

The Power Falls

March 19, 2014

At the invitation of a friend, I attended a small church this past weekend. Backing down the driveway as we left the house I prayed, "Lord, you know how much I need you to touch me today. We (my mother and I) need you to minister to us. We are desperate."

The Sunday school was well facilitated, where the leader allowed those in attendance to share what they were seeing in the Scripture. It was clear he was intentionally following the Spirit as he listened to what each person shared. I was encouraged to see a leader honoring how the Spirit wanted to speak through members of His Body. The Lord was instructing all of us through each of us.

I had not come to this church to minister, but simply to mind my own business and receive. The Lord had other plans. During the service, the Spirit of God fell on me giving me a message in tongues and interpretation as the pastor opened the service inviting the Spirit to move. The cry of the Spirit that flowed out of my heart and my mouth was a question to everyone, "Will you let me in!" People began to be touched by the Lord across the room, some began to weep. I was weeping. The presence of the Lord was so strong, I was trembling.

As we entered into a time or worship, again, the Lord spoke to me and gave me a message for His people. I slipped out of my pew and quietly spoke to the pastor telling him that the Lord had given me another message and that I had not come to dominate the service. I would be glad to give the message or keep my mouth shut...it was his call. After a short time, the pastor spoke to me saying that he wanted to hear what the Spirit was saying. The Lord had given me an open door.

I then delivered the message that the Lord was calling all of us to see ourselves in the light of Rev 3:17. Here the Lord is speaking to the Church of Laodicea, to Christians, proclaiming that they were blind, naked, wretched, miserable and poor. This is our true condition before the Lord every day of the week...24 hours a day. We must see ourselves as the Lord sees us. When we do, this is true humility that allows the Lord to step in. He opposes the proud, but He gives grace to the humble (Ja 4:6; I Pe 5:5).

While I was speaking the hand of the Lord fell on me and I began to speak in tongues and as I did, the interpretation began to flow like a river! The Spirit began to touch His people one by one. The conviction of the Holy Spirit was present, causing hearts to turn toward Him.

I sat down again, weeping under the power of the Spirit of God, thankful for His presence and for touching my heart in a very real and powerful way. The dryness of the past months had taken a real toll both my mother and I. But the Lord stepped in because I purposely yielded to the Spirit and a pastor, who never met me, received the message the Lord gave to me that day.

Another leader began to step out and minister, first to the pastor and then two teenagers who were visibly affected by the presence of the Lord.

All who were there can testify that surely the Spirit of the Lord was among us. If we are willing to view ourselves in the light of Rev 3:17, the Spirit will rush in like a mighty rushing River!

Why not align with the Spirit, humble yourself today and let Him in?

Mark Biteler