



**Let my people go!**  
**Ministry of Cpt. Gordon Nelson**  
**The Old Ship of Zion**  
**(Christian-Zionist Publication)**  
**"Godliness with contentment." (1 Ti. 6:6)**  
**"To the Jew first." (Rom. 1:16)**

**MESSAGE 3 - 2004**

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**ON "THE THINGS THAT ARE WANTING"**

*By Gordon F. Nelson*

There is a scripture I'd like to share with you. Experience is what gives us understanding. My congregation has grown with me as we learn more about the "Christ after the Spirit" that Apostle Paul met in the Arabian Desert. (Gal. 1:17) We all are to *"grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."* (2 Pet. 3:18)

The scripture I wish to share that I have never, ever, heard quoted in the church, over radio, television or in their books is Titus 1:5. *"For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou (Titus) shouldest SET IN ORDER the THINGS THAT ARE WANTING<sup>1</sup>, and ORDAIN ELDERS in every city, as I had appointed thee."*

I have something I wish to run past you to see if it makes any sense. I feel the "model" of the type of church we should contend for is in Antioch. *"Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain PROPHETS and TEACHERS."* (Acts 13:1)

#1 – Barnabus – an Apostle

#2 – Simeon – a Prophet

#3 – Lucius – an Evangelist

#4 – Manaen – Pastor-Teacher

#5 – Saul – an Elder

Please note, the pastor is near the bottom of the list. They are honored by rank and in order of authority, as given by the Holy Ghost. The very next verse in Acts 13:2 says, *"As THEY (the five elders – the presbuteros) ministered to the Lord (together)"*, the Holy Ghost spoke! Wow! What a service!

Saul was in Bible College learning from men with faith. I believe all five men were the leaders of the church. *"Let the prophets speak TWO or THREE (never one, or more than three in a single service), and let the other judge.* (Even in reporting the news, folks today no longer are interested with a one-view

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<sup>1</sup> "It is not at all a question of the presence in the assembly of persons having the qualifications of elders, made overseers by the Holy Spirit (Acts XX:28) that such persons were in the churches of Crete is assumed; the question is altogether one of the appointment of such person. These assemblies were not destitute of elders; but were "wanting" to that they were not duly appointed. There is a progress of doctrine in respect of the appointing of elders." Dr. C.I. Scofield  
(This is a footnote to the word "wanting" in the First Scofield Reference Bible on page 1283.)

expression of the news, like with Dan Rather.) *If any thing be revealed to another that sitteth by, let the first hold his peace* (you shut up). *For ye may ALL prophesy* (elders only) *one by one, that ALL may learn, and all be comforted* (learning and comfort does not come from one man's sermon). *And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets* (the five-fold ministry of prophets). *For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. Let your women keep silence in the churches* (as an elder or apostle or prophet): *for it is not permitted unto them to speak* (even under the Mosaic law); *but they are commanded to be under obedience* (under grace), *as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak* (as an elder) *in the church.* " (1 Cor. 14:29-35)

Even the gift of interpretation of tongues is limited to two or (at the most) three. *"If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God."* (1 Cor. 14:27-28)

"The order of the ministry of gifts in the local assembly" (This is the heading C.I. Scofield gave to the following scriptures.):

*"If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: and thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth. How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying."* (1 Cor. 14:23-26)

This is the worship service, and everyone can participate. In a sense, it revives the old-fashioned testimonial service so prevalent in all churches when I became a Christian some 63 years ago. Paul says this is how sinners are converted by "every one of you prophesying," in that he *"hath a psalm* (a song), *hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation.*" (1Cor. 14:26) All of it under the supervision of the elders, or overseers, to see that everything is done decently and in order. (Acts 20:28) The overseers watch for wolves to enter in into this environment of liberty. (Acts 20:29) Sheep cannot detect a wolf in sheep's clothing (Matt. 7:15), but the wolves will make their debut in this atmosphere of *"love the brotherhood."* (1 Pet. 2:17)

If you only take in and never give out, you become a cesspool like the Dead Sea in Israel: everything coming in, but nothing going out! Giving out is how we *"grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"* (2 Pet. 3:18), and apparently is the main method of causing sinners to repent, *"so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth."* (1

Cor. 14:25) If this is what will cause sinners to repent, how is it then, presbuteros, that you don't permit a full church worship at every service?

To my knowledge, only the Salvation Army Church still has an old-fashioned testimonial service. I was saved in a Salvation Army church and only through this giving a word of testimony did I receive a witness of my salvation. *"And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death."* (Rev. 12:11)

When I pastored my church in Hayward, CA, this was the main text for even having church. "If you want to sing, I want to hear you," I'd tell my congregation. "If I have to request you to sing, I don't want to hear it!" It was amazing the gifts and talents that went on display in my church in this environment.

### **"What? Came the Word of God out from you only?"**

Paul concludes this exegesis by the denunciation of our "lone pastors" playing as God to the people as proof they are worthy of your tithes: *"What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?"* He finally concludes you're not going to convert everyone to the correct form on how to worship God. *"If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant...Let all things be done decently and in order."* (1 Cor. 14:36-38,40)

Seek the best gifts; the prayer language is at the very bottom of the rung! The Holy Ghost is the giver of the gifts. (1 Cor. 12:4-11) *"Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues."* (1 Cor. 14:39)

This is exactly the same message that Paul expresses to the Ephesian church, *"But unto every one of us is given grace (a ministry) according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high...(he) gave gifts unto men."* (Eph. 4:7-8) And He gave gifts:

#1 – Apostles

#2 – Prophets

#3 – Evangelists

#4 – Pastors

#5 – Teachers

As these gifts ministered together, the Holy Ghost spoke! Why wouldn't He?

This is the unity Christ was referring to in His prayer to the Father. *"Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, THAT THEY MAY BE ONE, as we (the Trinity) are."* (Jn. 17:11)

## **If you can believe, the presbuteros can minister in unity**

Do you believe that five gifts could minister together as one in one church? If you can't believe this, we have absolutely nothing in common. Jude instructs us, *"that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was ONCE DELIVERED unto the saints."* (Jude 3)

Imagine five different ministry gifts operating in one church, exactly in unison together as the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost did *"that they may be one, as we are."* (Jn. 17:11) Do you believe that the Father has to have His own tabernacle, the Son His own church, and the Holy Ghost His own tent to teach under in heaven? We can plainly see how crazy heaven would be if the Trinity acted like us here on earth. We are not queen bees that we each must have our own hive.

The church *"have lost his savour (saltiness)...It is neither fit for the land, nor yet for the dunghill; but men cast it out. He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."* (Lk. 14:34-35) The church lost its savour due to the government the people surrendered to be ruled by. One is what we see in Washington, DC, called "the hireling." (Jn. 10:12) This hiring of a preacher is condemned by the terminology of Apostle John, branding it Laodicea. *"The kings of the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and they that exercise authority upon them are called benefactors. But ye shall not be so."* (Lk. 22:25-26) The Assemblies of God is structured exactly as an organization based on how Gentiles exercise lordship. But Jesus said, *"But ye shall not be so."* Where did the Assemblies of God get this idea of government? From the Baptists, where else? (Eudorus N. Bell, an ex-Baptist)

If you attend a Pentecostal church, you either go to one the people own, or else a church the preacher owns. In either case, it is a one-man show and you sit. Finally, the preacher tells you that we have arrived at the part in the service where you can all participate. We are going to take up the offering! Don't you ever get fed up with three songs, a special number, and a twenty-minute discourse, then the benediction? You can be sitting at home and know exactly what is going on in church by looking at your watch! Then they wonder why people backslide and marriage doesn't work. How long will the church go on grinding at the mill like Samson? Samson is a type of the end time church. She will wake up! *"Is it not written, My house shall be called of all nations the house of prayer? but ye have made it a den of thieves."* (Mk. 11:17)

Jesus said, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord...and then will I profess unto them, I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from me, ye that work iniquity (lawlessness – without government)"* (Matt. 7:21-23)

Do you know why Jesus said, *"I never knew you,"* even though *"have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?"* (Matt. 7:22) It is because

these preachers had the same testimony as Nimrod, *“Let us make us a name.”* (Gen. 11:4) Nimrod was a dictator just as your pastor is a *“lords over God’s heritage.”* (1 Pet. 5:3)

Apostle John found a loner and told Jesus, *“Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name, and he followeth not us: and we forbad him because he followeth not us.”* (Mk. 9:38) Jesus sent them out two-by-two. The disciples found a man casting out devils all alone. They knew this man was not a member of their society. For the followers of Jesus did not go it alone. *“We forbad him.”*

Paul and Barnabus split up over John Mark. *“And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabus took Mark...and Paul chose Silas.”* (Acts 15:39-40) It never entered their mind to go it alone simply because of a dissention between them over John Mark.

*“And he (Jesus) called unto him the twelve, and began to send them forth by two and two.”* (Mk. 6:7) Paul and Barnabus followed these same instructions from our Lord. What is wrong with the 21<sup>st</sup> century church, going it alone? Two is better than one, dummy! When will we wake up? The day of the one-man show is over! Wisdom is not found in the mind of one man unless his name is Solomon. He had the “gift of wisdom.” Even Solomon declared, *“Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety.”* (Prov. 11:14) You shouldn’t even buy a car without counsel, let alone run a church. Who are these counsellors relative to the church?

### **Have you ever attended a Laodicean business meeting?**

We are all familiar with a church where every member is a counselor, expressed by their vote. The church cannot grow beyond the mentality of every Tom, Dick and Sally in the congregation. It is called “Laodicea” in scripture (Gk:-“laos” meaning people, and “dike” which means rule, or “people rule”) Did you ever attend a business meeting in a Laodicean church? Talk about politics and “exercising lordship as the Gentiles.” (Lk. 22:25) One particular Assemblies of God church in Oakland, CA was split like the Republicans and the Democrats! The moment you became a member, the usher wanted to know who you were for as to who should be chairman of the deacon board. The usher could then seat you on the correct side of the church. God forbid you should have to endure being seated by the opposition! Do you really believe we need another “hireling” church that is owned by the people? The people own the church, thus it is a “power to the people church”! Even the very preachers get sick and tired of being sick and tired of trying to be a politician in order to retain their pastorate. Your pastor is as secure as the next election. Apostle Paul denounced this system when he said, *“For do I now persuade men, or God? (you can’t have it both ways) or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.”* (Gal. 1:10)

If I preached a single sermon in a “hireling” church that I preach from my pulpit, I’d empty the church. I’ve already done it! I had too much compassion for the people and the preacher to continue. It

was a black church in Sacramento called, of all things, The Potter's House. These folks are all saved, sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost. When I attempted to preach "imputed righteousness" (Rom. 4:21-24), it was as if a bomb went off in the church. I then discovered I was in the wrong pulpit. If I had really grasped the meaning of Mark 2:22, "*No man putteth new wine into old bottles,*" I'd have never tried. This is the reason for going "*without the camp.*" (Heb. 13:13) I traveled for twenty years in the labyrinth of Pentecostalism believing in justification by the law. Your holiness is not determined by what you wear or eat, but rather what you believe. Just a little leaven of your own righteousness by the law, "will leaven the entire lump." (Gal. 5:9)

### **Abraham looked for a city that "hath foundations"**

Abraham "*looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.*" (Heb. 11:10) Abraham "*went out, not knowing whither he went.*" (Heb. 11:8) Abraham lived in the valley of the Ur of the Chaldees. Do you know who got there first? Nimrod "*a mighty hunter (of souls) before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel (confusion).*" (Gen. 10:9-10) "*And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech...they found a plain in the land of Shinar; and they dwelt there.*" (Gen. 11:1-2)

Once again, Nimrod has surfaced with a worldwide religion having one language (unknown tongues). I saw Paul Crouch introduce his grandson as the third generation sole owner of TBN. Abraham was faced with a similar decision. Surely you can't reject a worldwide religion simply because it has no foundation, or government!

But God always has a remnant! Where and how you worship God is far more important than where you live, what you eat, or the kind of clothes you wear. "*But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound.*" (Rom. 5:20) You must believe that!

Nimrod made his move. "*Go to, let us make brick...Go to, let us build...whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name* (Nimrod)." (Gen. 11:3-4) The 21<sup>st</sup> century Nimrod is building into the heavens through satellite dishes. All the TBN Pentecostal preachers are servants of Paul and Jan Crouch and their heirs. They call all the shots! They individually own a \$4 billion empire "into the heavens" via footprints in the skies, called satellites.

### **Baptists become second class citizens!**

"*And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.*" (Gen. 11:1) Today, the one language is the glue to hold this empire in the skies together. The language is the language so despised by the Baptists, "unknown tongues of fire." It is tongue-talker's money that was used to build this tower. Overnight, the Baptists became second-class citizens. Southern Baptists must be in total shock. How could this be? Baptists can suddenly talk to Pentecostals! Why? Because the Pentecostals, through their

prosperity doctrine, have more money. Baptists aren't even a threat to this "elder brother's" religion that covers the earth. Benny Hinn and Reinhard Bonnke preach to as many as two million people in a single service.

"Even Billy Graham can't go to India," declares Benny Hinn. In India, you cannot give an altar call, singling out people to come to Christ. It is against the law. Benny Hinn recently preached to the largest single service congregation in the history of the church in India, over two million people in attendance. God truly is visiting the earth. *"I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh."* (Joel 2:28) These two prophets of God now preach on stage in Africa, India, and soon Japan, a resurrected Christ that is alive! Benny Hinn's next overseas campaign is in Japan.

Will the real Jesus please stand up! Even in the Bible there was a Jerusalem Christ after the flesh, and a "Christ after the Spirit," which the church has always attempted to make one and the same. This is what Jimmy Swaggart's latest "revelation knowledge" is all about. It is Swaggart's attempt to make Mel Gibson's Christ the real Jesus! The Baptists have long held this same ideology as what Swaggart teaches, "It is finished!"

*"I am the way (or door), the truth, and the life (the resurrected Christ)."* (Jn. 14:6) Once you've gone through the Door and have found the Truth, why would you wish to return to the Door? Why not go on to the "Christ after the Spirit" that Apostle Paul introduces you to in his many epistles?

### **"Henceforth know we no man after the flesh!"**

I heard the audible voice of God screaming at me at high noon, saying, *"Henceforth know we no man after the flesh!"* (2 Cor. 5:16) It frightened me! I had graduated from a three-year Bible College, but those words were totally unfamiliar to me. Of course, from the legalistic training of Dr. Bebe Patten's Bible College and Seminary, to be "saved by God's grace" alone were also unfamiliar words. Religion loves the law and the building of bricks (with your name on the bricks). Of course, each such brick will necessitate a \$100 offering.

A typical convert of Nimrod's Tower of Babel in the 21<sup>st</sup> century would utter the same orders, *"Go to (get off your duff), let us make brick, and burn them thoroughly (in the oven). And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar."* (Gen. 11:3) Religion is invariably involved in brick and mortar. Why is this? The very next verse gives you the answer, *"Let us make us a name."* (Gen. 11:4) Nothing has ever changed!

In the midst of the most successful "brick and mortar" campaign in history, Nimrod, the mighty hunter (of souls) before the Lord began his kingdom of Babel (confusion). *"And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech"* (Gen. 11:1) that God said, *"Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language (tongues); and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained (due to*

possibility and positive thinking) *from them, which they have imagined to do.*” (Gen. 11:6) “If you can dream it, you can build it.” Where are we hearing this in our society? Norman Vincent Pealeism and Mary Baker Eddy’s Christian Science is alive and well in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, cloaked in the positive confession faith of our day. Speak unto your mountain! You are a “little god,” so says E.W. Kenyon. Now for \$30 a month you can be my partner as you watch me “walk on water, ladies and gentlemen!”

Do you realize that without Pharaoh, there could be no Deliverer? God always raises up a Deliverer to help man when man gets into the bondage of “brick and mortar.” *“And the Egyptians made the children of Israel to serve with rigour: and they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick...”* (Ex. 1:13-14)

It is always when God’s people are brought to the level of the slime pits of Egypt that God provides an escape. In the days of Noah, *“the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth...for it repenteth me that I have made them.”* (Gen. 6:7) But, *“God remembered Noah.”* (Gen. 8:1)

The Bible tells us, *“And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.”* (Lk. 17:26) I heard God’s voice when He called me into the ministry. “I have given you a ship. You are to call it the Old Ship of Zion, and you are the Captain. The ship is to have the same government that is aboard a ship.” It took me years to be able to identify this ship. I’m convinced the Old Ship of Zion is my own website on the Internet – [www.shipofzion.com](http://www.shipofzion.com). The water is the various governments. In this exegesis we’ve explored at length the different forms of church government that men have come to trust.

What is “wanting” relative to our text of Titus 1:5, is the recognition of certain elders. These elders see the vision for their particular area where they live. These elders are convinced that men are drowning in these waters of Pharaoh, Nimrod and the soon-to-be Antichrist. In Noah’s day there was only one way of escape, and that was to board the ship that Noah built.

The ship is the new bottle that contains the new wine. (Matt. 9:17) What is “wanting” is elders that will preach the “new wine” of the Old Ship of Zion.