

Seasons of Essential Transition

Introduction: There is always human responsibility in the midst of divine activity. Prophetic ministry helps us to know the seasons of the Lord.

- a. Season of Passive Wrath
- b. Season of Active Preparation
- c. Season of Essential Transition

Isa 60:1-3 *Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD rises upon you. 2 See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you. 3 Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*

1. We live in changing times and the pace of that change is accelerating. I believe we are living in a "kairos" moment of time.

As we are serious about obeying God's word, as we embrace the call to "**arise,**" and to "**shine,**" we will find "**the glory of the Lord**" arising on us.

- A. The process of "**arising**" requires intentionality and effort.
- B. Grace is opposed to *earning*, not to *effort*.
- C. It is by the power of God's grace that we "*arise.*"
- D. "**Shining**" requires a reflective ability, an untarnished self that accurately reflects God's character, love, and power.
- E. Being reflective, able to shine, requires God's refining process.

Mal 3:2-3 (NKJV) *But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.*

F. God has not only provided the **command** and the **promise**, but he has also provided the **means**. "**He will purify the sons of Levi....**" (See Ps. 66:10; Job 23:10; Zec. 13:9; Dan. 11:35)

G. God's *prophetic commands* have a **powerful promise** attached.

Isaiah 60:1 "**Arise, shine**, for your light has come, **and** the glory of the LORD rises upon you.

2. Transition is an intentional pursuit of God's emerging requirements: "**arise** and **shine!**"

Ephesians 4:13 *This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.*

2

Transition requires tempered zeal and wise enthusiasm.

- A. The call and command of God is clear: "**Arise and shine.**"
- B. The promise of God is certain: "**the glory of the Lord will rise upon you.**"
- C. The result is astounding: "**Nations will come to your light and kings to the brightness of your rising.**"

3. Massive change awaits our ministry in the last days:

Isaiah 60:3 *Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.*

4. The deeper God's prophetic word impacts our lives and faith communities, the greater the impact upon our world.

- A. The power of this prophecy is meant to redefine the structure of our spirits and to reshape our faith communities.
- B. This prophecy is meant to open our spirits to a fresh revelation from God.
- C. This prophecy has power to enhance our ability to carry and complete Divine Purpose. (See 1 Tim. 1:18)
- D. This prophecy is meant to increase spiritual strength, deepen our spiritual authority, and transform our God-imaged humanity.
- E. Note the context of the command to "arise and shine":

Isaiah 60:2 *See, **darkness covers the earth and thick darkness** is over the peoples, but the LORD rises upon you and his glory appears over you...*

5. Darkness is increasing. It will continue to increase. Where is the world going to find any light? Jesus tells us, speaking to his followers:

Matt. 5:14 *You alone are the light of the world....*

- A. Darkness will continue deepen; the world will continue to devolve. Jesus only has one plan: *you and me!*
- B. We are being called upon in this hour by God's prophetic word and by the power of the Spirit to offer to God a wineskin capable of receiving new wine.

Mark 2:22 *No one puts new wine into an old wineskin or else the new wine skin burst...*