

II. Leaders In Society (10:23)

A. Christians Have the Advantage

1. Christian leaders agreed on these beliefs:
 - a. We have the mind of Christ (I Corinthians 2:16).
 - b. We are seated in heavenly places (Ephesians 2:6, Revelation 4:1).
 - c. There is a gift of wisdom (I Corinthians 12:8).
 - d. The least in God's kingdom is greater than John the Baptist (Matthew 11:11).
2. Speaker then asked leaders that if they truly believed these things to be true, why Christians were not leading in every area of society.
 - a. If these truths are realities and not just theologies, it is illogical for Christians not to be leading in every area of society.

B. Breakthrough In Many Areas

1. Today we are experiencing more miracles in healing at Bethel than we were 30 years ago.
 - a. We still have a long way to go, but we are far advanced from where we were.
2. We want to see the same kind of advancement in intelligence and wisdom.
 - a. Examples: Solomon's wisdom, Samson's strength
 - b. We want the Holy Spirit to move on us in wisdom, intelligence, visions, and dreams.
 - c. Bethel students will be known for being great leaders; thinking outside of religious, political and constraining boxes.
 - You have permission to think.
3. If we became what the Bible says we are, the contrast (to the world) would be so inspiring that evangelism would be easy.

C. Why We Are Not Yet World Leaders

1. Thoughts in denominational wineskins are enemies to that wineskin.
 - a. Thoughts cause opinions.
 - b. Opinions can cause conflicts.

c. Conflicts destroy the denominational family, because it is based on agreement.

d. **Therefore, religion has taken the place of revelation.**

2. The religious and political spirits are locking up the greatest minds of our time.

a. The religious and political spirits are related to each other.

b. The leaven of Herod and the leaven of the Pharisees (Mark 8:15) have created a culture that punishes those who think.

c. People are forced to say things that everyone knows are not true.

3. Begin thinking as God would have us think.

a. The greatest inventions, innovations and answers to world problems are just a thought away.

D. Develop a Culture for Thinking

1. You could teach the principalities and powers the wisdom from another age (Ephesians 3:10).

2. We still hold to the Bible as our foundation.

a. Dream as no one has dreamt before, still having your core values in the Bible.

3. Hebrews 6:1-2 "Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment."

a. Repeating again and again what has already been said and what is already in your foundation is not growing.

4. We are not talking about crazy thinking, but having solutions to real problems.

a. Encourage thinking and dreaming, but hold it in tension with accountability.

Horizontal lines for writing notes.

III. Transitioning Epoch Seasons (26:42)

A. Understand the Times

1. “In a time of drastic change it is the learners who inherit the future. The learned usually find themselves equipped to live in a world that no longer exists.”

Eric Hoffer (1902-1983)

2. Proverbs 25:11 “Like apples of gold in settings of silver is a word spoken in right circumstances.”

3. Epoch season – means “a way in which God deals with a certain people in a certain time”

4. We must become like the sons of Issachar who understood the times and what Israel should do in the times (I Chronicles 12:32).

5. Changing times need a new song, a new vision; we need to change with changing times.

B. Infrastructure For Transition

1. Anachronistic – means “living out of time”

a. Example: Mercedes car and ox cart

b. Live in the present with present prophetic declarations and mindsets.

• Example: Ford car “Edsel”

2. Infrastructure is needed to support what is new.

a. Example: advent of automobiles

b. There were bad roads, no gas stations.

3. Transition takes time.

a. Example: ox carts to automobiles

4. Though what is new is better than what is old, infrastructure is necessary to maintain what is new.

5. Transition is not easy.

a. People may say your new idea is not right when problems arise.

b. They may create a theology against it.

IV. Denominationalism to Apostleship (35:34)

A. Government and Leadership

1. Government is the structure in which governors govern.

2. Leadership is the art of governing.

a. Example: governors are cars; governments are roads, gas stations, and tire and repair shops.

3. Great governors (like cars) will not go anywhere without great government (like roads).

B. From Denominationalism to Apostleships

1. Apostles emerged in denominations.

2. These apostles (cars) were not doing what the apostles in the Bible were doing, because they did not have a correct government (roads) in which to operate.

3. As a result, the apostles (cars) were redefined.

a. Because the apostles (cars) had no correct infrastructure (gas), denominations were pulling the apostles (horses were pulling the cars).

b. Apostles were defined by a fancy denominational idea (like a fancy buggy being pulled by horses).

- The result was not biblical.

C. Importance of Infrastructure

1. Apostle -- means "culturally transforming where you are sent to be like where you came from"

a. An apostolic prayer is, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

2. Our job is to build this infrastructure (like gas stations and roads).

a. Example: 100 year old grandmother

- There has been more transition in the last 100 years than in all of recorded history.

D. Founding Fathers of New Epoch Season

1. Think what you could change over 100 years.

2. Over the last 30 years, we added ten years to our life expectancy. Over the next 50 years, 100 years old could be young.

3. You could be founding fathers of our next epoch season.

4. God wants to do more than you ask or think (Ephesians 3:20).

a. Your heart can take you places your head cannot go.

Horizontal lines for notes.

• Your mind will only take you places you can think.

b. Your heart can take you places you never dreamed.

• Dreams live beyond laws.

5. We can give our children a world in revival.

a. Example: the kingdom in a nation

6. Imagine how the kingdom would look on earth.

a. We would still have choices.

Speaker prays for students' eyes/hearts to be enlightened.

7. "Arise, shine; for your light has come" (Isaiah 60:1).

8. Jesus came to enlighten everyone (John 1:4-5).

9. God's glory will rise upon us (Isaiah 60:1-19).

Speaker releases a revelatory anointing (45:12 end).

Review Questions:

1. What is the definition of an Imagineer? What three things describe someone who is in the Army of Imagineers?

An Imagineer is a cultural transformer, a world-class leader who thinks of things never before thought, who sees things as they should be, and who calls things that are not as though they are.

2. If we have the mind of Christ, are seated in heavenly places, have the gift of wisdom and are greater than John the Baptist, what is keeping Christians from becoming world-class leaders?

New thoughts are enemies to denominational wineskins because thoughts lead to opinions that can cause conflict. Denominations suppress thoughts (stifling Christians from succeeding in leadership) to maintain their unity, but this has replaced revelation with religion.

3. What is the purpose of infrastructure in regard to transitioning in Epoch seasons?

Just as with the advent of cars, an infrastructure was needed (such as roads, gas stations and repair shops) so the car could be used efficiently, so an infrastructure needs to be in place so the apostolic can flourish and the kingdom of God in all its manifestations can operate here on earth.

4. Explain what an apostle does.

An apostle is one who is sent out and is to transform the place to which he is sent to be like the place from which he came.

Discussion & Activation:

1. Take an hour and find some place to be alone.

Consider this hour your permission to think! Get into God's presence. You may do this through worship with music, prayer or meditation. Then quiet yourself before Him and see what thoughts He gives you concerning an area of culture that needs transformation. Write down the ideas God gives to you.

2. Bring your notes from the previous exercise and share them in a small group. Notice what cultural situations arise and what new thoughts come from your fellow students.

3. Out of your discussion, see if there is any step you can take to begin bringing about change in a particular situation, and take that step, however small.

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