

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.

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.

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.

All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation. Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)