

PROPHETIC

Your message burns in my heart and bones, and I cannot keep silent.

(Jeremiah 20:9)

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One New Man (Vision/Word)

This insight is in two parts, one a vision and the other a word, that occurred twenty-three years apart.

Sometime during June 1992, during a Sunday worship time, I was given a vision of the one new man in Christ. Before sharing this, I need to set the scene, so to speak.

Prior to 1992, I had been studying New Jerusalem, but I must confess that my understanding was quite shaky. I had a real heart-yearning to see as John saw, but I kept coming up short in the vision department. I sought the Lord to see more clearly. Then, one day, I was reading a book by a well-known commentator of scripture, F.B. Meyer, and I was caught by the following quote from one of his books.

"Around us the most stable structures are being tested and some are crumbling to the ground. As they fall, they show that their service was transient. But as the scaffolding is taken down, the true building, the city of God emerges."

If there were ever a word for our day, this is it. All around us we see the structures of men, especially of the beast system of the world, falling to the ground. So much of what men and, even, the public church holds to is transient. That which can be shaken of the created is being and will be shaken; even if men manage to prop it up for a season, it is still transient.

Don't be misled by the things you see going on in the world, even that which appears to be good. Even good things can and will be shaken if they are not of the Lord. I state this as a reminder that the so-called *smart and intellectual minds* that run the beast-type kingdoms of the world are quite capable of keeping things intact or, at least, making them look intact, even if they are built on sand or the building is a house of cards. We need spiritual discernment in these days of shaking, as well as in these days of great deception. Let us be like the wise man who built his house on the rock, the words of King Jesus.

Everyone, then, who is hearing these sayings of Mine and is doing them shall be likened to a prudent man who builds his house on the rock." And the rain descended, and the rivers came, and the winds blow and they lunge at that house, and it does not fall, for it had been founded on the rock." And everyone who is hearing these sayings of Mine and not doing them shall be likened to a stupid man who builds his house on sand." And the rain descended, and the rivers came, and the winds blow and they dash against that house, and it falls: and the fall of it was great." (Matthew 7:24-27 CLV)

When I first read the quote from F.B. Meyer, the full impact of what he wrote did not come to me until much later. One Sunday during worship, I began to see more of the heart of God in relation to this quote. As I was meditating, I imagined (not initially a vision, just "picture thoughts" in my mind) God working on the scaffold of this huge structure. It was like a typical building project we observe here on earth. If we visit a building project, what is often seen is a mess with debris all over the place; scraps of wood, concrete, wire, etc. It is usually not a pretty sight. In fact, a building project can be quite messy. We look at it and

wonder how anything of any beauty or utility could emerge from such a mess. Oftentimes, we cannot even imagine what the final structure will look like.

As I continued meditating, I pictured a scaffold in my mind with God building from it. God was also the architect of this structure, and He was like the painter looking at the scene He wanted to paint. God had in full view the end product of this building project, and He was diligently working. As He was working, it was like most building projects; debris was falling onto the ground—building materials that were of no use to the final product. Parts that were of no value, that would not become part of the building, were thrown down onto the ground. It looked like a big mess to an observer. Some parts were given a prominent place in the building; others were given less prominent, but functional, places. At times, men would try to help in the project but would not really be working with God. My imagination was whirling!

My imagination went further to picture the structure also going through wind, rain, and even earthquakes. Through these tumults, other things would fall off the building to the ground, things that men attempted to put into the building; and so, it continued to be a messy project. However, through it all, God kept working, building, until one day, He was done. The scaffold was removed, and there emerged the finished product. What God had in His mind to build was finally completed. But what happened next shocked me. In my mind, I was imagining a city, but the spirit of God had something else in mind for me. As I was trying to picture a literal city, I was given a vision I had not expected. It was this...

In spirit, I saw the silhouette of a man standing with His arms outstretched. In the same instant, the spirit of God revealed to me that I was looking at the *one new man in Christ*, the new creation in Christ, New Jerusalem. The Lord was standing as the one new man. It was a vision of what the city-bride truly is in the heart of God. With this vision, all I could do was worship and praise God.

The vision revealed New Jerusalem as a people gathered together into one man conformed to the image of the Son of God, the many sons brought unto glory (Hebrews 2:10). After all, *our lives are hidden with Christ in God, and when Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory, for it is Christ in you, the hope of glory* (Colossians 3:3-4; 1:27). New Jerusalem is the Father's answer to His Son's prayer as He faced the cross. It is the perfection of unity, of oneness, and of the love of God.

The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. (John 17:22-23 ESV)

Dear brethren, may the eyes of our heart be opened to see that New Jerusalem is about God the Father being fully satisfied in His Son and in a people conformed to the image of His Son. It is not so much about a place or a thing as it is about the Son of God and the sons whom He is bringing to glory. New Jerusalem is the one new man!

If you are truly begotten from above, you are part of the city which God is now building. The building of the city is going on inside of every child of God that will be placed as a son in the kingdom of God. The Son of God is being built in you, and you are being built in the Son. And when all is said and done, collectively, there will be one new man that answers to the heart of God. This man will reign for the ages of the ages (Revelation 22:5).

Now, 23-years later, a word came to me about the one new man.

At 1:53 am, on February 4, 2015, I was woken with this word: ***Publish on the one new man.***

Since 1992, I have either referred to or written about the one new man many times, so this is not a new topic for me. However, on this day, this was not on my list for writing material. The fact of the matter is my first reaction when I heard this was that I had no particular inspiration to do so. I considered dropping the matter but could not for three reasons.

The first is that I quickly realized that obedience is at the heart of this command, which goes along with the very word He wants me to publish. Obeying the Lord is not based on our interest level or inspiration. The purpose of obedience is to mature us as sons until we come into full agreement with the Father, so that we know His heart, His will, and His plan and purpose, and agree with Him without question. Children question, asking why they must do something parents ask of them. On the other hand, maturing sons listen for the voice of their parents and learn not to question but to respond out of love, until they know the heart and will of their parents to the point they act before even being asked, no matter what it is. Obedience is not about doing pleasant things or things we like to do; it may involve a level of suffering. After all, our Lord Jesus, though being a Son, learned obedience from what He suffered (Hebrews 5:8). Jesus only did the will of His Father and was always in agreement with Him. This is the type of son that the spirit of God is raising up in these last days; a son that is in full agreement with the Father. The obedience of a mature son has everything to do with the *one new man* that God has begotten and, by His spirit, will be birthed through resurrection and transfiguration.

The second and third reasons deal with the time of 1:53 and the word *publish*. The number 153 signifies the sons of God. However, I was puzzled by the word *publish*; why wasn't I just told to write about it? *Publish* means "to make publicly known; announce, proclaim, divulge." This is a call to proclaim the one new man, not to offer some doctrinal teaching about it. This is quite significant, for it goes along with another word the Lord spoke to me on January 29, 2015: ***Tell all the world I am coming very, very soon.*** The Lord has spoken to me many times about His coming, but this is the first time He has emphasized this with *very, very*.

To add a little context, let us briefly consider the only verse in scripture that uses the term *one new man*, which is translated this way in most versions, although a few use the expression *one new person* or *one new humanity*. Paul, the apostle of the nations, is the only one to use this exact expression in order to contrast it to the former division that was based on the law of physical requirements. If anyone knew about this division, Paul surely did.

For He Himself is our peace, who made both groups into one and broke down the barrier of the dividing wall, by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, which is the Law of commandments contained in ordinances, so that in Himself He might make the two into ***one new man***, thus establishing peace and might reconcile them both in one body to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity. (Ephesians 2:14-16 NASB [bold italic added])

Clearly, the primary significance of these verses is that the dividing wall between the commonwealth of Israel and the rest of the nations outside of Israel (commonly called *gentiles*) was broken down with the cross. The good news is that because of the cross, in Christ, there is no longer any division. In the Messiah of Israel, there is no more dividing wall based on genealogy or any other distinction men might divide over. Simply, Christ is all in all. In this manner, *all Israel shall be saved*. And, all who are given the faith to

believe on Jesus are now one in the Israel of God (Galatians 6:16); there is no longer a distinction based on blood. Through faith alone, there is one new man.

In very simple terms, we could say that God flung open the doors of salvation for all, with no exclusions. In the Anointed One, all shall be made alive, and the result is one new corporate man!

Obviously, there is a great deal of doctrine and history tied up in Paul's words, and, down through the centuries, many have expounded on them. There is value in studying along these lines; however, based on the word and vision given to me, I must carry it to another level; one that pertains to the second coming of King Jesus. For me, this is the Lord's doing.

To repeat (Paul says this is a good thing to do; Philippians 3:1), the glory of the cross is discovered in the meaning of the *one new man*, namely—in His Son, God is bringing forth a new humanity in which the Anointed One is all and in all (Colossians 3:11), with no one left out, until God's ultimate purpose of being All in all is fulfilled (1 Corinthians 15:28). And, this ties in directly to the consummational arrival (or, second coming) of Jesus, for this is truly when the one new man is revealed to the world, manifested in glory. It is what creation groans to see.

For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. (Romans 8:22-23 ESV)

Now, let us turn to the meaning of the three words—*one*, *new*, and *man*. The word *one* means "a single thing or unit, not two or more; whole; united; undivided." The word *new* means "never existing before; existing before, but known or discovered for the first time; taking the place of what has existed; having just come; having just reached a position, rank, place, etc." The word *man* means "a human being, whether male or female; the human race, mankind." There are other meanings attached to these words, but these are the ones that most appropriately sum up Paul's revelation. Just consider the word *new*; Paul's *one new man* came into existence at Calvary, but it was also in the heart and will of God before *the conception of the orderly arrangement*.

When Jesus appeared as the Son of God and died for the sin of the *whole* world, not just a select few or one single nation, all humanity *objectively* reached an undivided position or whole unit before God that is now *subjectively* being worked out in this age and will be worked in fullness in the ages to come, all to the glory of God the Father, until He is All in all as His Son is all in all.

For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf. (2 Corinthians 5:14-15 NASB)

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17 ESV)

For just as within Adam all keep on (everyone continues) dying, in the same way, also, within the Christ all (everyone) will be made alive (1 Corinthians 15:22 JM-NT)

Through His only begotten Son, God the Father has begotten a whole new united humanity in spirit that is rooted in the life and love of His Son. In essence, He has broken down every single barrier of man, whether physical, racial, tribal, religious, denominational, and any other division imaginable. He has brought peace to all. All humanity was brought into the death of God's Son and now all of Adam's race is destined to be begotten and birthed into a new humanity, a new race, a new whole, all based on the life of His Son. It is called the *new creation*.

Of course, today, we don't see it in anything near its fullness, but it is here in germinal or seed form within a first-fruits people that are growing and maturing to be manifested as sons in the next age—immortal, glorified, spiritual, and heavenly sons in the likeness of the Son of God.

This is where **the number 153** enters the proclamation of the one new man. The Lord woke me at this time, for He wants me to proclaim that the first fruits of the one new man are coming very, very soon, for He is coming to meet them in clouds in air. These are the conquering, victorious sons of God, the ecclesia that Jesus is building.

The Hebrew expression *sons of God* [*Beni Ha-Elohim*], which appears seven times in the book of Hebrews, has the gematria of 153. In Greek, the same expression has a gematria of 21 times 153. To make sure we don't miss the point, the actual number 153 is found in John 21:11 where Jesus appeared to His disciples for the third time and directed them to catch 153 fish.

Many have pointed out that it is a rather odd number to appear in scripture, which has led to much discussion over its spiritual meaning. Augustine seems to be the first to notice that the sum of all the numbers from 1 to 17 equals 153, which is also a factor of 17 times 9. The number 17 signifies *victory*, which speaks of the sons, especially the conquerors, who will be found worthy to sit upon His throne and reign with Him on earth and among the celestials starting in the next age. The number 9 signifies *the fruit of the spirit*. The ones in victory are the ones who are not only alive by the spirit but also walking by the spirit.

The victorious body of the Anointed One will be the first to be *out*-resurrected and transfigured as the first fruits of the one new man. They will be the first crop or harvest of the greater harvest of all humanity that is to follow in the ages to come. Don't let this one thought evade you; if there is a first-fruit crop, then there has to be other crops to follow until all the crops are harvested into the barn, i.e., the kingdom of God. Miss this point and you miss the full meaning of the one new man. So, don't look at the first-fruit harvest as the end of the story. It is only the beginning.

Dear people of God, this is our hope, which is an expectation, not a whim, not a desire, not an imagination, not a maybe. It is a full expectation that this is so, and it will come about very, very soon. I purposely add the words *very, very soon*, for, as I have already said, King Jesus has told me to tell not only His people but the whole world that ***He is coming very, very soon*** (His exact words).

I realize people are very uncomfortable with making such declarations. I understand the reasons, but there comes a point when all the concerns and objections and fears, yes, fears of the many, must be ignored and the truth declared from the rooftops. If I don't declare this, then I am being disobedient. I'll leave the details and timing of *very, very soon* to the Lord. My responsibility is to declare it.

One New Man

The first fruits of the one new man are about to be birthed into creation that is groaning for their arrival. Are you hearing the voice of the Lord? Are you obeying? Are you groaning? Are you in birth pains, knowing the spirit of holiness is getting ready to birth the one new man within you? O, may it be so! Let us rejoice!