



The Person & the Work of the *Holy Spirit*

*22. Do We Need
A Move of the Holy Spirit?*

Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint,
but blessed is he who keeps the law.

Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained,
but happy is he who keeps the law.

Where there is no vision, the people perish:
but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.

Proverbs 29:18

Proverbs 29:18

When God's revelation is absent, when we don't have prophetic vision, we don't simply lack direction:

- ▶ we become spiritually unrestrained – like an unbridled horse, running here & there
- ▶ we substitute action & activity in place of clear prophetic direction
- ▶ we put our own plans & strategies & convictions in place of God's revelation. Pragmatism, worldly wisdom & good ideas stand in place of God's prophetic revelation by His Word & by His Spirit
- ▶ in doing so, we "set as nought" the revelation of God which should govern us & direct us & motivate us & inspire us.

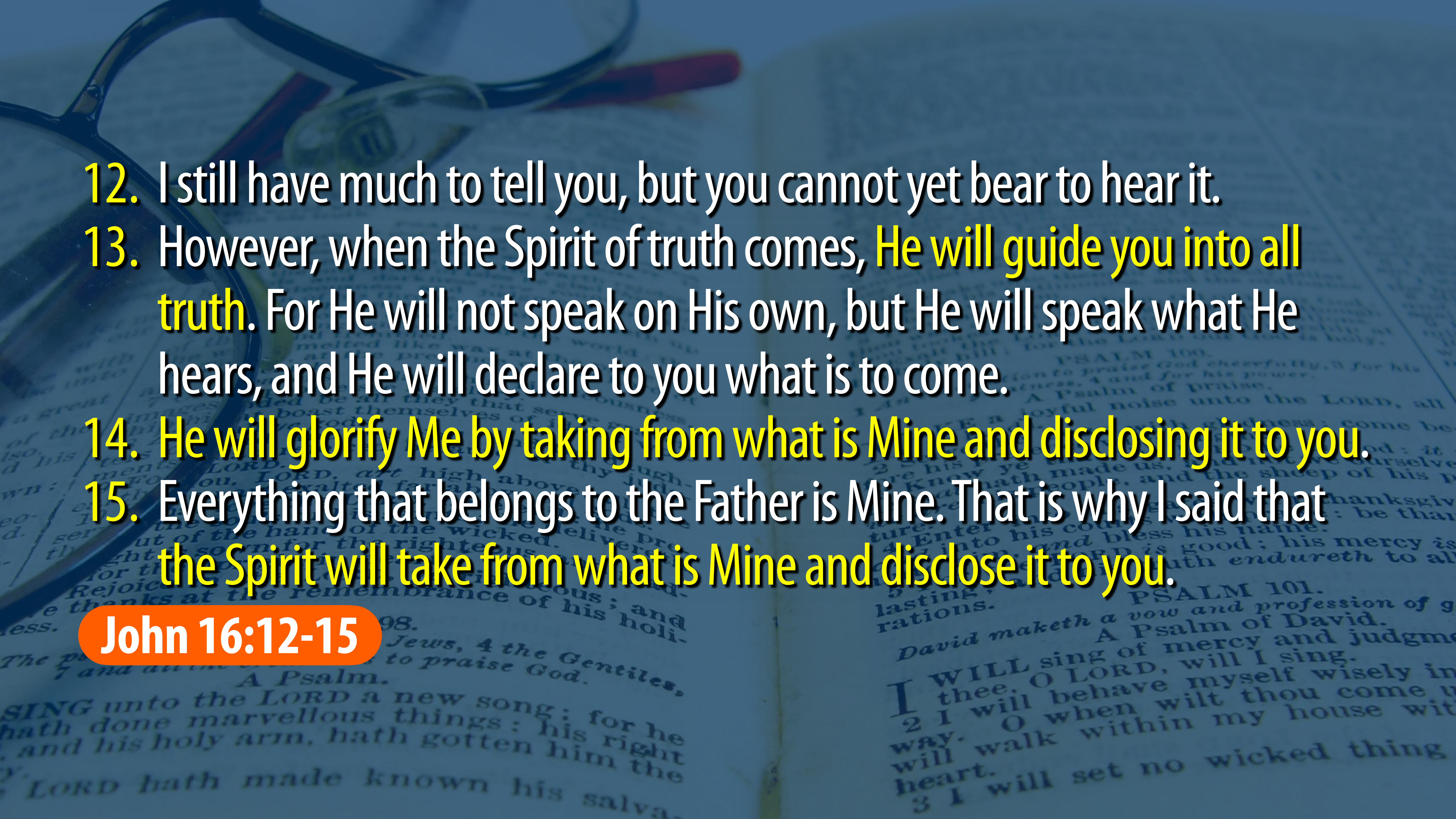


The Church desperately needs the Holy Spirit's present ministry—not because Scripture is insufficient, but because the Holy Spirit takes what God has revealed and makes it living, present, and applicable to His people.

25. All this I have spoken to you while I am still with you.

26. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have told you.

John 14:25-26

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12. I still have much to tell you, but you cannot yet bear to hear it.
13. However, when the Spirit of truth comes, **He will guide you into all truth**. For He will not speak on His own, but He will speak what He hears, and He will declare to you what is to come.
14. **He will glorify Me by taking from what is Mine and disclosing it to you.**
15. Everything that belongs to the Father is Mine. That is why I said that **the Spirit will take from what is Mine and disclose it to you.**

John 16:12-15



I am not moved by what I see.
I am not moved by what I feel.
I am moved only by what I believe.

Smith Wigglesworth

What we believe determines how we live.

William Wilberforce (Real Christianity: 1797)

The greatest need we have is not to
do things, but to believe things.

J. Oswald Chambers

The Church does not merely need better ideas. It does not need more clever programmes, strategies, personalities, or human vision. It needs God's revelation. We need the written revelation of God in Scripture. And we need the ongoing ministry of the Holy Spirit, who:

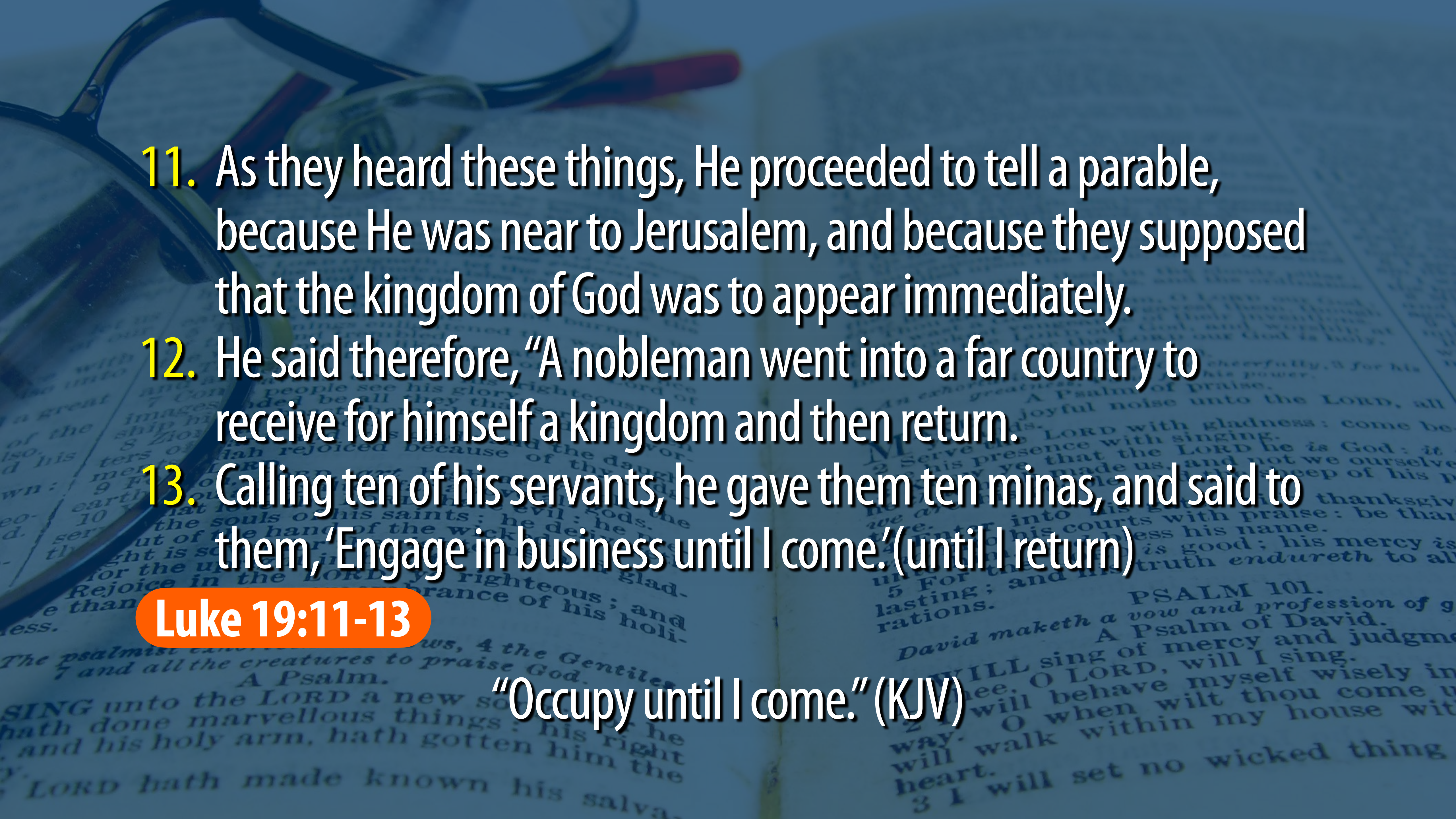
- ▶ illuminates the Word
- ▶ reveals Christ
- ▶ guides God's people
- ▶ brings conviction
- ▶ gives wisdom
- ▶ distributes spiritual manifestations
- ▶ when He chooses, speaks prophetically to the Church

If what we believe impacts on how we live, what do you believe regarding the Church that is the Body of Christ?

Is your viewpoint built on past or current experience, what you have seen or currently see in the Church in our nation, or do you have God's revelation concerning the Church as detailed in God's Word & made alive by the Holy Spirit?

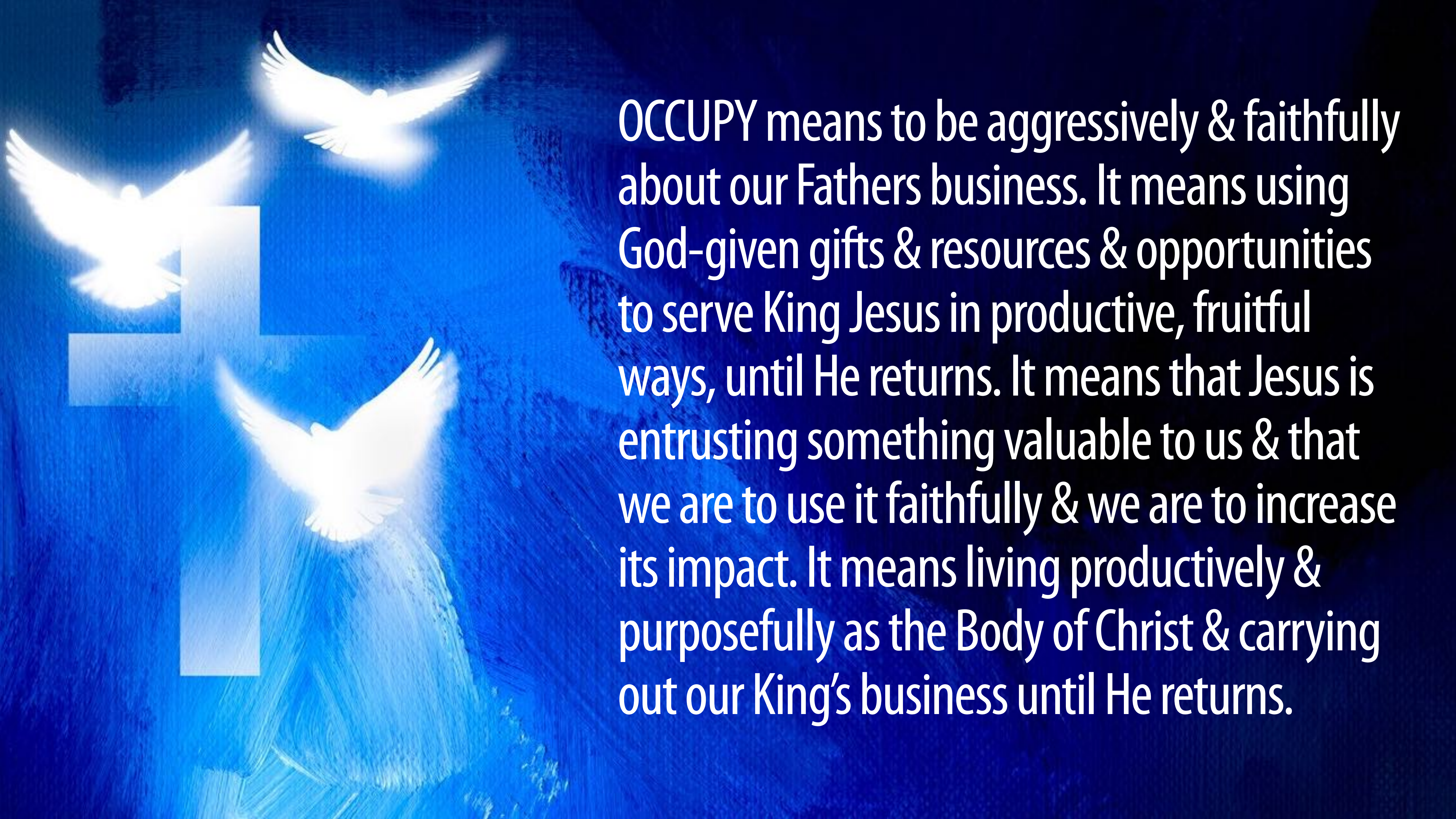


► **OUR RESPONSIBILITY** as sons & daughters of God

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11. As they heard these things, He proceeded to tell a parable, because He was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately.
12. He said therefore, "A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return.
13. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, 'Engage in business until I come.' (until I return)

Luke 19:11-13

"Occupy until I come." (KJV)

The background is a deep blue with a visible brushstroke texture. A large, white, semi-transparent cross is positioned on the left side. Three white doves are depicted in flight, their wings spread wide, appearing to fly upwards and outwards from the cross. The doves are rendered with soft, glowing edges, giving them an ethereal appearance.

OCCUPY means to be aggressively & faithfully about our Father's business. It means using God-given gifts & resources & opportunities to serve King Jesus in productive, fruitful ways, until He returns. It means that Jesus is entrusting something valuable to us & that we are to use it faithfully & we are to increase its impact. It means living productively & purposefully as the Body of Christ & carrying out our King's business until He returns.

57. But thanks be to God, Who gives us the victory [making us conquerors] through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be firm, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord [always being superior, excelling, doing more than enough in the service of the Lord], knowing and being continually aware that your labour in the Lord is not futile [it is never wasted or to no purpose].

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 (Amplified Bible)

- ▶ OUR RESPONSIBILITY as sons & daughters of God
- ▶ OUR IDENTITY as the Body of Christ

18. I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

19. and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. These are in accordance with the working of the strength of His might

20. which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

Ephesians 1:18-20

21. far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.

22. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church,

23. which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

Ephesians 1:21-23

The Church is not an organisation or an institution but a body with life flowing from it's Head who is Christ. The Church is meant to express Christ in the world.

The Church is not merely a group of people who believe in Christ. The Church is meant to be the living organism through which Christ manifests His life to a lost & dying world.

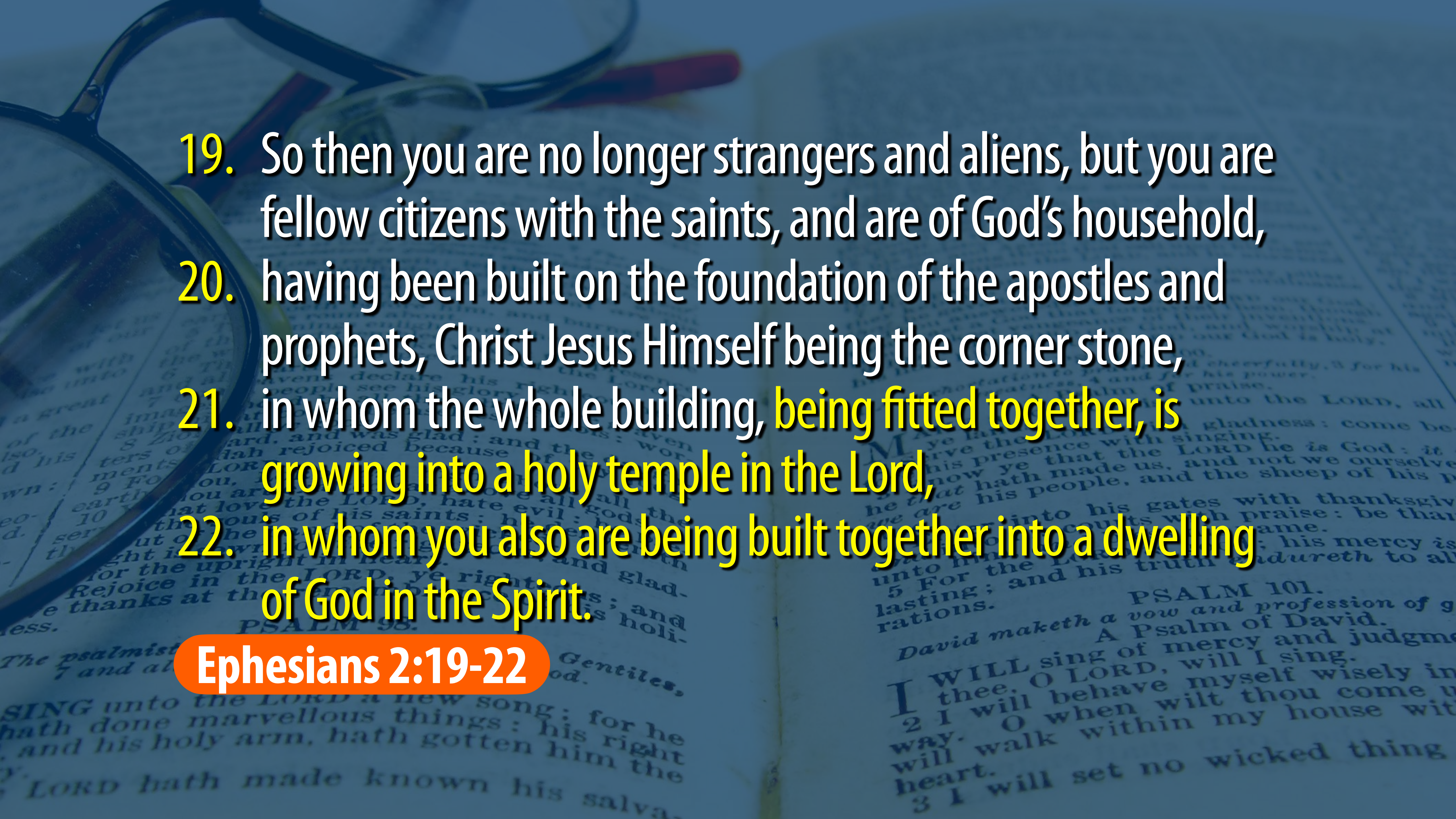


Verse 23: the fullness of Him
who fills all in all.

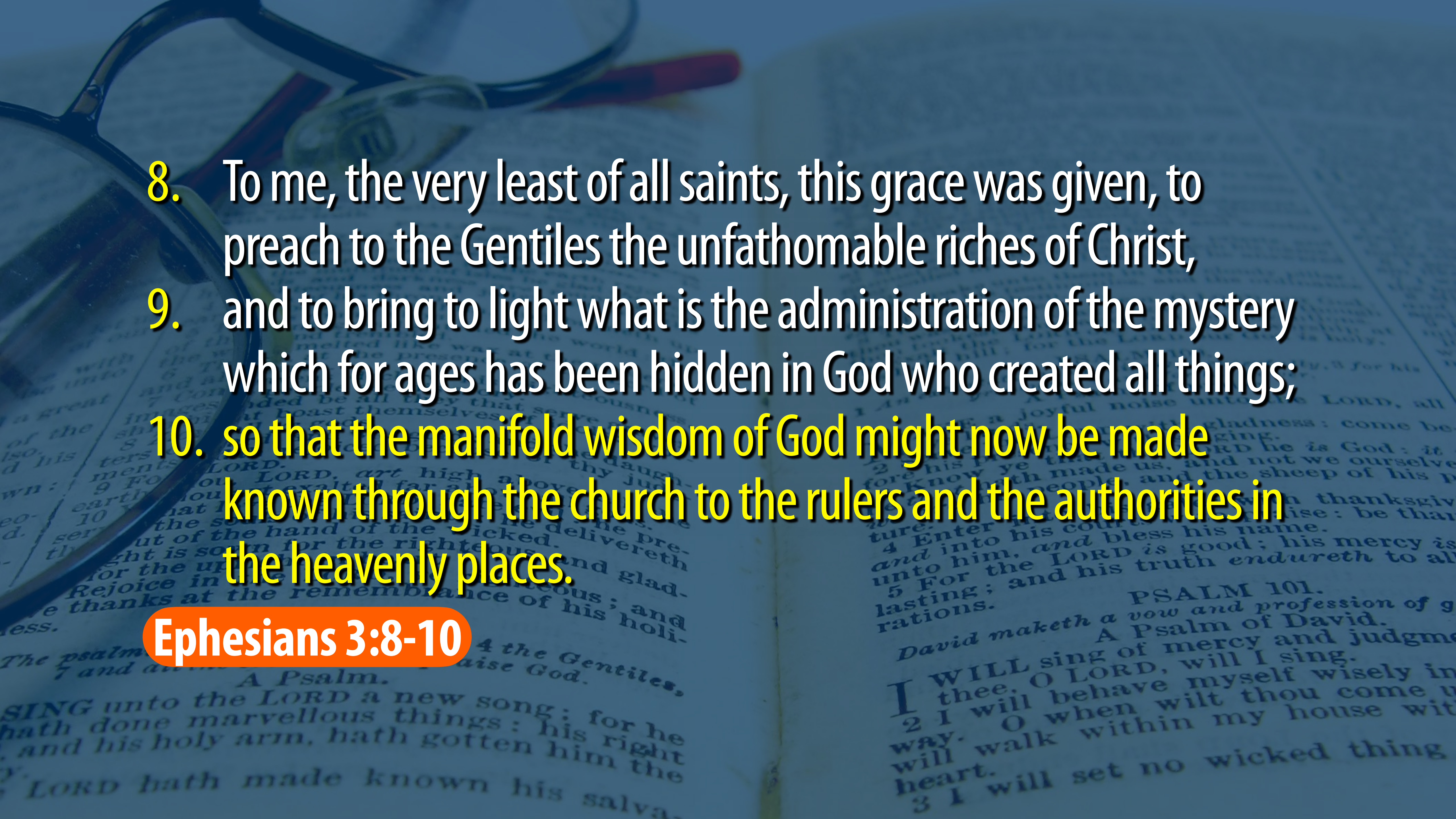
- ▶ The Church is filled by Christ
- ▶ The Church is the fullness of Him who fills all in all (the full expression of Him)



- ▶ OUR RESPONSIBILITY as sons & daughters of God
- ▶ OUR IDENTITY as the Body of Christ
- ▶ OUR PURPOSE as the Body of Christ

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19. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household,
20. having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone,
21. in whom the whole building, **being fitted together, is growing into a holy temple in the Lord,**
22. in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

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8. To me, the very least of all saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unfathomable riches of Christ,
9. and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things;
10. so that the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known through the church to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 3:8-10



God is teaching something!

The universe is His classroom
& the student, God's audience,
is the heavenly host.

The lesson is God's wisdom and
the teacher is THE CHURCH.



The Church is not merely the object of God's work, it is the exhibition of God's work.

The Church is therefore much more than a gathering of believers. It is God's living masterpiece.

The Church is God's living demonstration that His redemptive plan in Christ is perfectly wise, glorious & victorious.



Religion today is not transforming people; rather it is being transformed by the people. It is not raising the moral level of society; it is descending to society's own level, and congratulating itself that it has scored a victory because society is smilingly accepting its surrender.

A.W. Tozer

25. Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church
and gave Himself up for her,

26. So that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by
the washing of water with the Word,

27. That He might present the church to Himself in glorious
splendour, without spot or wrinkle or any such things
[that she might be holy and faultless].

Ephesians 5:25–27 (Amplified Bible)



Revival comes when people get
dissatisfied with what is and
yearn deeply for what could be.

Jim Cymbala



The world at its worst needs
the Church at its best.

Unknown

A Revived Church is the only
hope for a dying world.

Dr. Andrew Murray

Nothing short of an outpouring of God's
Spirit will revitalise and empower an
impotent and anaemic church to display
once again His glory to a lost world.

Del Fehsenfeld Jr.

Give me every statistic you can muster about the vileness of this hour, tell me if you can, the name of every transgressor in this world. List if possible, every broken home, every stagnant church, every secret weapon for world domination, and when you're done, I shall not shiver, I shall not whine, I shall only say, "Greater is He that is in you than he who is in the world!" If He is not in us, then all hope is gone and we had better close every church in the land. If He is in us, then let's repent of all our folly, seek cleansing from all our carnality, and then, cleansed and filled, march to victory.

**Gates of hell shall never 'gainst the church prevail;
We have Christ's own promise and that can never fail.**

Leonard Ravenhill