom, Rom. 7:23). Since according to him there are no absolutes, the rules are always being revised!

He is nothing like we would have imagined him. He is a hairy little "red" man (Gen. 25:25), adorned with nothing more than a fig leaf (Gen. 3:7), drunken (with the cares of this life, Lk. 21:34), and heavy with flesh (I Sam. 4:18)! By nature, he is a "wild man" (Gen. 16:12), staggering and stumbling about in his stupor, desperately trying to steady himself (howbeit he cannot; for he is "unstable in all his ways"; James 1:8)! And though it would seem that he would weary of it, he always returns to his vomit (Prov. 26:11; II Pet. 2:22)! Besides these, he possesses every debilitating trait that would disqualify him from the priesthood of God (Lev. 21:18-20): he is a blind, lame, blemished, scabby, scurvished, deformed, hunchbacked, flat nosed, broken stoned, dwarf of a fellow, who thinks he is God! What nerve he has! (Puts you in mind of an exaggerated version of "Quasimoto", huh)!

He would like us to believe that he is alive and well; but alas, he is not! He is desperately sick, terminally ill, with the sentence of death over him! And as far as we are concerned, HE IS ALREADY DEAD (Rom. 6:11)! There is an eviction notice nailed to his front door, and a "CONDEMNED" sign next to it (Rom.8:3)! It reads that Christ, "for sin, CONDEMNED SIN IN THE FLESH: that the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us"! Praise God! Whether he can interpret the message or not, the handwriting is on the wall (Dan. 5:5). And beloved, we can rest assured that his days are numbered (verses 25-27)!

LEARNING THE NEW VOICE IN THE TEMPLE

For many years, Adam's was the only voice we heard in the temple. And we became accustomed to that voice, as he passed his lop-sided, self-serving, self-righteous judgments from within. O what precious time we have forfeited, entertaining his foolish and unfounded notions! As we all well know by now, he is an incessant talker; a vain babbler, who never knows when to shut up! He is highly opinionated, and thinks he has the answer for everything. (Sounds like your average radio or TV talk-show host, doesn't it)? This is why he insists on expressing himself so, rambling on and on with his ravings and rantings, spewing out his suspicions and accusations, his ideas and assumptions, his concepts and beliefs.. captivating our thoughts for untold hours on end. *He thinks* he is God; and therefore feels that when he talks, we should naturally listen! (And believe this; he WILL talk as long as we will listen)! But the day came when another Voice was heard in the temple; and that Voice came to lead and guide us into all truth!

There is a fascinating shadow of this found in I Samuel, chapter 3. We read, "And the child Samuel ministered unto the Lord before Eli. And THE WORD OF THE LORD WAS PRECIOUS IN THOSE DAYS; there was no open vision. And it came to pass at that time, WHEN EU WAS LAID DOWN IN HIS PLACE, AND HIS EYES BEGAN TO WAX DIM, THAT HE COULD NOT SEE; AND ERE THE LAMP OF GOD WENT OUT IN THE TEMPLE OF THE LORD, where the Ark of God, and Samuel was laid down to sleep; that THE LORD CALLED SAMUEL: and he answered, HERE AM I..." You recall the story. Because "Samuel did not yet know the Lord, neither was the Word of the Lord yet revealed unto him", each time the Lord would speak to him, he naturally assumed that it was Eli's voice. Three times he went running back to Eli, as he had in previous times, to inquire of him. "Here am I; for thou callest me". He just naturally figured it *had* to be him. Who else could it be? Weren't they the only two in the temple? Finally, when Eli perceived that the Lord was speaking to the child, he instructed him to reply the next time, "Speak, Lord: for thy servant heareth" (verse 9). On the next occasion, young Samuel did just as Eli had told him; and the Lord spake to him concerning the judgment determined against Eli's house. "Behold, I will do a thing in Israel, at which both the ears of every one that heareth it shall tingle. *In that day* I will perform against Eli all things which I had spoken concerning his house: WHEN I BEGIN, I WILL ALSO MAKE AN END" (verses 11-12). The essence of His words was this: once the Lord set out to remove Eli and his house from the temple, He would not cease to perform it, until the work was complete! There would be NO reversing the decree! "For I have told him that *I will judge his house forever* for the iniquity which he knoweth..." (I Sam. 3:13)! What tremendous words for young Samuel to bear!

Is this not typical of our own initial experience? When first Christ came to inhabit our temple, was is not true that "*old Eli*" had already laid down in his place, as well? And was it not true that "*his eyes had grown dim, that he could not see*"? (He is a "blind guide", unable to see where he is heading...much less anyone else)! At that time, the Word of the Lord "*was precious*" to us; that is, it was a rare and unusual thing to hear (the New English version renders this verse, "Now in those days the Word of the Lord *was seldom heard*; and no vision was granted"). Because "*the lamp had nigh gone out in the temple*",

we had no divine inspiration to direct our steps. We groped along the wall like the blind, and as those who have no eyes (15a. 59:10). Therefore, when the Lord did begin to speak to us, we immediately assumed that it was just our imagination; the common voice of human nature. However, the Voice persisted; and once we began to acknowledge it as coming from the Lord, not only did He express His will for our lives, but He also began to reveal to us the ultimate destiny of "*Eli's house*"! The message was very clear and very simple on this: *the old "man of sin" has absolutely no future in the temple*. Christ the Righteous Judge "standeth before the door" (Jam. 5:9)...and He has declared that judgment upon his house is imminent! He will see to it that "Eli's" stiff neck is broken, and his "sons" are slain in battle (1 Sam. 4:17-18)! Beloved, this is not a threat; IT'S A PROMISE! (*And what a glorious one it is*)! Hallelujah!

THE AWAKENING OF "SAMUEL"

We can certainly identify with Samuel's original encounter with the Spirit. Similarly, our maiden experience could also be likened to that of being awakened from a deep sleep. At that time, we were devoid of spiritual consciousness; "dead", as it were, to the mind of the Spirit, and alienated from the cognizant realm of God's presence. But just as surely as Christ called Lazarus from among the dead, awakening him from his "sleep", even so did He call us by name. He beckoned us through the eternal Spirit to COME FORTH from the region and shadow of death; and come forth we did! How we thank God for His resurrection power, which raised us up in the newness of life!

How shall we explain what happened in that moment? We might express our experience in different ways, touching upon various aspects of what is commonly referred to as the "new birth". Plainly speaking, we would say that the Lord quickened our spirits; and in doing so, roused our spiritual faculties to life. He enabled our spirits to arise, to enter into a vital union with Him through the illuminating, energizing and activating of our inner senses. It was as if we responded to Paul's impassioned appeal, "Awake, thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light" (Eph. 5:19). As a result, we were equipped with the unique ability to interact with the Spirit; not only to express ourselves to Him, but also to receive instruction from Him! This enabled us to have true communion with God!

We have commented on these faculties in previous writings, but for the sake of refreshment, we will declare them again. The three main qualities belonging to man's spirit are the powers of *intuition, communion, and conscience*. Since it is impossible for our natural minds to comprehend spiritual matters (I Cor. 2:14), it is through *this* three-fold constitution that we come to know God in a more intimate and personal way. *Intuition is the sensing organ of the human spirit the means by which we know the things of the Spirit of God. Communion is the ability to converse with God, and to worship Him. Conscience is the discerning organ which distinguishes right from wrong* (from Part 2 of our series). Before our conversion, these faculties were, in a sense, "paralyzed"; they were numb to spiritual "feeling", and inoperable as far as the perception of God and of His will was concerned. This explains why we developed such a dependence upon sense knowledge in the discerning of matters (that is, the natural assessment of our minds

concerning people, places, or things, based on information gathered through our five senses). At that time, we had no other option, no other means of passing judgment. We did what came naturally. In a word, we were still under the influence of Adam, and his authority! However, when Christ awakened our inner senses, we then received the opportunity to know His will of a certainty; to be led of, and to walk in the Spirit. He opened unto us a whole new way of life!

(The similarity between Samuel and the renewed spirit of man is further enhanced by a simple word study. In Hebrew, the name "Samuel" means, "heard of God". It is the combination of two primary root words; the first meaning, "to hear intelligently, carefully, and attentively; to discern, or perceive"; the second word being a term for Deity; hence, we have the more detailed definition, "to carefully and attentively hear the Voice of God". It depicts one who has a keen sensitivity to Divine communication. How well this describes the "new man". He is one who has had his "hearing" restored)!

It is vitally important that we understand how God desires to speak to us, that we might mature in Him, and that we might be more perceptive of His Voice. This seems to be a perplexing problem for many these days, who are ever seeking direction for their lives (but seldom in the way God has purposed). In Old Testament times, we read where the Lord made His will known to His people in a variety of ways; as it is written, "God, who *at sundry times and in divers manners* spake in time past unto the fathers..." (Heb. 1:1). He spoke to them through the prophets; He spoke to them through angelic messengers. He spoke to them through the Urim and Thummin; He spoke to them through the ephod. He led them by a pillar of cloud by day; and a pillar of fire by night. We even find where the Lord sometimes spoke to individuals *audibly*; that is, in a way that their natural ears could hear actual verbal utterance. Some have felt that because of the peculiarity of these experiences, these saints must have found some special favor with the Lord; they must have been more important than the rest of us, they reason, to have received personal audience with Him. However, it is our persuasion that the reason God spake to them in this manner was because their spirits were yet unregenerate, and therefore, still dull of hearing! This was the only way they were able to hear what the Spirit had to say to them, and know of a certainty that God had actually spoken! It was anything *but* a sign of spiritual maturity!

Now, please do not misunderstand what we say. We do not deny that God *can and does* still speak on occasion to individuals this way. He is God, and can do whatever He wants to! Most definitely, we should welcome ANY manifestation that comes from Him, whether by dreams, visions, prophecy, etc. However, we dare say that *there is a more excellent way*. This way of which we speak was made possible through the indwelling of the holy Spirit, and is the highest order of spiritual communication available. It is not dependent upon any external channel at all; rather, it is solely and completely on the wavelength of Spirit. IT IS GOD'S PRIVATE LINE! This is the primary manner God has ordained to communicate with His saints in our day (all other means are *secondary*; for the purpose of confirmation). It is on a frequency which is totally free of outside interference, and totally above the realm of the natural! The truth is, WE are the

privileged ones, who experience His Voice "walking", as it were, in the midst of our hearts! How much more personal can He get?

This glorious procedure is as follows: as we commune with God, the indwelling Christ impresses His will upon our human spirit by way of *intuition*. Our spirit then translates that will to our consciousness (in the soul) through the voice of our spirit, that is, our *conscience*. And as we accept His word of instruction, correction, or direction, we are then able to walk in accordance to His will (we can be certain that a word is of God by knowing that He never requires anything of us that He does not also enable us to perform). It is in this manner that we receive the revelation of righteous judgment!

Watchman Nee spoke as one having authority, when he said, "The way God ordains for His children is a walk after the Spirit; *all other paths* belong to the old creation and hence possesses no spiritual value. But how to walk after the Spirit? It is living by its intuition because the latter expresses the thought of the spirit which in turn expresses the mind of God... This spiritual sensing called intuition impinges *directly without reason or cause*. Without passing through any procedure, it comes forth in a *straight* manner. Man's ordinary sensing is caused or brought out by people or things or events. We rejoice when there is reason to rejoice, grieve if there is justification to grieve, and so forth. Each of these senses has its respective antecedent; hence we cannot conclude them to be expressions of intuition or direct sense. Spiritual sense, on the other hand, does not require any outside cause but *emerges directly from within man*.

"Oftentimes we think of a certain thing we have good reason to do and our heart delights in it and finally our will decides to execute it; yet somehow, in the inner sanctuary of our being there arises *an unuttered and soundless voice* strongly opposing what our mind, emotion, or volition has entertained, felt, or decided. This strange complex seems to infer that this thing ought not to be done. Now such an experience as this may change according to altered conditions. For at other times we may sense in the inner depths that same wordless and noiseless monitor greatly urging, moving, and constraining us to perform a certain thing which we view as highly unreasonable, as contrary to what we usually do or desire, and as something which we do not like to do.

"What is this complex which is so unlike our mind, emotion, and will? It is the intuition of the spirit; the spirit is expressing itself through our intuition. Everyone who walks intimately with God, enjoying secret communion and spiritual union, will receive God's revelation in his intuition, and know unmistakably what he should do" ---*end quote*.

We are convinced that this is the truth of God. The anointing we have received makes us where we need never be deceived or confused. We need not an external voice to lead us, nor any supernatural phenomena to guide us. Some are always hoping for some dramatic, supernatural experience to lead them in the simplest of matters. They feel that if God would only reveal Himself to them in some spectacular way (that their physical senses could get involved with), they could better follow His lead. However, this is not necessary. (Again, we say that while He may choose to reveal Himself in many different ways, we should not intentionally seek for these). We need only to be patient and still

before Him in our spirits; to develop a sensitivity to His slightest whisper; and be ready to quickly and joyously respond to His still small Voice, the moment He does speak. By doing so, we are "growing up into Him who is the head of all things, even Christ", and conforming to His Image! Praise God!

We cannot overemphasize the importance of developing an alert and disciplined spirit. We read where *"Samuel grew., and the Lord was with him, and did let none of his words fall to the ground..and the Lord appeared again in Shiloh: for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel in Shiloh by the Word of the Lord"* (verses 19 & 21). The key of application is found in the word, "Shiloh". Strong's Concordance renders it as *"tranquil; an epithet of the Messiah: --Shiloh"*. It is *akin* to the word, "Shalom", which means, "peace". It speaks of the presence of Christ, in whom we find tranquility, rest, peace, and repose. It does not necessarily speak of a natural, external condition or environment of quiet (though it is certainly nice to find this); rather, IT IS A STATE OF BEING; an internal condition. How vital we have found this to be! For it is as we learn to silence the voice of the flesh, and develop this peaceful, tranquil atmosphere in the inner sanctuary of our spirits that we find the Lord frequently revealing Himself to us by and through His Word. We do not have to guess or assume the will of God, when we abide in this state. We will have an inner assurance "which passes all understanding"!

Just as the Lord was preparing Samuel for the priesthood, to intercede for and judge the house of Israel in righteousness, even so is He dealing with us. He has called us with an high and heavenly calling, to be "kings and priests" in the new order of the Kingdom of God. Have we grasped the full magnitude of this? This reign not only pertains to people and nations, but over ALL the works of His hands (Heb. 2:5-9)! Therefore, it is absolutely essential that we now learn to discern and clearly differentiate between the voice of the flesh, and the Voice of the Spirit. And we would venture to say that this is one of the greatest needs in the Church today! Our intuitive powers must become so sharp, so sensitive, that there is no question in our hearts which is which. We *must* be able to make the distinction between the two, and execute righteous judgment accordingly, else we will have no part of the Melchisedek priesthood! It is just that serious!

A final quote from Watchman Nee summarizes our thoughts. "To learn how to walk after the spirit is a lifetime occupation for the new man. If one wholly follows the spirit, he shall overcome the man of the flesh completely. Through the strengthening by the holy Spirit of the spirit in the new man, the believer shall be able to destroy totally the minding of the flesh so as to mind the things of the spirit. This is life and peace" ---*end quote.*

to be continued...

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