

The Meta Church

Leveraging Market/Work Place Ministries

Victor Choudhrie

greettheeklesia@gmail.com

Dedication

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Books by Victor Chaudherie

English Books

Greet the Ekklesia: The Church in your House

Prayer Warrior: Church Planters Daily Prayer Guide

Acts: The House Church

Madhya Pradesh & Chhattisgarh 2001: Strategy Co-ordinators and Church Planters Prayer Diary

Hindi Books

प्रार्थना योद्धा एवं गृह कलीसिया रोपक की दैनिक पथ प्रदर्शिका

महान आदेश और घरेलु कलीसिया

आपके आत्मिक अधिकार

कलीसिया रोपक प्रशिक्षण हेतु लघु पुस्तिका

मोक्षदाता यीशु मसीह एवं सन्तों की अमृतवाणी

राजनीति और मसीही

वेद और मसीहा

संत समागम

Introduction

There is a fundamental difference between Christianity, which is biblical and traditional Christianity which is mired in man-made traditions. Paul cautioned, “let not the devil beguile you through subtlety... being corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ” (2 Corinthians 11:3). The purpose of writing this book is to redefine and restore the New Testament church and her God-given purpose, structure and function. An authentic church must fulfill the following:

Structural criteria

- Is it Biblical?
- Is it kingdom oriented?
- Is it in the context of local culture?
- Is it reproducible?

Functional focus areas

- Does it Exalt God?
- Does it Edify the Body?
- Does it Equip the saints for the ministry?
- Does it Evangelize the lost and finally?
- Does it Enlarge the kingdom?

All these are serious questions and must be faced frontally to qualify as the true Bride of Christ. The reality is that on most counts the modern church scores poorly. It is institutional and not a biblical church and is self-serving rather than kingdom oriented. It is culturally completely out of kilter which has made her lose her reproductive genes. It exalts religious icons; being pulpit centered, she is not designed for interactive participatory Body life. It does not equip her members to be effective workplace apostles and therefore the Great Commission remains her great omission in most cases, and finally it does nothing significant to advance the kingdom.

This is a different kind of rags to riches book. This book will encourage you to shift your paradigm and ratchet up your benchmark by several notches up. It is time for you to become a millionaire, both of finances as well of souls. The synergy has the potential to change the world like nothing else. According to the divine arithmetic one can become a thousand – this applies both to making money as well as to making disciples (Isa. 60:22). All you have to do is to apply the right biblical principles. Words related to money, riches and wealth occur some 2350 times in the Bible, more than any other.

Wealth retains its compelling power in the affairs of men, either to corrupt them or to purchase for them a piece of the Paradise. What a colossal shame that most churches do not conduct courses on biblical principles of sound financial management, leaving her members economic illiterates!

Mega billions of dollars lie in the bank accounts of the world's two billion Christians. Banks, businesses, stock markets and governments are pumping this Christian money into secularizing (God-less) economics, education, administration, abortion and even violence and other agendas of the Anti-Christ. What little money trickles into the church coffers is mostly mismanaged as 97% of it goes into preaching the gospel to the preached while tens of millions of people are still to hear the gospel, which is the apostolic agenda of the church.

Going two by two, armed with maps, stats and sound apostolic doctrine while breaking bread from house to house, you can mobilize men, money and resources that will change the kingdoms of this world into the kingdom of our Lord and His Messiah (Rev. 11:15).

The most urgent agenda of the church is that of bringing the God-less secular world under divine governance. What better place to start than in the market or work place where all the glory and the splendor of the world are concentrated. The devil is least bothered by attacks from the pulpit which are like a storm in a tea cup, while he shudders at Christians attacking him in the market place, which will be like a Tsunami, smashing his stronghold.

The devil offered on his own terms, the world to Yeshua (Luke 4:5-6) who rejected it. Instead, Yeshua challenges us to watch that the kingdom of God come, not by our sitting glued to the pew but by catching the stock market bull by the horns and hitching it to the plowshare and setting it to work for the kingdom (Matt. 11:12). That challenge awaits consummation.

This book also unpacks in small ways the Hebraic roots that feed us, the grafted wild olive branches. Some strange insanity took over the historical church when it tried to obliterate its own roots. We must now recultivate those roots lest lose our identity and destiny. The purpose of this is to take us back to the *benshen*, the Jewish dining table which served as the family altar, where the apostles broke bread and made disciples of the nations. It is my earnest hope that every Christian family will multiply *benshems*, changing their homes, communities and the nations.

Our most devastating attacks on the devil will come when the gospel is preached and practiced from house to house, as it was in the first century, not by the fake substitute we have created and call a church.

The book is not meant to be a criticism but a forthright call to return and fulfill, in its original form and function, the Supreme Order issued by our Lord: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey all that I commanded you" (Matt. 28:19.).

Wolfgang Simson writes

The classical, traditionalist, Christian was trying to "be a witness and testimony" in the workplace. This simply is not enough. When we encourage people to be a good Christian in "the workplace," we are accepting the devil's framework: "work, earn, pay taxes and burn". However, we are not to play the devil's game and look funny; it is he who must play our game according to our rules, and look funny.

Moving altogether into a Kingdom version of work involves a kingdom expression of the six stages of work: jobless → job → self-employed → employer → investor → pensioner

We are to demonstrate three Kingdom rules in action: (1) You do not get money by working for money, but by working for God. (2) Your inventions and innovations turn into Kingdom business (3) You establish Kingdom companies which are NOT secular companies baptized by having a Christian CEO or by holding Bible studies, but a companies with an fresh architectural design from their start. The difference is like that between traditional churches and apostolic gardening.

Meta-Church **(*meta*, Greek “beyond, after”)**

“So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with them that met with him (Acts 17:17).

Benign tumors that grow in size locally, do little harm and can be easily removed. In contrast, a primary cancer means “crab”) on the other hand first spreads by sending out tentacles, then starts throwing cancers cells all over which go and plant themselves in other parts of the body such as the liver, lungs, bone marrow and brain. These metastatic seeds grow and multiply till the whole body is soon riddled with them. At this stage even if the primary tumor is removed, the proliferating metastases continue to multiply, eventually killing their host.

“The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy but Yeshua came so that we may have life and have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

Meta-Change

Benign, non-proliferating churches must learn to counter this demonic strategy by an even more aggressive approach, sending out tentacles everywhere, planting seeds of good news of abundant life, until the whole city , the nation and the ends of the earth, are saturated with Metastatic churches.

Those who flocked to the new church in the port city of Corinth were Meta-Changed, having been pimps, temple prostitutes, sailors, and sinners of all kinds. Paul labored for eighteen months founding the church there. He had the women in this particular church cover their

head, because temple prostitutes would shave their head as part of idolatrous ritual. The personal transformation of the new believers was so huge, not only in the metropolis of Corinth but in the surrounding Achaia, which was a substantial part of Greece, that Paul in his second letter, addressed them as “saints” (1 Cor. 1:26- 31; 2 Cor. 1:1).

Later Paul learned that the church had divided into four factions. One faction owed loyalty to Paul, a second to Apollos, a third to Cephas and a fourth to Yeshua. Paul quickly restored the church to its one foundation, Yeshua Messiah, and united the factions under His banner (1 Cor.1:11-13). Without this first step of unity between churches , a city cannot be riddled with meta churches. Paul himself was a team player who would rather wait for his team before he got started with his ministry among Gentiles (Acts 18:5). The one time he did not do so, he failed miserably, at Athens. Yeshua commanded that we should go out two by two and find persons of peace.

The world is headed for judgment. A time bomb is ticking. Church history has proved to be a complete disaster. Her shepherds have completely failed to evolve a common minimal program to prepare for the return of the Chief Shepherd. While Yeshua Messiah is looking for laborers, the existing labor force is deliberately held in a state of suspended animation, trapped in the deep blue sea of merchandized religion. Decades and centuries have passed by while the church gathers every Sunday to eulogize her collective failure.

It is high time to redesign, restructure and overhaul the church. In New Testament times the “overseeing authority” of Elders did not stretch beyond the borders of their cities. Under the New Covenant, they did not have an official position with “command authority.” Paul seldom wrote to an elder but mainly to an ekklesia, the saints in cities like Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, Philippi (including overseers and deacons), Colossae (faithful brothers). He did not address the elders specifically, for they were leaders serving as examples to the flock.

They moved around as gifted ministers, as the Ephesian Elders did, to come up with a common strategy (Acts 20:17).

The overarching responsibilities of the elders was modeled on God who appointed twenty-four Elders around his Rainbow Throne to minister to Him. The frailty of those Elders and the presence of the rainbow must constantly remind God not to destroy us for our gross sinfulness, for no flesh can exist in the presence of Holy God (Acts 20:17).

Historically, charismatic leaders brought thousands into the kingdom who then melted away for lack of discipling and equipping. The problem was that the egos of the leaders got in the way, so, instead of swimming together, they decided to swim separately and sank. Christianity does not teach us, "winner takes all," but sharing and inter-dependence, especially within the family of God.

Because denominationalism has splintered the church into a synergy-destroying fracture zones, now inter-linking without one trying to control another is a must for reaching the ends of the earth. We must quit eulogizing religious icons and start promoting ordinary men and women as the real stakeholders of the kingdom. We must network with each other so that there are no holes in the fishing net. When Yeshua found his disciples by the lake side, they were mending their fishing nets (Mark 1:19). The Greek word for mending (katarizo) means equipping.

Equipping to become fishers of men is best done by leveraging small group dynamics. There is no such thing as an independent church. We are to live and work inter-dependently. Antioch is a good example of a church that metastasized all over the Mediterranean region. Rome is a good example of a network of multiplying city meta-churches (Romans 16:3-15). Meta-churches networking together, eventually become the church universal. No one controls anybody, but all encourage each other until the whole city, region and nation are riddled through rapidly-multiplying churches.

Creator's timeline does not rotate around a man-made solar clock; rather His calendar revolves around His business with Israel, and it is ticking. All other world events reported by the media remain peripheral and incidental. It is time for the church to get back to the drawing board and to bring out a new draft for fulfilling the Great Commission as her central task, fixed within God's timeline for Israel.

Change should be her buzz word. Yeshua is coming again soon and all hands on board must be deployed gainfully to welcome the King of kings. The long festering wounds of the church must be healed without frittering away more time. The eternal destiny of all the lost in the world is at stake.

It matters little how many come to your mega-church performances; what matters is how many are sent out to seed meta-churches in the city and beyond. The Meta churches are biblically based, kingdom oriented, reproducible, customizable, effective and free. Fulfilling these simple criteria, makes her authentic Bride.

The institutional church now has the house church as a serious competitor. To survive she must invest her gifts, talents and millions in training her members to go grab the market, getting clients as well as mega millions as return on her investment. Biblical, church-based training in business provides the key for changing the city and nation. After all, the business and work ethics for hiring, firing and making profits come from His Book. Not heeding it would result in a tombstone reading, "Here lies buried the barren Bride of Christ."

Almost all the synagogues in the early days had attached to them a Beth Midrash (house of study). Over time, the Midrash grew in importance as a center of advanced leadership training that studied and interpreted the Scriptures and developed *halakhah*, the practical application of scriptural teachings. Many self-supporting Rabbis would come and teach there. This practice remains an imperative to this day. After all, God is looking for profitable servants.

Sanctuary Shifted

Jews tried to keep God in a box whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain. Yeshua shifted his residence into human hearts, so that all nations can now pray directly to Abba Father without the intervention of a professional priest, "Our Father, thy kingdom come..." You are now the sanctuary of the Holy God (2 Chron. 2:6; Rom. 8:15).

The key to bringing His kingdom on earth is by our bringing His kingdom into our homes, business and work place, where we spend most

of our time, and dedicate them for His eternal purposes. Temple-centric, religious Jews killed Yeshua Messiah, both because he spoke against the temple and called the holy God his Father. Going once a week to worship in a church building on Sunday, is going back to being temple-centric, and returning to the flesh (John 4:21; 5:18, 24; 20:17; Acts 7:48-49; 1 Cor. 3:16).

When you build a house, your intention is to live inside it. God created you in His own image and likeness with the same intention. Putting Him in a concrete structure somewhere out there, and allowing him fresh air to breathe once a week, is not His idea of a sanctuary anymore. Yeshua tore down that concrete structure 2000 years ago and made you the temple of the living God: “The kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:21). He is now an insider and goes with you wherever you go. He replaced the covenant written on stone tablets, by rewriting it in human hearts. Now, every place that we tread upon becomes holy ground, fit for offering lost souls as sacrifice, acceptable to God. (2 Cor. 6:16; Mal. 1:11)

All believers in New Testament times were tradesmen, or farmers. Fishermen lived near to lakes, shepherds near their sheepfold, farmers in farmhouses. They used their houses for their trade as well as catered to the spiritual needs of their clients. Bezaleel, a craftsman, was the first man in the Bible to be filled with the Holy Spirit, for skillful workmanship (Exo. 31:1-5).

Cities have Souls

Paul appointed elders in “every city” to “set things right” by ministering to the whole city (Titus 1:5). Paul was not doing anything new, for God had already appointed twenty-four elders who surround His rainbow throne, ministering to Him. In the Old Testament the Elders sat at the gate of city as rulers and judges, deciding who could come in, meting out judgment on issues concerning the city. Now the New Testament elder does not have command authority but must model as a shepherd-ruler.

Yeshua came forth to preach the good news of the kingdom in ‘every city’. He came not only as a savior of Christians but to seek and save all

that is lost, including cities' and their market places (Luke 4:43; 8:1; 19:10; Mark 1:38).

Remember cities have souls and Yeshua spoke directly to cities like Jerusalem, Chorazin, Nazareth, Bethsaida, Capernaum, and others (Matt. 23:37; 11:23). Jerusalem the "city of peace" and Capernaum the "village of comfort", along with all the other cities where Yeshua ministered were brought down to Hades by Vespian the Roman in less than forty years (Isaiah 14:15).

A church that specializes in trampling down her own talent, cannot crush the head of the devil and save their cities, as commanded by God. Strangely, she gathers every week to celebrate her gross failure and non-performance during the week.

God commanded captive Israel to pray for the redemption of the sick city of Babylon, where they lived in bondage. Jeremiah 29:7 While you were snoring in slumberland, the dragon has quietly converted your city into his comfortable dragonland. Now the church needs to engage in a serious, sustained and brutal rearguard action with the dragon and chase him out of your city, and make it a real city of peace and comfort (Rom. 16:20; Gen. 3:15).

City elders are to minister not only to those inside the fold but especially to those who are outside the fold, because Yeshua shed His blood for them, too. The Hebrew words for dominion (*radah*) and for subdue (*kabash*) mean to tread, subjugate, vanquish, humiliate, prevail and reign. The church must equip and release her members to go and minister to the city by setting things right, vanquishing and prevailing over demons, subduing them and taking dominion over the whole city. (Titus 1:5)

Yeshua calls upon his disciples to prevail through spiritual warfare, human realities of injustice, inequality based on caste, class, race, gender, oppression, and authoritarianism, human exaltation of sex and science, violence of every kind and a host of other ills. We are to do so, not through exorcism done by conjurers who use mantras to call on evil spirits, but by shooting Holy Spirit guided missiles. The demolishing demons is not theology; it is an act.

The church must audit the qualifications required for leadership within the church. She should check to see whether candidates fulfill the criteria set down in Titus 1:5-9, 1 Timothy 2:1-4; 3:1-15 and Acts 6:3-7; to pray to proclaim, to plunder and to possess the city.

Theological academic degrees are just skirts made of fig leaves, a temporary solution, that soon wither away. The criteria for biblical leadership are entirely different. We should go straight for the jugular and convert our leaders into disciple-makers rather than just pontificators. God is looking for those willing to break boundaries and go beyond the borders.

Most members sitting in their pews have no clue about how to lead a lost soul to Christ, and if by some fluke, they did so, they would not know how to turn them into disciples. This is not their fault, for, although they have always been lectured to, they were never made disciples. If our leaders neither have a vision for the nations nor disciple making skills, then their congregation will have none either. If their leaders are not focused on the Great Commission, then the members will be out of commission. Yeshua said, "Can the blind lead the blind?" and "A disciple shall be like his master" (Matt. 24:1-2; Luke 19:9; Acts 7:48-49; Heb. 10:16; John 10:16; Luke 6:39-40).

Yeshua gave full authority to all believers, everywhere for all times, over demons, poisonous drinks, serpents, scorpions, sickness and other deadly things which abound in the market place (Mark 16:17-19). Evil forces are preparing the market place for the Anti-Christ, the beast with number 666, who will take over as an economic power. No one, either great or small, rich or poor, slave or free, will be able buy or sell without showing his mark (Rev. 13:16-17).

The Devil has deluded the church into thinking that anyone associated with the market must be solely profit motivated, therefore materialistic and hence off limits for the church. Nothing could be further from truth. Yeshua focused his ministry in the market towns. Possessing the market place must be our priority, which requires learning its nuts and bolts.

Passion, prayer walking the domain, spiritual warfare, binding the strongman, plundering his possessions (people and places) and flocking the liberated must be learnt from market-savvy mentors. In this way, we can set its captives free, subdue it, redeem whatever is worthy, exercise dominion over it, and thereby reign on earth. God has already promised to give us every place that our feet tread, including the market place.

After all, Jerusalem was the most difficult place in all Canaan to occupy, as it was inhabited by ferocious Canaanite merchants who worshipped X-rated, orgy-addicted fertility gods and goddesses, not very different from many of our merchants, today. God had commanded that all tribes and clans including men, women and children, be totally destroyed just as He had done for Jericho.

This does not match up with our image of a loving God. However, it turns out that these people in Canaan had been hearing about all the awesome things God of Israel was doing for the last forty years in nearby Egypt and then in the wilderness, yet they refused to change. When their cup of iniquity became full, God ordered their destruction.

This is exactly what is going to happen to all those merchants in the market place, if we do not bring them to repentance. Worse, we will be accountable for them. But before they can repent, the Church has to become the repenter-in-chief for all the neglect of many years. Then they will be ready to see and hear about the awesome works of God, right where they are. The objective of God in putting us where we are, is to transform our work, business place and city into a Jerusalem, a city of peace. How can the church be edified without making a substantive contribution outside her current boundaries.

God is now raising up global Christians from all parts of the world who are making a huge difference. These have to get out of their 'mother church' when they are 'convicted and convinced and revealed' by the Holy Spirit to obey Yeshua's command to "go into all the nations." It is these individuals who got the "calling", not the whole church.

The gathered church must proactively look for this kind and get behind them by providing opportunities and circumstances. Then these will surface and can be recognized, encouraged, and equipped. All

disciples are called to be world Christians. Yeshua initially asked his disciples to go only unto the house of Israel, not because he was nationalistic, but because that was the culture they came from. Soon afterwards he commanded them to go two-by-two, make disciples of all nations (Matt. 10:5, 6; Luke 10:1, 2).

Eventually Jerusalem will become the Holy City, the Capitol Hill of the millennial kingdom. But this will only happen when we pray for the peace and prosperity of Jerusalem, which we have been commanded to do (Rev. 5:10; Psa. 122:6, 9; Zech. 14:21).

Priesthood Universalized

Yeshua disenfranchised the monopoly of the Levitical priesthood when he franchised the “priesthood of all believers” to be a light to the Gentiles. Every follower of Messiah now serves as a royal priest to the nations (1 Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 5:9-10).

Under the Old Animal-blood Covenant, God spoke only to the priests and prophets who acted as “go-betweens” but now, with Yeshua’s Blood Covenant instated, He speaks to us directly, both individually and corporately (Acts 2:17-18).

Although both Jews and Gentiles require priests to mediate for them, Christians do not. Under the New Covenant, we do not need a human priest to mediate or to pray for us, since we now have Yeshua the High Priest, as our only mediator with whom we can directly communicate with boldness. Having a human priest as our mediator, violates our own priesthood and renders us as worthless lazy laity (1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:14-16; 7:25)

It is very important to understand the meaning and implications of universal “priesthood of all believers”. Explicit in it is your ambassadorial call for you to be a workplace minister. An ambassador is the highest calibre authority representing his country to the outside world. Not understanding your priestly role in your work place could prove suicidal for you and homicidal for others (1 Pet. 2:9; Luke 22:19-20).

Every believer, whether man or woman, is now an ordained minister, appointed to bring forth lasting fruit, having authority to baptize and to

serve the Lord's Supper as often as you meet and wherever you meet. "I have chosen you and ordained you" (John 15:16; 1 Cor. 11:23-25).

Amazingly, the headless starfish's neural system is so decentralized that every severed member re-incarnates as a completely new starfish.

Similarly, the Body (the church) must intentionally breed Bodies i.e. divide and subdivide and re-incarnate as new churches and fill the earth. No professional priest or worship leader is required to lead the worship, for the members of the Body minister to each other. (1 Cor. 14:26-31).

Here, every member of the Body is organically connected to each other, functioning as equals (Ephesians 4:16). This makes things a bit chaotic yet fruitfully chaotic, unlike the organized, unfruitful, controlling hierarchy in traditional churches. Interaction helps deconstruct man-made traditions and doctrines of demons (1 Cor. 12:25, 27; Rom. 12:4; Eph. 4:7; 1 Pet. 4:10, 11; 1 Tim. 4:1; Col. 2:8).

Royal Priesthood is a non-negotiable principle of the New Covenant. Priesthood is neither an office nor a title but a function. Yeshua forever changed the rules of the game by pouring out His Spirit on all flesh, anointing all believers to be Royal Priests (Exo. 19:5-6; Heb. 4:6-14; 7:22-28; 1 Pet. 2:9; Rev. 5:9-10).

In the Old Testament, only a few were chosen and anointed but now everyone can prophesy, perform miracles, make disciples, baptize and serve the Lord's supper (Acts 2:17-18; 14:29-32; Luke 22:19-20).

Worship is Still a Sacrifice

God designated the Jerusalem temple as a "House of Sacrifice" (2 Chron. 7:12). The instruments of worship in the Old Testament were The Sword, The Fire and the Sheep (Gen. 22:5-7).

The tools of worship in the New Testament are The Double-edged Sword (Word of God, Heb. 4:12; Eph. 6:17); The Fire (the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:4) and The Lost Sheep (John 10:16). He redefined worship from an offering of four-footed beasts to that of two-legged, repentant souls (Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5, 6, 9).

Traditional and organic house churches lie at opposite ends of the spectrum, when it comes to worship. While a traditional Christian enters His gates and offers noisy “fruits of his lips” as worship; the organic church worships through offering broken and contrite hearts, “the fruits of their labor,” as a living sacrifice that God will not Refuse (Psa. 51:17; 100:4; Heb. 13:15).

Paul says that he is a minister of God and that his ministry is to offer up Gentiles as a living sacrifice. Accordingly, every believer is called to have a ministry of worshipping God through offering “broken and contrite hearts” as a living sacrifice, wherever they happen to be (Rom. 15:16; 1 Pet. 2:5, 6, 9).

David did not sing all those worship songs in the temple, for it did not exist yet! Solomon built it later. David a talented musician, encouraged others to glorify God by entering His gates with an offering (sacrifice), not empty handed (Psa. 96:8; Deut. 16:16).

Neither the Hebrew word for worship (shachah) nor the Greek words (sebomai and proskuneo) have anything to do with music. Noisy musical instruments are not part of apostolic teams going out two by two, for all excess baggage was forbidden (Luke 10:1-4).

In the New Covenant we only make melody in our hearts. Church is a disciple-making hub and not a singing club (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16).

The best way to show that you love God with all your heart and soul and might is to make abundant disciples; the best way to love your neighbor is to make him a disciple, and the best way to love your enemy is to make him a disciple.

Guitars, drums and piano have never been the instruments of worship in the New Testament church, rather the making of disciples has always been the primary form of worship that glorifies God (Matt. 5:44; 22:37-40; John 15:8, 16).

Gathering Must Shift to Scattering

The gathered church must immediately become a scattered church to fulfill its apostolic and ambassadorial role. An ambassador of Christ is the

highest ranking representative of the government of God wherever he is posted.

The first radical change that took place at Pentecost was that temple-centric folk started meeting and multiplying in homes (Acts 2:26, 47). Approximately ten years after Pentecost, persecution broke out and disciples scattered all over planting Meta churches (Acts 11:19-23). Corinth, Ephesus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Bithynia, all the seven cities of Revelation were Meta churches (1 Pet. 1:1). All of them were situated in market towns spread along trading routes.

The Antioch church was a Meta church of Jerusalem which metastasized all over the Mediterranean region, as far as Rome. Yeshua changed temple-centric services into house gatherings scattered to the ends of the earth. He poured out His Spirit on all flesh and they went and made disciples of all nations.

The Holy Spirit led Yeshua into the jungles to fast, pray and demolish the Devil. He was anointed with the Holy Spirit to heal the broken hearted, give sight to the blind and set the captives free. Invoking the Holy Spirit just to holler in tongues for a few minutes of weakly praise and worship, miniaturizes Him. If you claim to be born again and have tasted the power of the Holy Spirit, then you should also be producing miracles, mentors and meta churches (Heb. 6:4-7).

Traders, craftsmen and other diaspora pilgrims from every nation under the sun, who came to attend the feasts of the Passover and the Pentecost, afterwards scattered throughout the world, starting thousands of decentralized micro-missions which carried the gospel to the ends of the earth. This happened within months, if not weeks of that Pentecost (Acts 2:5, 9-10).

Anointing must lead to scattering and to a burst of kingdom activities. A transgender Ethiopian, an immoral Samaritan woman and Cornelius a Gentile and a professional killer, could not meet God in the temple, so He met them on a road, at a well and in a home, declaring, "My house shall be a house of prayer for all nations" (Mark 11:17; Act 2:17-18).

Training Method and Content Changed

Yeshua did not outsource his disciples for formal academic training to Rabbis in *Beth Midrash* (houses of learning) to learn from the Tree of knowledge of good and evil. Those scholars, operated from the flesh by impressing others with their worldly knowledge.

Instead, Yeshua chose to be the Tree of life by training His disciples In real-life situations, in streets, market places and homes. There they learnt how to raise spiritually-dead Adams into living souls. His methodology and content produced world changers.

Modern educational systems divorce ministry from leadership development by outsourcing qualified students to knowledge-based, seminary scholars who, being out-of-context, prove skill deficient, which results in dysfunctional leadership development. Yeshua rejected formal training in isolated, academic classrooms for apprenticeship in the context, culture, hustle and bustle of community. Nor did he choose meritorious students sporting academic tags who would then be eligible for fat pay packets. Rather he chose from their professions and businesses those who had passion and would add value to other's lives.

Yeshua brutally attacked the pyramidal, hierarchical, structure, refusing the titles of Rabbi and Master by washing the feet of His disciples and established a flat, horizontal, brother-sisterhood of absolute equality.

Long-term, formal training leads to a non-biblical, "office-based leadership" holding an obscene amount of worldly power and authority without adding redeemed lost souls into the kingdom. God is still asking, "Whom shall I send and who will go for us?" Like Isaiah, we, too, should be saying, "Here am I, send me, " instead of asking, "What is in it for me?" (Isa. 6:8).

It is the goal that determines the process. If the goal is to make money, wealth and power, then the whole process is set to fulfil that goal. Whereas, if the objective is to repossess the earth that Adam lost, then the whole process will have to be shaped accordingly.

Calling and choosing are work of the Holy Spirit who empowers us to be Yeshua's fruitful witnesses. Yeshua Messiah is looking for a relational web of friends who he can trust to fulfill his will, which is to seek and to save the lost. He does not share the mystery of the ministry with servants but only with friends. His friends are those who love the lost as much as they love him (John 13:34-35; 15:14-15).

Friendship with God is not only believing in Him but resonating with His will, which is that none should perish. Abraham became a friend of God not only because of his belief but he was justified by his works through offering his son Isaac as sacrifice. Do not be deluded by your great faith in God, the Devil not only believes but trembles, so do something significant to prove it (Jam. 2:21-23; 2 Pet. 3:9).

Philemon was a rich, powerful man who had many slaves including Onesimus who was put in jail for running away. Paul disciplined him while both were in jail and later asked Philemon to accept Onesimus, no longer as a slave under subjection but as an equal brother.

Friends of Yeshua Messiah must go to the next level and become sons and co-heirs (Galatians 4:5-7). Sons go and possess their inheritance and get it registered in their names. Onesimus the slave, eventually became a valued member of Paul's apostolic team (Eph. 5:21; Acts 1:6-8; Phlm. 1:16; Col. 4:9).

Weekly Sabbath to Daily Addition

No where in the whole Bible, Sunday is mentioned as a day of rest or worship. The only time 'the first day of the week' occurs, apart from the resurrection of our Lord and taking a collection for famine in Jerusalem, is when Paul conducted an all night, "Saturday night" meeting at the end of the Sabbath in Troas (Acts 20:7-13).

Sabbath means rest. Yeshua said, "Come unto me and I will give you rest," thereby obliterating both the Jewish Saturday and the Christian Sunday as days of rest. Since He is now the Lord of the Sabbath, we can have a perfect Sabbath rest everyday in him (Matt. 11:28; Col 2:16; Heb. 4:9). Yeshua practiced,

“From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, offering incense (intercessory prayers) and repentant souls as pure offerings in heathen homes as a holy altar” (Mal. 1:11).

This resulted in daily addition of new believers in the church’s portfolio with multiplication of new disciples and new churches being planted everyday.

“And the Lord added new believers to their numbers daily - The churches grew in faith and in numbers daily”(Acts 2:47; 16:5).

Worship in truth and spirit is no longer confined to the temple. True worship that glorifies God is making abundant disciples. This can be done anyplace. The final outcome should not be just new addition of souls but metachurches being planted somewhere, everyday (John 4:20-24; 15:8, 16).

Just as the concept of global government, global economy, global peace initiatives and global church are collapsing, the Lord is shifting the “special person, special day and special place” paradigm into “everyone, everyday, everywhere.”

Jewish Feasts Fulfilled

The feasts of Passover, of First Fruits and of Pentecost were fulfilled in Yeshua Messiah. The others, like the Feast of the Booths, will be fulfilled in the eschaton. The birth of Yeshua took place at an inn of a market place. Inns were located purposefully on main cross roads, so that travelling pilgrims could easily find them.

Yeshua conducted much of his ministry in market places. His was a public crucifixion. Even the Holy Spirit descended on the Pentecost Day above the din of devotees leading their noisy sacrificial animals to the temple.

The upper room was located in the middle of a market place, a stone’s throw from the mount of olives (Acts 1:12). That is how a huge crowd collected within minutes of the descent of the Holy Spirit. Disciples did not go to the temple to worship, as it had become hostile to them. Rather they went there two-by-two (Acts 3:1) to extract devotees, take

them to their homes and turn them into disciples around their dining tables, and the Lord added to their numbers daily (Acts 2:46-47).

Yeshua changed the bath of purification with water (an act of repentance) for Jews in Jerusalem into baptism with water and fire (an act of repentance and being born as new creation) for all nations everywhere. Instant baptism confirming repentance became the symbol of righteousness (visible act of the New Covenant). Yeshua changed the animal blood and body-based Passover into His own blood and Body-based Holy Communion.

At that instant, the ceremonial laws of animal sacrifice of the Old Covenant exclusively for the Jewish nation became obsolete (Hebrew 8:13), and the inclusive New Covenant that makes disciples of all nations, as a fragrant sacrifice pleasing to God, was ratified, signed and sealed with His own blood.

The church is now the bread (Body) that must break and multiply. Bread that is not broken and consumed soon grows stale.

This was prophesied through our Patriarch Jacob when he blessed his son Judah, "The scepter and the lawgiver shall not depart from you until Shiloh come". Shiloh means peace, an epithet for Messiah. Yeshua is the Prince of Peace through whom the scepter and the law have passed on to us who are now Royal Priests to the nations and will reign with Messiah for a thousand years (Gen. 49:10; 1 Pet. 2:9; Exo. 19:5, 6; Rev. 20:6).

The Passover symbolized liberation from slavery. Offering a lamb and splashing its blood on doorposts to protect his family promoted a householder to the status of being the family priest. Upto this point, an Israeli had no identity, he was just a slave. Later Israel would be appointed a nation of priests to the Nations. In the new covenant when we offer a repentant soul as a sacrifice, we become priests and when we bring about a movement, then we become priests to the nations (Exo. 19:5-6).

Crossing the Red Sea, symbolized the baptism of 600,000 families with water on either side and the cloud above, with a complete break with Egypt and slavery. Now for us baptism symbolizes a complete break from the slavery of sin (1 Cor. 10:1-2).

The fifty days from Passover to Pentecost was celebrated by counting the Omer (3 liters of Barley) every day at the temple. Barley was considered animal food, which reminded them of the level to which Israel had descended while in Egypt. On the Day of the Pentecost, the Harvest Festival, they offered wheat which was considered human food and restoration of their dignity and humanity. The young boy who gave five barley loaves and two fishes to Yeshua, indicated his poverty. He gave his all to be a blessing to many (1 Kings 4:28).

It is widely believed that on the Day of the Pentecost, Israel received the Torah (Law, Covenant or Instruction) written on stone tablets. But before they could receive it, 3000 people had died because of the descent of an evil spirit which led them into defiant, corporate idolatry of a Golden Calf, the Egyptian god Apis, accompanied by a fertility-related, Egyptian, cultic orgy (Exo. 32:28).

Whilst most of the world worships idols, Christians remain idle worshippers bound to superficiality and materialism, to Mammon, the besotted god of greed. Anyone who is in full time money-making ministry, and has no time for God, is in that situation. Managing Mammon, an agent of the viper, requires spiritual warfare skills.

By way of contrast, the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Day of the Pentecost resulted in a baptism of 3000 families with rejoicing. This constituted their break with slavery to sin and death. But without the Law and its Statutes, liberty would be meaningless. So Yeshua has written the New Covenant in our hearts, not ceremonial laws but the Great Commission flowing from His intense longing for restored relationship with His lost creation.

Empty Religiosity to Productivity

The Christian world can now be divided into the productive (harvest oriented) and the non-productive (ritual oriented). Yeshua designed his church to be a harvesting machine, not an entertainment center with state-of-the-art equipment appealing to consumers.

At Passover, Jews ate their meal in haste with loins girded, feet shod and a staff in the hand. The New Testament instructs us to gird our loins

with truth, to wear a breastplate of righteousness and to put on shoes of peace, and other equipment (Exo. 12:11; Eph. 6:14-15). Anyone who is not ready to march out from the slavery of religious Egypt and take possession of his God-given promised land, is taking the emblems of the Lord's Supper unworthily (1 Cor. 11:24-29).

Adopting Sunday as Sabbath, professional priests, orchestrated music, sacred buildings, tithe-paying and religious rituals is a to return to Judaism, to works of the flesh. Yeshua changed Pentecost from a grain harvest to a soul harvest of 3000 households dipped on day one. That movement engulfed the city, then spread to Judea, Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

Reaching the diaspora and the planting of Meta churches must be built into the chemistry of every congregation. Every mother church, like seed, must die, so that she can bring forth a thirty, sixty or hundredfold harvest. Actually the seed never dies. Adam's and Eve's seed continues till today. It is only a church that does not replicate that dies. It is the Christian that does not make disciples who dies in vain. He must increase, and we must decrease.

The fifty days between from Passover and Pentecost symbolically represent the fifty-year Jubilee when all encumbered property had to be restored to the original owner, often a poor person. The church must demolish caste, class, race, gender, and rich-poor divide and restore all things to welcome Messiah the King. Anyone who believes in status quo, that is, same church, same pastor, same congregation and same Christian cemetery, is living in false loyalty and stagnating in Egypt.

Politically correct, feel-good sermons have produced a generation of comfortable and compromised Christians, who are in danger of losing their crown. They are set up for failure in the real world. Israel's extended stay in Egypt changed from one of refuge to prolonged bondage. This does not take long; as it happened quickly with the foolish Galatian church that fell into legalism, man-made traditions and started preaching another gospel (Gal. 1:6-9).

Stability and sustainability are financial terms, rather than spiritual terms. Same place, same leader and same day paradigm is not an

authentic church. These are like a pair of birds who build a nest for a season, hatch babies and fly away to do the same elsewhere and multiply. However, interactive house churches are not about everyone talking and no one listening while everybody does his own thing. Even so, it is better than a sermon-oriented church where information is transmitted from the note book of a sermonizer to the note pad of listeners without being processed through the minds of either one.

Exodus from wilderness and crossing the Jordan are necessary first steps before you can occupy your Canaan. God told Israel, “Today you are going to cross over Jordan, to possess nations stronger and mightier than you, cities with high walls where the Anakim (giants) live. Your success will not come from your righteousness but because God is crossing over the Jordan to judge the people there and give the good land to you” (Deut. 9:1-6).

You cannot stay in the wilderness forever and get free manna every day. Every Israeli had to occupy his own inheritance in hostile Canaan. You have to cross the Jordan, plough your own furrow, sow your own seed and reap your own harvest. Clarity of God’s purposes and a healthy mindset are necessary to possess your domain. If your sender has power and authority over all of heaven and earth, then certainly you have power and authority to possess your little domain, be it your worksite, city or nation.

Peter was asked to feed sheep. True pastoring involves pasturing sheep that can feed themselves. Whoever heard of pasturing inside sheepfold? Sheep have to be released into pasture land every day, where they can eat, mate and multiply. The business of a good shepherd is to feed, lead and guard them everyday, not just Sunday, to make sure that the sheep are healthy, thriving and productive. Every good shepherd acquires sheep for only one reason, and that is that they may reproduce. The non productive ones he sells them to the slaughter house.

“Come out of her my people and receive not of her plagues” (Revelation 18:4). This injunction is not about coming out of the market place or out of the world which God loved so much that He gave His only begotten Son. The son, in turn, gave His glory to His disciples, sending

them into the world, so that the world may believe in Him (John 17:18-23).

The Son's job description stipulated bringing many more sons to glory, making them joint-heirs with Christ, right where they are. God is asking us to come out of the self-serving Babylonian church (Heb. 2:10; Rom. 8:17).

To multiply exceedingly by reproduction is both a blessing and normative for every living thing, including the Bride. It is time to diagnose and treat her dismal infertility rate. (Genesis 1:22; 17:1-5) The Ephesian church, the New Testament's best congregation, was founded by Apollos (Acts 18:24), watered by Apostle Paul, manured by John the writer of the Book of Revelation, and mentored by a string of other leaders. Nevertheless, she became corrupt because of savage wolves arising from within, in a short period of 35 years. The problem that attracted God's wrath and led to her downfall was that she had forsaken her first love.

Yet the good news was that, by this time, she had metamorphosed into hundreds of churches all over, from the local market place metropolis to the ends of Asia. Paul was very strategic about reaching the nations. He bypassed Ephesus, a key church, to get to Jerusalem by Pentecost, so that he could preach to the nations that thronged there for the feast (Rev. 2:1-7; Acts 20:16, 19, 29-30).

Why not celebrate each Pentecost, the birthday of the church, with 3,000 baptisms? This is already happening in some places, but there is crisis of faith. Though many are praying for millions of souls, when somebody reports ten thousand baptisms, they incredulously ask, "Is this for true?"

It is like the Jerusalem church that was praying for Peter's release from jail, which, when he appeared following a supernatural release, they could hardly believe that their prayer had been answered.

Peter opened his heavenly bank account, following a five-minute sermon, by depositing 3,000 baptized families, then there is no earthly reason why millions of baptisms a day worldwide should not be the norm rather than the present, paltry 180,000 a day. After all, we believe in a great and awesome God for whom nothing is impossible.

The largest protestant denomination in the USA has 16.3 million members and 43,000 churches. On an average, 10,000 of those churches do not baptize anyone in a whole year. If each church baptized just two people every month, they would have one million baptisms every year. All it needs is to change its paradigm to: "Everyone can baptize." Obviously, it is time to stop yapping and start dunking. However, they should not baptize in order to fill church buildings; rather they must empty their buildings by sending them out into the field to disciple and baptize all the great unwashed crowds.

Millions are waiting to be baptized but for the stuporous church which is suffering from narcolepsy, a chronic daytime sleep disorder. The baptized need to be converted into baptizers who obey the Great Commission (Matt. 28:19); otherwise your baptisms will be only a hog wash with no lasting benefit to yourself or to others. The Lord is not interested in how high a cross you have on top of the steeple of your church buildings, but He is definitely interested in your installing His cross in the market place where the lost abound.

Since we believe in a great God, we should have an equally great vision and work for it. After all, we have far more resources than Peter had. Giving non-productive Christians fish to eat every week makes them lazy, whilst giving them a fishing rod makes them productive fishers of men. Everyone from school children to office workers bring home work to do. Not so with traditional church

goers, who are given no assignment for the week! That is why the secular world remains under the control of the dragon (John 9:4). We need to abolish the secular-spiritual divorce! Weekly hearers of the Word remain deluded; they need to be converted into weekday doers, because God does not justify hearers of the law but doers (Rom. 2:13; Jam. 1:22-25). Believers acquire value only when they are sent out to add value to other's lives. Our lives become meaningful only when we make the lives of others meaningful and fruitful. Like Paul, every Christian should be able to look at eyes of his disciples and boldly ask, "Are not you my workmanship in the Lord" (1 Cor. 9:1).

When someone is inducted into a church office, such as a Sunday school teacher, everyone lays their hands on them to bless them. But if

the same person holds a secular job, such as that of school teacher, plumber, businessman, office worker or housewife, the church never prays for them to be a blessing and an effective workplace apostle bringing forth abundant, lasting fruit on their work site. Remember, God loves everyone but he prefers those with lasting fruit to those who are religious nuts.

Many are called but few are chosen and ordained to bring forth lasting fruit (John 15:16). When we bring forth “fruit that remains”, we become the trees of life. We remove sorrows and sickness, wipe the tears and bring healing to individuals and overtime to the nation. We are not just going to die and then go to heaven and eat the fruit of life. The healing of the nations has to take place now. It is up to us to choose, whether to climb up the tree of knowledge of good and evil and perish or to become the tree of life and provide life and liberty to others (Rev. 22:2).

The business of the church is to teach every believer who is a businessman that Yeshua is the Lord of his business which is his mission field. However, none of the blessings a church can pronounce will help unless those businessmen are equipped by successful work place apostles who have a proven track record.

If it takes three years of seminary training to intone a proper sermon from behind a pulpit for converted Christians, then it will certainly require some coaching to help businessmen relate to non-believers. You cannot learn to play guitar overnight.

For the present there is a huge dichotomy between what is preached from pulpits and what is practiced in the market place. It is time to shift from oratorical rhetoric to making bold statements in the market place. A church that does not equip you to walk tall in the market and in your work place is not worth going to.

However, it is not about going to your work place strumming a guitar or distributing gospel packets nor of preaching sermons; but it is about praying and comforting colleagues and helping them to solve their problems and modeling Christ. The Lord is looking for disciples who are

faithful witnesses wherever He has put them, so that He can make them rulers over His household (Matt. 24:45-47; Luke 12:42).

Our work place is our battle field where objects of the occult provide entry points for evil spirits to enter and rule the place. Our real enemies are the principalities, powers and rulers of darkness against which our weapons are not carnal ones but spiritual.

In hospitals, there are different protocols for different problems, for heart disease there is one protocol and for liver or kidney disease there is another. Similarly, even though the principles remain constant, different strategies and approaches have to be designed for each situation and pervading worldview (Eph. 6:12; 2 Cor. 10:3-5).

It is like going out to the garden to quietly eat your sandwich. Soon you are swamped with flies. If you are not armed with a fly swatter, you might have to make a hasty retreat. Even when equipped, initially you miss most of the shots and end up swatting yourself black and blue, especially if you are wearing a fancy t-shirt and Bermuda shorts. However, you soon become an expert. Yet, just as you finish one lot, another bunch comes out of nowhere and you are again busy swatting flies. In fact, in practice, the attack never stops. Unless you first take care of the little demons, there is no way you can enjoy the green grass, the trees, the birds, the beautiful flowers and the butterflies, the floating white clouds and, of course, your sandwich.

Taking possession of your workplace is the same. Unless you are armed with the full armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18) and take care of Beelzebub, the lord of the flies (Matt. 12:25), swatting out his hosts, you cannot plunder his possessions, which are the place, the people and their wealth. Then, and only then, the kingdom of God will have a visible presence (Matt. 12:28-29). For this you may even suffer some backlash that leaves you black and blue.

Yeshua's disciples, when persecuted by hostile religious leaders in the temple, did not get scared and run away but prayed that God would stretch forth His hand so that healings, signs and miracles could be done in His name (Acts 4:30). To multiply disciples, in the midst of persecution, you need to multiply miracles and not hide. Once your colleagues have

tasted the goodness of Christ, and the power of His might, they will want to know more about Him.

The only serious mistake we can make is to try to “church” the unchurched. There is a world of difference between religion and spirituality. Going to church is religion, and it has very little to do with spirituality, freedom or the future.

Religion is about rituals. Spirituality is about connecting with God and that can happen anywhere, anytime. No one matures inside a traditional church to become a spiritual father or mother. That requires ongoing relationships with the Father and with the lost people and that happens only out there in the world.

The Great Delusion

One day the Devil was conducting a strategy seminar for young devils. He taught them how to be less confrontational and more subtle. He said that if he had directly attacked Adam he would have failed. Instead, he just created grey area of doubt in the mind of Eve and soon he had both of them in his bag.

For centuries, the Devil has deluded us into thinking that the church buildings and programs are in the plan of God. Nothing could be further from truth. While Christians are holy huddling every week, thousands are entering into Christless eternity all around us. If God destroyed the magnificent buildings of the Jerusalem temple, then there is no reason to believe that He will not do the same to yours.

We need to remove the grey areas from church! Pharisees tried to exalt themselves by praying in public with impressive words and sporting long phylacteries, so ornate buildings draw attention and interfere with worship in spirit and truth.

If Saint Paul were to visit our churches, he would doubtlessly delete a whole lot of our favorite programs and send us packing to preach the gospel where Christ has not been named. Switch your priority from that of attending a church to being a church, even while stuck in a traffic jam or enjoying a meal with family and friends and especially at your

workstation. Then sending your disciples to preach the gospel to those who have never heard the good news.

Yeshua never told us to put up buildings, He instructed us to find a Beth Shalom, a House of Peace. A Person of Peace is someone who provides food, water and sanitation to an apostolic team (Luke 10:5-8). No attempt should be made to assimilate seekers and new believers (new wine) into a traditional church (old wineskin). Instead, nurture them to become spiritual fathers and mothers, which is not as much about knowledge as it is about relationship.

A sapling will grow, multiply and become fruitful, only if it is manured, watered and cared for on site. The objective is to make them Trees of Life that will bear lasting fruit for the healing of the nations right on site where they are planted.

The Trip

Your business or work place may look like a land infested with hostile giants. When spies returned from Canaan with evidence of a land of fantastic bounty, God had promised to give it to the nation of Israel, but some of them brought an evil report of it being inhabited by giants. The information about the giants was correct but except for Joshua and Caleb, the rest decided to focus on the giants and not God and chickened out.

That disinformation paralyzed them into such timidity that eventually 600,000 families never made it to the other side of the Jordan; they perished in the wilderness. But for the bold stand taken by Joshua and Caleb, there would be no nation of Israel, today.

Well-meaning advice from the grass-hopper mentality of friends with a defeatist attitude can be like entertaining the Devil: when he tells you to go to hell, you actually look forward to the trip.

The church has been talking the talk; she must also walk the walk. Only those who walk get to their destination.

Royal Future

In the secular world, a leader is one who leads, delegates, organizes, manages, controls and makes others productive to maximize his profits. In a biblical view, a leader is a shepherd-king who leads and feeds, making his sheep productive by empowering them to become shepherds-kings. His motives and, therefore, his methodologies are completely different.

The story of David and Goliath needs upgrading from the Sunday school to its application in the market place. God had chosen David to become the shepherd-king of Israel, because he took care of his domain, guarding the sheep, with the integrity of heart and the skillfulness of his hand (Psa. 78:70-72).

David was a businessman, a sheep breeder. He killed Goliath not only for righteous anger because the giant had uttered profanities against the God of Israel, but David also had a strong profit motive, which was the hand of a beautiful princess, a daughter of King Saul. In spite of chiding by his elder brother Eliab to go back to his sheep, David the giant killer, fulfilled God's vision by powering himself for a royal future.

The overarching theme of the Bible is to re-possess the creation that Adam lost to the Devil. As the Bible starts with the concept of having dominion which is kingship of a domain, so Abraham was blessed to possess the gates of the enemy. Now that Yeshua has come to destroy the works of the Devil, the kingdoms of this world must become the Kingdom of our Lord and his Messiah.

The end-time vision given to Daniel was this: "The kingdom and the dominion and their greatness under the whole heaven shall be given to the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom and all the dominions shall obey and serve him" (Dan. 7:18, 27) .

If you are not in a re-possessing mode for your dominion, then you are in for a shock, because it will be given to someone else. Remember the guy with one mina, who kept is buried instead of multiplying it. To inherit your possession, all you need to do is to learn to wield your little

slingshot, your talent, effectively. Goliath the enemy will provide his own sword for the finishing touches.

Take a Stand or Loose it All

How will the glory, wealth and honor of the nations flow into the kingdom, unless we first go, subdue and take dominion over the financial giants of the market place? (Isa. 60:6, 16; 66:12; Rev. 21:24-25). Like Joshua and Caleb, if we do not go and possess the domain that the Lord has already given us, then the consequences may not only be a loss of crown but an unpleasant and unnecessary trip down under.

Fear and faith flee from each other. Scripture instructs us to take a stand, wherever we are, as a test of our faith (1 Cor. 15:1). Whatever our problems, most of them have a demonic origin, so Christians should not sidestep and say it is someone else's baby.

All our great patriarchs of faith, like Noah, Abraham, Moses, Daniel and Esther, took a stand against the evil one and prospered. Our great grandpa Adam and great grandma Eve failed to take a stand and lost it all. Had they taken a stand, they would have been here today, having eaten the fruit of the Tree of Life.

Your Tikkun (Fix, Repair)

Adam and Eve would have been the king, queen and high priests of the entire earth, which would have become the Garden of Eden. God would be coming for a walk in the evenings. Grandma Eve with her grandchildren would be out in the garden picking fresh fruits for breakfast. There would be no Jew or Gentile, no sin or curse on the land. Beautiful birds and butterflies would be fluttering around the house, and our children would not be playing with plastic toys but with live baby animals (Isa 11:6-10).

God gave the land of Canaan to Abraham who immediately walked around and symbolically secured the land by pitching his tent and erecting altars for sacrifices. Joshua's generation failed to take complete possession of the land. Joshua chided the elders for laxity (Jos. 18:3). Every Jew offered a sacrifice during the feasts, then prayed for healing of

the land (2 Chron. 7:12, 14). Even today, the traditional Jewish prayer, “Aleinu” (it is incumbent upon us), which closes every synagogue service, and is recited three times a day, petitions God “to repair and restore” the land. The Hebrew word here for repair is *tikkun*.

Tikkun Olam (to repair the land) of Canaan could not be achieved, until Shiloh came (Gen. 49:10). Shiloh (Yeshua) came but the Jews missed him by a mile, so the land remains un-repaired. Deluded, the Jews stand before the Wailing Wall in Jerusalem, wailing for the Messiah to come and the repair their land.

Because the sacred-secular divide creates walls in our workplaces, our *tikkun olam*, the territory that God has given to us, remains unrepaired. Yeshua Messiah wants to us to erect altars and offer Gentiles as a living sacrifice, then to pray, pitching his tent in our work place. Until that happens, your territory will remain unrepaired and un-restored. Are you aware that it is incumbent upon you to repair the land that God has given to you!” Acts 3:19-21

The Meat in the Sandwich

Releasing and commissioning her captives with the Great Commission remains the greatest favor that a church can do her members. Yeshua said: “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matt. 28:18-20).

Other versions of the Great Commission are found in Mark 16:15- 20; Luke 24:47; Acts 1:8; John 20:21; Isaiah 6:8.

A sandwich has an upper slice of bread which is the Old Testament that is all about God. The lower slice is the New Testament which is all about Yeshua Messiah. The meat in the middle, is the Great Commission, and that is all about us. You can know all there is to know about the Old and the New Testaments, but that will not take you to heaven. What will take you to heaven for sure is the obedience to the command of our Lord to fulfill His Great Commission.

Yeshua had a completion mindset, “My meat is to do His will and finish the task that the Father has given to me” (John 4:34). The Great Commission is the flagship of any church and the sextant of every fervent believer, without which we would drift aimlessly on a leaky ship. Encapsulated in it is your job description, “Make ready a people prepared for the Lord” (Luke 1:17).

A balanced diet requires, proteins, fats, carbohydrates, vitamins, and minerals besides micro-nutrients and water. Most of these have to come from outside the body, for it cannot manufacture them in any significant amount. Deficiency of any one of these can lead to malnutrition and disease. Because no food source has all these nutrients, a variety of foods remains essential to health and reproduction.

Needless to say, in His wisdom the Lord has provided five kinds of equippers in the church. Without this balanced spiritual food source, you are likely to become severely malnourished, sick, disabled and barren, unable to spiritually reproduce yourself.

The Five P's

Every successful enterprise ensures these five P's. Missing any of these steps will not produce desired results:

Product: Every good Christian is a good seed (Isa. 1:9) and capable of reproducing thirty, sixty or even a hundred fold.

Procurement: Manuring, watering and turning barren soil into good soil is the function of the church, so that the seed can produce abundant harvest wherever it is sown.

Production: Good seed with a high germination rate must be made readily available to the consumers in the market place.

Protection: The devil is always ready to sow his own seed while harvesters are sleeping. Guarding, protecting and keeping them spiritually fit and fertile are absolutely necessary actions lest, under adverse conditions, the harvest rot and go waste.

Public Distribution system: The seed is not for storing but for sowing. The church needs to go the extra mile to deliver its high yielding seed and

best practices (well-crafted curriculum and mentoring) that is guaranteed to bring fruit, to the ultimate end users.

Completion Mindset

Yeshua went systematically to every city and every village (Luke 8:1). He sent 70 disciples to “every city and place” He was to go (Luke 10:1). He then made this declaration: “I have finished the task” (John 17:4).

There was nothing haphazard about Yeshua’s evangelistic method. His strategy was to start from Jerusalem, move through Judea, penetrate into Samaria, and finally to reach the ends of the earth.

Likewise, to reach our destination, we must shift from a traditional church to being a Great Commission church, unleashing traditional Christians to become Great Commissioners on site in every city and place, with a completion mindset.

A good shepherd knows his sheep and they recognize his voice. He knows what the sheep ate yesterday and when they mated and when they are going to lamb (John 10:3-5, 14).

Since believers are a church’s greatest asset, she must seriously learn asset management and quantify their performance. The benchmark of a healthy church are, “The church grew in strength and in numbers daily” (Acts 16:5). It is both quality and quantity.

Finishing the task is definitely not about delivering the whole counsel of God, week after week, to the same group of duds who do not deliver on site during the rest of week. Rather finishing is about calling, choosing, qualifying, ordaining, exempling and resourcing believers to be productive in the secular world, while daily monitoring the progress of his flock for mid-course correction, until the task is finished. This is the only way in which ordinary people can become extraordinary channels of grace, changing the destiny of their nation.

Paul’s Three Phase Strategy

Paul expressed his completion mindset: “That I might finish my course with joy” (Acts 20:24; 2 Tim.4:7). He appointed elders in every

church (Acts 4:23) and every city (Tit. 1:5), then returned back to follow up the progress in every city where he had preached, made disciples and planted churches (Acts 15:36; 18:23). Paul was not stuck to a particular church forever, nor did he preach haphazardly here and there but very systematically and strategically.

Phase One: Evangelism: He kept tracking outcomes till he could say confidently, “I have fully preached ... there are no more places left here ..., now I am going to Spain where Christ is yet to be named”. The Greek word for ‘fully preached’ (*pleroo*) means to be replete, to complete, to finish, etc. (Romans 15:19-20, 23)

Phase Two: Disciple-making and Saturation Church Planting: Neither Yeshua, Peter nor Paul ever preach a sermon. In fact the word sermon does not exist in the Bible. Paul reasoned with folk; when that did not work, he persuaded them. When that failed, he disputed with them, and when push came to shove, he performed a mighty miracle that no could refuse. He did this for over two years in the school of Tyrannus while preparing disciples who practiced 2 Timothy 2:2 and all Asia heard the Gospel (Acts 18:4; 19:8-12; Tit. 1:13).

Phase Three: Appoint Elders who have fivefold ministry gifts in every city ‘to set things right’ in the city, not just in the church. This resulted in production of healthy leaders who planted healthy churches that multiplied rapidly. Appointing elders requires a passion for passing on the baton to the sons of the soil, just like a biological father who works hard all his life and then gladly bequeaths everything he owns to his children as inheritance (Tit. 1:5-9; 1 Tim. 3:1-7).

Paul refused to become a compromising, politically correct, man pleaser. This sometimes led to unpleasant consequences but he was an achiever which requires passion and persistence. It is easy to preach many sermons but difficult to live out any one of them. Paul was a producer of export quality disciples who went everywhere changing the world. Not many who came were wise, noble or mighty, in fact many came huffing and puffing from behind but finished the course and did a fantastic job (1 Cor. 1:26-30).

We are now seeing the same phenomena. There has been extensive evangelism, preaching and seed sowing by missionaries, the world over, in the last two hundred years. The past twenty years have witnessed phenomenal disciple-making and church planting movements unlike what happened in the past 200 years.

Many missions are now entering into tertiary phase of equipping and appointing gifted elders in cities such that the world is poised to see exponential growth and multiplication. While all phases are important, it is this tertiary phase that changes spiritual demographics.

While all generations had the possibility of bringing Yeshua Messiah back to earth in their own generation, they refused to move to the next level and missed it. If you are not experiencing any of this, then you better check out to see if you are not practicing Devil's gag order for believers and do some serious introspection.

Devil's Five Point Gag Order

All secular places including your business and workplaces are my territory so do no evangelism.

If you must evangelize, then do no more than being a good Christian.

In case someone does respond, do not baptize or at least delay baptism as long as you can.

If someone does get baptized, then immediately send him to the church to be pickled.

Under no circumstances you are to disciple anyone because that would destroy my kingdom.

Noah had a choice whether to believe or not, then whether to prove his faith by building a huge ship in the middle of nowhere. Abraham had a choice to stay back with his outright pagan family in Mesopotamia or prove his faith by travelling 1,500 miles on foot to an unknown, Promised Land. Moses had a choice to stay back and take care of his dumb sheep or to go back to Egypt and face mighty Pharaoh from whom he had run away.

Noah, Abraham and Moses had to suffer separation from their extended families and face very hostile peoples. They were not perfect men, with major character flaws, yet they became pillars and architects of our faith.

Saint Francis was asked if he would accept the Eucharist from the hands of a priest who he knew was corrupt. Without hesitation he said that he would as, at that moment, it was Christ who was being offered as the Sacrament; the imperfect hands mattered little.

Paul says, "Whether in pretense or in truth, as long as Messiah is being preached, I rejoice and will continue to rejoice" (Phil 1:18). This is not to encourage corruption, for integrity must be integral part of any ministry, but to be mindful when judging others, as we all have our own dark corners.

To be heirs and co-heirs with Yeshua Messiah and to share in His glory, we must also share in His suffering in the present world (Rom. 8:16-18). We are all fellow pilgrims with our weaknesses and hang ups, but where we shall end up as our destination in eternity depends very much on the choices we make.

The real choice is whether to obey or to disobey. Whether it is going to be cheers or tears, for you and also for your family, friends and colleagues depends very much on the choices you make here and now.

The word 'minister' is often used with an ego tag, but it actually means a servant. We must earnestly pray to God not to send non-performing Christians and their leaders with impressive visiting cards, to purgatory, but change their hearts so like Peter and Paul their visiting cards would read, "Slaves of Christ" (Rom.1:1; 2 Pet. 1:1).

Adam was only a living soul who, operating from his natural mind, will, emotions, knowledge and wisdom made a wrong choice, while Yeshua the second Adam remains a life giving Spirit.

Greek mindset focuses on knowledge, lectures, seminars and teaching of doctrines. The Roman mindset focuses on hierarchical, administrative, control structures, whereas a Hebrew mindset operates

by following anointed prophets. A Christian mindset focuses on being salt and light to the Gentiles.

Classical theological training cannot teach you anything about discernment, revelations, prophecy, deliverance, spiritual warfare and possessing your eternal inheritance, etc., because it operates from the Tree of knowledge of good and evil, driven by disobedience. Beware of Bible colleges that masquerade as Spirit based but are in reality soul (knowledge) based. Although our body and soul are subject to death and resurrection but our spirit lives in eternity. (1 Cor. 15:45)

To be effective salt and light in your work or business place, you have to offer your body as a reasonable sacrifice, and to renew your own mind before you can transform anyone else. Transforming your work place and business lies within God's perfect will. Evaluate the task ahead, complete it, then plan on diversification and multiplication. Do not leave it open ended, lest it never get done. Yeshua said that building a tower without proper planning and execution will make you a laughing stock (Rom. 12:1, 2; Luke 14:28-30).

We are in the business of kingdom building and we must finish the task, just like we do when we build our own house or undertake any other task given to us. There has to be intentionality about finishing the task and doing it systematically. We will be judged by our productivity (fruitfulness) in the domain God has placed each one of us, not by our piety because all our righteousness is like filthy rags.

"Truly, God overlooked the time of ignorance but now commands all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30).

The Greek word for repent (metanoeo) implies a change of mind, purpose and action. If all men everywhere are to repent, then it is obvious that all believers everywhere must be gainfully deployed. It is good to be salt, but you cannot be salt of the earth while remaining in the saltshaker; you have to get poured out and change the way the world tastes. All sacrifices in the temple were salted. Ezekiel 43:24

Unfortunately, the Kingdom of Heaven has an unpleasant ingredient called 'judgment,' as exemplified in the parables of the wheat and tares and of the sheep and the goats, with very unpleasant consequences. God

overlooked much of the past, but He is not prepared to wait any longer, hence the urgency of the planting of multiplying Meta churches by everyone everywhere.

The Great Commission stands as of crucial importance. A church that does not release her sons and daughters to be spiritual fathers and mothers has not understood the basic apostolic agenda of the church. Fulfilling The Great Commission is not optional extra but foundational. The problem with most Christians is that they claim to know God but deny him at their worksite (1 Tim. 1:1-3; Tit. 1:16).

Decrepit cathedrals and fatigued citadels of religion, stricken with holy madness, collapse all around us, announcing that there will be no religion in heaven. The present, sanctuary-centered church structures are not designed to go anywhere. They need to be replaced with an apostolic, prophetic church having a Christ-centered agenda of going everywhere for seeking and saving the lost. This can be done only by the whole Body and not by any particular leader, however anointed he may be. The ends of the earth are not going to be reached by top leaders but by innumerable nomadic shepherds roaming in every field and flock at ground level. After all, the birth of Yeshua was announced to nomadic shepherds, not to religious leaders in Jerusalem.

The church needs to recalibrate her leadership, based not on academic degrees and seniority but on motivation and performance. The essential difference between a worker and a leader is that while both work, it is the leader (shepherd) who sets the direction. We have to look at the whole leadership issue through different lenses, replacing vertical high-sight with lateral, scalable wide-sight. God does not call the whole church, He calls individuals. He writes a specific, tailor-made covenant in each heart. Like Habakkuk, every disciple should write down his covenant in his own script and act out his faith as part of his daily living. Remember, the little candle light in you has the power to light thousands of candles and light up the whole city (Hab. 2:1-3).

The simplicity of being an extraordinary minister of the gospel requires breaking bread among the most unworthy of peoples and places. Every disciple's aim in this life should be to have his name written in the Book of the Lamb with indelible ink. This means action. As spiritual

fathers and mothers, we must implant in others the chemistry to become spiritual parents and, in turn, to nurture their spiritual children. The destination is not the Sunday church but the Throne of God. This way we will disciple all nations, tongues and tribes, till we reach the ends of the earth (Matt. 7:16-20, Phil. 1:15-18; John 14:1; Isa. 64:6; Acts 17:30; Jer. 31:31-34).

Pruning and Purging Your Domain

Jews, Muslims and the Brahmins have a very strong sense of what is pure and what is polluting. Their priests consider all servile work to be polluting. God's original purpose in defining pollution was to protect His people, the Israel from the Gentiles who were heavily polluted by demons through idolatry and adultery. Yeshua cleans (prunes) His disciples through His word (John 15:2-3; 13:10).

The Greek word for clean (*kathairos*) also means purging and pruning. We all need to be pruned, purged and purified by God's word from the pollution of demons that are always waiting at the door. Even if you abide in Christ, you will remain fruitless unless you undergo spiritual pruning from the corruption of evil influences. Since most Christians have never been pruned from the influence of religious spirits, they remain religious and fruitless (Gen. 4:7; 2 Pet. 1:4-11).

The priests, have divinely ordained themselves not to do any servile work while their profane laymen remain condemned to work and become polluted. For centuries, the religious hierarchy enjoyed unfettered authority to treat workers as worthless.

The pulpit has the potential to kill dialogue, minimizing potentially mighty men and women of God into a mere spectators. Asking someone else to do servile work to supply all your needs, and then hurl verbal bombs at them from the pulpit, violates all decency. (2 Thess. 3:8-10; Acts 20:34-35; 1 Tim 5:8).

He commanded Adam to work in the Garden and to protect it (Gen. 2:15), tilling the earth, subduing it and having dominion over it. Only when He had finished His work did He ordain Sabbath rest. Later He commanded His people not to do any servile work on the Sabbath, to

protect them from working themselves to death. Our God is a working God (John 5:17) who started the work ethic by working for six days, only after which He sanctified the seventh. To celebrate Sunday as Sabbath, without doing any spiritual pruning and guarding work in your God ordained apostolic garden during the week, cannot be a godly model.

Sent as Ruling Priests to the Nations

Old Testament patriarchs and prophets like, Noah, Job, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Esther, Mordecai, Daniel and his associates, were work place apostles. In obedience to God, Isaac, a shepherd, sowed in the midst of a severe famine with no rain, dug wells in desert land and reaped a hundred-fold harvest. This resulted in the fear of the Lord in the heart of a very hostile king Abimelek who came with his ministers and army general, and signed a peace treaty. Isaac pitched his tent, built an altar and took ownership of Gerar, a commercial town connecting Egypt, also of Beersheba where his father Abraham had planted an orchard. Isaac was now a royal priest to the hostile nations surrounding him (Gen. 26:25; 21:33).

Jacob went to stay with his uncle Laban who was an Aramean, a worshipper of local gods called teraphim. Abraham was originally from the same stock but no longer an idolater. His grandson Jacob's presence resulted in a rain of blessing with supernatural multiplication of Laban's flock. Jacob proved the best sheep breeder ever, defying the laws of genetics by confusing the female sheep that bore a speckled and spotted variety of sheep (Gen. 30:37-43).

Daniel, a slave in Babylon purposed in his heart not to defile himself with polluted food but to learn the language, the literature and the customs of the Chaldeans and passed the test with flying colors when examined by the Emperor Nebuchadnezzar himself. His defiant prayer, with wide-open windows for all the world to see, resulted in imprisonment, not with hardened criminals but with hungry lions. Daniel was a praying man, and the lions waited all night for him to stop praying, but he never did, so the lions never got a chance to eat him (Dan. 1:4, 8, 20).

Shadrech, Meshach and Abednego challenged the authority of the mightiest emperor, in all earth in the presence of his governors and highest ranking officers, resulting in their being sent for a pleasant stroll through a sky-high furnace of fire. On their resurfacing, when asked by the emperor how it was? They replied, "Cool." The heathen emperor then sent decrees and edicts throughout the known world to worship the God of the Jews. Daniel and his colleagues then became de facto royal priests, and their influence extended way beyond (Meta) Babylon.

Joseph was a champion economist who created wealth in the midst of a terrible famine. This young man had suffered murderous assault by his own brothers and spent the better part of his youth in prison for no fault of his own. Though he could have spent the rest of his life groaning and moaning, instead, he had a clear vision of his destiny and a prophetic call to become a Royal Priest which he never lost. Even as a slave, he took charge of the household of Potipher, the captain of the guard. As a prisoner, he took charge of the prison. The day he left the prison, he became the de facto ruler of Egypt.

Joseph told his guilty brothers, "It was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt" (Genesis 45:8).

Joseph is our role model who triumphed over adversity through integrity, persistence and faith in God. But for him, the seventy members of Israel would have died of starvation in Canaan.

The same fate awaits your people who will die of spiritual starvation, for God is sending "a famine, not of bread but of hearing the word" (Amos 8:11). Like the great heroes of faith, intentionally purpose in your heart to take charge of your hostile domain under adverse situation and God will change it.

Mordecai was a security guard at the emperor's gate. His strategy resulted in his cousin Esther, an orphan and a refugee, becoming the queen. He kept his ears close to the ground and informed the king when there was a whiff of a palace coup. His loyalty and Esther's courage, coupled with fasting, resulted in the salvation of the Jews from genocide, which they celebrate as the feast of Purim. They also became royal

priests to the Gentile nations, far beyond (meta) Persia (modern Iran), from India to all the way to Ethiopia in Africa.

Mordecai became de facto ruler the empire. He was a hard-core Jew who refused to bow down to Haman, an Egyptian, the emperor's right hand man. Mordecai must have sent an army of hard core Jews to rule India, for the Brahmins (descendents of A-Braham), who came from Iran (Aryans), now rule the government, business, education, health, education and of course religion. Typical of Semitic race to take charge of everything!

Do not go to your workplace only as a professional, but like Joseph, Daniel, Nehemiah and Esther, go with clear purpose, to be the Tree of Life that will bring abundant, lasting fruit for the healing of the nations, restoring the Garden of Eden right there.

Metachurch is a Discipling Hub

Yeshua and his disciples came from a working-class culture and labored all day every day. Yeshua was a 'tektonic' man (tekton is a Greek word for carpenter). What would you give to sit on a chair and eat with Him at a table fashioned by the hands of the Creator of this universe? Well, that day is not long off when He will come and knock at your door, expecting to have supper with your household (Revelation 3:20). That supper will not take place in church premises, but just like in the house of Zacchaeus, the tax collector, that was full of redeemed rogues.

Market place ministry is not like a rags-to-riches story with a beggar turned into a big-time, philanthropic donor, through hard work and luck; rather it turns your home, office and business into a micro- mission station. This is not turning it into a church where the same folk meet forever and ever. It is not your staff meeting every morning under compulsion, singing a few songs, followed by pep talk from the boss. Turning your business into God's business must be your agenda. God's business has a completely different architecture. It manufactures and markets power-packed high velocity disciples.

It is turning our home, office and business into discipling hubs with two or three gathering together. It has all the power in heaven and on

earth, to bind and demolish mental strongholds, to liberate, disciple, mentor and replicate disciples by sending them out to do the same. It is not our business to plant conventional churches. Yeshua broke the Jewish tradition of having at least ten men to qualify as a synagogue, when he announced that wherever two or three gather, He is present in their midst (Matt. 18:18-20).

Our part of the deal is to set up a retail chain for manufacturing and supplying disciples, from which organic churches will just happen: "I will build my church". This is not a difficult model to implement (Matt. 16:18; 28:18-20).

Does that mean we do not have to hold gatherings? Of course we must assemble for encouraging, provoking and exhorting one another to do good works (Heb. 10:24-25). Yeshua has no allergies as to where and when you meet. He met them from house to house, in synagogues and in the market place, wherever and whenever (John 4:23-24; Rom. 14:5-6).

Church Structure

The early, first-century Christian treatise called *The Didache* or "The Teachings", only mentions elders and deacons. These had Overarching, supervisory role. The structure was never an android one but remained gender neutral; and whilst no one carried academic tags, they all possessed spiritual gifts. The church council consisted of businessmen, craftsmen and farmers, but no of clergymen. "Brethren", which means fraternity, includes men and women, all participated in the affairs of the local church (1 Cor. 14:26). The modern day title of a Bishop was a later add on.

If you want to see rapid growth and multiplication in your city then the Clergy Fellowships in the city will have to be expanded to include fivefold ministry gifted elders. This will offend a few sensibilities but the kingdom will see a rapid expansion.

Be careful, though, not to go the way of the first-century *domus ekklesia* (house church) which became *aula ekklesia* (courtyard church) which became concretized into an institutionalized cathedral (Bishop's

seat) which required a supreme *pontifex*. They then lost their sense of the urgency to preach the gospel to the lost.

Most Christians in the early centuries were Messianic Jews who met in synagogues which were not religious buildings but were called house of the people (*beth am*), a kind of community center. In fact, some were business centers like the Upper Room which was a guest house that could be rented out for feasts and other functions. This is where the Last Supper, the selection of Matthias as the 12th apostle, Pentecost and the first Jerusalem council took place.

Only after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple in AD 70, were synagogues upgraded to 'lesser sanctuaries' (*beth mikdash meat*) which included a *gumcha* arch in which the Torah was stored. They later added the Star of David, the fish and other symbols. Thus, synagogues became religious buildings, and Gentiles getting entry into them became such a negative issue that the movement died (Acts 10:28; 11:2-3). Constantine only nailed the coffin shut. This ugly divide between the high caste and low caste continues in the Indian church to this day.

Paul the Apostle to the Gentiles labored and tore down much of Jew-Gentile divide in the West, but in the East, there was no apostle to the Gentiles, so Christianity remained bound in a Messianic Jewish ghettos without penetration among the Gentiles. Much later, Constantine's highly-politicized missiology resulted in pagan priests being ordained into the church, so Christianity became adulterated with cultic rituals. The modern church temple is a grandchild of the genetically-corrupt, Constantinian model, not a New Testament model, for it lacks apostolic, prophetic genes. God never asked us to build Constantinian temples and ordain professional priests to conduct rituals; He asked us to multiply disciple-making disciples.

Paul's ministry revolved around his tent-making shop. Peter, John and James had a fishing business. All their disciples, yea, the entire apostolic missionary force remained self-employed. Yeshua completely deconstructed the sacred-secular divide by pouring out his Spirit upon all flesh, such that every believer should become a creative, productive laborer, a fisher of men in whatever state or place each one is parked.

The ghettoization of religion in the hands of non-productive clergy has proved a colossal disaster. The baton must be passed on to the sons of the soil to reach the ends of the earth. The full-time clergy are no more holy or unholy than half-time laymen, and God can work equally through either one of them. Herein lies a trap of mutual dependency. While professional priest depends on his congregation for his livelihood, the congregation depends for him for its salvation, and neither party is succeeding.

Because organic, growing, multiplying house churches can seriously expose and harm the very profitable business interests of conventional churches, the hostility of the latter is raising the hornet's nest of "quality over quantity". This despite the quality of an average traditional church-goer being grossly substandard as indicated by their barrenness.

It is not good enough to be someone of good standing in one's community. It is not good enough to profess your faith in God while denying him in your workplace (Matt. 10:33; Titus 1:16).

"Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, it must glorify God"(1 Cor. 10:31).

You must cash in your good reputation in the community and glorify God by making abundant disciples (Tit. 1:16; John 15:8).

Every living thing that God created, including the Bride, must replicate. Not so the institutional church. Quantity is an indicator of quality. The sacred clergy have plundered the rights of the secular believer, and both of them are journeying without a roadmap. Coca-Cola, cricket, mobile phones, sports and film heroes have reached the remotest villages but Yeshua Ha-Meshia', their Creator and Savior, remains ghettoized in the church sanctuary, unknown and unsung.

Christians, the light of the world, flash their special Christian smile on each other on Sundays but keep their Christianity covered under the bushel for the rest of the week (Luke 11:35). There is no point in cursing the darkness in your workplace, it does not help. Our business is to be the light and remove the darkness. The real Christians glow in the midst of darkness during the week. Matt. 5:14-16

All that is stopping the gospel reaching the damned and the doomed, wherever they are, is the self-serving interests of the institutional church. Our biggest sin is to be satisfied with status quo, “I am doing good”. We are to shake up the place where He has put us by His grace for Him to say, “ Good and faithful servant”. If just a few Christians had the guts to be authentic, instead of just carrying the label, then the Kingdom would take a quantum leap.

Tithes Are Food, Not Cash

Tithing is not just throwing a few bucks in the collection basket but signing up for the church’s next cookout. The barbeque is not only a campfire but also a “Camp Hope”, an altar for offering up disciples. So take a few seekers and BBQ (break bread and equip) them until they are well done. Yeshua served hot bread and fish baked on coal fire on the beach to his disciples for breakfast (John 21:9).

What in the Old Testament was legal tithing Yeshua changed that into extravagant giving (Luke 6:38). Gifts, offerings could be offered as silver, gold or cash, whilst the tithe was always ‘meat’ (food) to be eaten in the temple precincts in Jerusalem or within the boundaries of their household in their cities (Deut. 12:5-7; Lev. 7:16).

God said, “Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be ‘meat’ (food) in my house.” (Mal. 3:10). The “tithes” is in plural because the Jews tithed at least twice. The first tithe was for the temple Levites: “Behold, I have given to the children of Levi all the tenth of Israel for an inheritance for their service at the tabernacle...” (Num. 18:21). The second tithe; “And when thou hast completed the tithings... thou shalt give a second tenth to the Levites (local), widows, the orphans, and the Gentiles (Septuagint).” Even the wage earners were double tithable to avoid holes in their money bags (Deut. 26:12; Hag. 1:5, 6).

A tithe was a tenth of one’s produce such as firstlings of animals, grain, first fruits, wine and oil etc., to be eaten, not cash which cannot be eaten. If you came from a long distance and could not transport your produce, you could not offer cash at the altar. Cash could not atone your sins. You had to go to the market, buy an animal, offer it and eat it (Deut. 14:23-26).

Hereditary Levites had no property rights or salary, hence tithing to support salaried pastors is no longer applicable. In fact they should give tithe of the tithes (Neh. 10:38). If someone asks you to bring your tithes to the church, do feel free to generously give him rue, mint and cumin, because Pharisees gave these as part of their tithe (Luke 11:42). The Hebrew word for storehouse (otsar) means 'treasure' or 'armory' for keeping weapons (Jere. 50:25).

Yeshua came to seek and to save that which is lost, and destroy the works of the devil (Luke 19:10; 1 John 3:8), so whatever is stored in the armory should be used for that purpose, not for putting up fancy church buildings, buying expensive musical instruments, lining the pockets of the middle man, and a host of other things which neither destroy the works of the devil nor save the lost.

Offering and eating your tithe has now shifted to "breaking bread from house to house." You may bring your food and share it with the needy, and with the non-believers thereby using it to destroy the works of the devil by saving the lost. Most conversions in the New Testament times took place around the Benshem where food was used as a weapon. This is why Yeshua commanded us to break bread as often as we meet (Acts 2:46-47; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20, 23).

Yeshua reversed the legalistic concept of paying a tithe to extravagant sharing and giving (Luke 6:38). He did so by restoring the earlier Abrahamic mandate of investing all your wealth to become a blessing to all the nations of the earth (Gen. 12:3; Deut. 8:17-18). Yeshua emphasized restoring relationship with our brother before we make an offering at the altar (Matt. 5:25-26). He put the honoring of parents above korban (giving to the temple).

Significantly, tithing is not listed amongst the Ten Commandments, but honoring mother and father is. In fact it is the first commandment with a promise. The Hebrew word for honor (kabad) means 'make rich' or 'abound in,' while the Greek word for honor (time') means 'money paid' (Exodus 20:12; Matt. 14:4-6). Biblical honoring is not adulation but liberally supporting elderly parents, widows, orphans and, of course, double payment to your apostolic spiritual fathers and mothers.

Anointing your wallet, as well as the church's collection box, is a key to your living a long, fruitful life. (Mark 7:10-12; 1 Tim. 5:8, 17-18).

God is not enamored with your fixation for giving time, talent and treasure for your church's pet programs, but He is certainly interested in your funding His pet project of reaching the uttermost parts of the earth. Giving for apostolic ministry is participating in an act of worship. Investing money in a non-apostolic activities may be the worst kind of investment, for it brings forth no fruit. There would be no point to putting your money in a bank that did not return it with interest.

We are not called just to invest our money, time and talent but to create and multiply spiritual treasures through activities that bring in an abundant harvest. Only abundant sowing in good soil can bring in a plenteous harvest. Tithe is not to be used for tooting our own horn or maintaining status quo but for changing the spiritual profile of your city. Stewards who multiplied their minas were made rulers of five and ten cities, while the one who maintained, status quo was condemned (Matt. 24:14-30; 2 Cor. 9:6).

Whilst most folk spend their time earning more success, more wealth, more power, more goodies and gadgets, they should in fact be spending as much time giving it away for soul-saving purposes. God's standard is: "The measure with which you give is the measure with which you receive" (Luke 6:38). Without sharing your assets, any futuristic illusions of grandeur or of going to heaven might prove to be a grand delusion. He is a poor man who dies rich.

Soon the last trumpet will toot, and we will be accountable for what we hoarded and did not share with Kingdom expanders. Christians are called to be pitchforks, scattering things around and not spades gathering junk (Acts 28:10; 2 Cor. 15:52; Prov. 11:24).

Apostolization of Finances

While institutional churches garner billions of dollars annually, there remains a yawning gap in funding for the apostolic agenda of the church, which is constantly in a financial crunch. Ask any missionary who wants to work among the unreached and unengaged people, and he will tell

you how hard it is to raise support. The apostolic agenda of the church must find major space in every church's budget. Giving gifts and offerings to a traditional church is not biblical; not part of it but the whole thing must be deposited at the apostles' feet. Ananias and Sapphira tried withholding part of it and perished. Spending it on maintaining a Constantinian temple is Lucifer's strategy for your money not to be spent on expanding God's kingdom (Acts 4:34, 35; 5:1-10).

Paul the apostle expressed thanks to the Philippian church, telling them how their gifts resulted in fruit being credited to their account, then how God would not only meet their needs but do so in abundance. There would be no point to investing your hard earned money in a Babylonian church where fruit -new disciples, is not being credited to your account.

Every time you provide a roof over a fruitful missionary, bread on his table and petrol in his vehicle, you are adding fruit in your account and becoming eligible for having your own needs met. Only if you have abundant spiritual fruit credited to your account in God's bank, will you have abundant treasure in the hereafter (Phil. 4:13-19).

Poverty does not equal piety, nor does prosperity add up to abundant life. Whether abounding or living in want, being content is the key to abundant living (Philippians 4:11-12). A past generation of believers who suffered want, wrongly equated poverty with piety, so they were not able to receive blessings of abundant life when it came their way as a result of their efforts, prayers or sometimes by coincidence. Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.

The Greek word for abundant (perissos) means superabundant, excessive, superfluous or overflowing (John 10:10). However, to get to that stage, you have to break the spirit of poverty and be ready to invest all your possessions to fulfill the apostolic covenant made with our forefather Abraham, to become "a blessing to all the nations of the earth". As Christians we do not own anything; we are only trustees (Deut. 8:17-18).

Yeshua became poor, so that we might become rich. Even though He was poor by heavenly standards, Yeshua lacked nothing until he came to his cross where he suffered hunger, thirst and nakedness. As a baby, he

got enough gold and other precious gifts to enjoy a tax-free holiday for six years in Egypt. During his ministry years, he was supported by rich women like Joanna, the wife of Chuza, who was Herod's household manager. There were many others who took care of him. Finally He was buried in a rich man's cave (Luke 8:3).

Yeshua radically changed the world economic paradigm by asking the rich to dispose of their surplus possessions, to give it to the poor and to follow him. In his famous Nazarene Manifesto, Yeshua was declared anointed to bring good news to the poor (Luke 4:18). Good news to the poor is the church catalyzing abundant life with bread on the table, clean water to drink, clothing to wear, a roof over his family, health and quality education for his children.

Combating and eradicating disparities by bringing real, tangible improvements to the lives of the ordinary people, not only in the spiritual realm but in the material as well, remains the real challenge before the church.

In Kingdom economics, there is no consumer culture of buying and selling for maximizing of profits; there is only giving and receiving. The Garden of Eden was not designed for profit-making but for enjoying an abundant life without exploiting anyone. There will be no Canaanites (merchants) in the Kingdom (Zech. 14:21; Rev. 18:11). Yeshua once invited himself to a party of rascals in the house of Zaccheus, a tax collector, who gave away his excess money and got abundant life in exchange.

Salvation includes baptism of your wallet and the bank account. Wealth is not a matter of amount but of attitude. When pursuit of money dominates your mindscape, but not the kingdom, you have already lost both. God is not so much interested in what you give, as in how much you keep, and why you keep it.

In God's economy, if you gained the whole world and lost your soul, then you have gone broke, bust and bankrupt forever (Matt 6:33; 16:26; Jam. 1:11).

Paul changed financial dependence of temple priests into a volunteer system:

“With these hands, I provided for my own needs and for those with me as well as the poor”(Acts 20:33-35).

Tens of thousands of modern-day house church leaders are bi-vocational, that earn their own living while being full time ministers like Paul. The church must change from being an income-generating shop to being a replicating Bride without spot or wrinkle. Eph. 5:27

Peter said to the lame man at the Beautiful gate of the temple, “Silver and gold have I none but such as I have, give I to you: rise up in the name of Yeshua and walk.” The tragedy is, that today the church is afflicted with the love for gold and silver but without power and hence no fruit. Pathetically in her lostness she continues to crave for more silver and gold rather than for supernatural power. Acts 3:6

Yeshua created a new economic order whose currency is love and sharing. House churches are thriving and multiplying even as the dollar is dying. Yeshua gave nothing to His Bride except himself so that she may go and fulfill the Creation Mandate; “Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue it and have dominion over it” (Matt. 19:21-24; Luke 6:38; 19:1-10; Acts 4:34-37; Zech. 14:21; Rev. 18:11-19).

Culture Shaped Faith

Yeshua, a Jew by birth, rejected Jewish, exclusive culture making it inclusive by eating and drinking Samaritan bread and water. He was derogatorily called a Galilean, because He had dwelt among the Gentiles of Galilee. He came as a great light to the Gentiles and commanded our feet to go and give light to those, who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death (Luke 1:79; Matthew 4:14-16; Acts 13:47). He identified himself with all classes without destroying their culture and manifesting that in Him there is neither Jew nor Gentile, free or bond, male or female (Gal. 3:27-29).

Most missionaries practice bad missiology. Though they work hard, learn a local language, translate the Bible, and start schools, yet they hold western culture to be the standard, thereby ravaging indigenous cultures. The white man’s religion produced anglicized Christian mongrels whose very souls were colonized, making them misfits in their own cultures.

Indigenous, open-air, tribal songs, dance, drums and story-telling were effectively silenced by exotic guitars and histrionics. A foreign, one-size-fits-all culture symbolises a modern-day, vibrant, western church culture.

We must differentiate what is wrong in other cultures, such as idolatry or pornography, and annihilate it, but not destroying what is merely different. The Pharisees wanted the disciples to wash their hands before breaking bread according to Jewish traditions as a requirement to secure heaven. When His disciples once objected to someone who did things differently, Yeshua sharply rebuked them: "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you." As long as others are majoring on Christ, they are fine (Luke 9:50; Mark 7:1-9).

Yeshua led a simple lifestyle. He did not wear distinctive clothes, so that, when soldiers came to arrest him at Gethsemane, they had to ask, "Which one is Yeshua?" Dressing differently from other believers amounts to hypocrisy. A Jew had to commit cultural suicide to become a Messianic believer and eat with the despised Gentiles (1 Cor. 4:5).

When Yeshua redefined murder as criticizing your brother, and he changed the hate paradigm of tooth for tooth and life for life, replacing it with a culture of love for neighbor and for enemies.

King Yeshua was already revealed in the literature of the Magi of the east who practiced occult, as well as in the idolatrous mythological books of the Athenians (Acts 17:23, 28). The Hindu, Muslim and tribal sacred texts and cultural expressions are a rich source of hidden Christ in them. In fact "God did not leave himself without witness" in any culture (Acts 14:16-17). All we have to do is to incarnate Yeshua Messiah in that culture where He already dwells.

David used his slingshot not only to kill a giant, but he also used his enemy's own sword to deal the final blow. Most non-Christian literature of other faiths have Christ hidden in it, making it a powerful tool for evangelism (Gal. 3:28; Matt. 5:44).

Because of its great sociological significance, there is a debate raging on whether the church should follow a homogenous (same ethnic group) or heterogeneous (mixed ethnic) principle. The reality is that the church

does not grow in a systematic manner. Signs and miracles break many barriers, even while she naturally grows within social and cultural networks.

The Great Commission, being race, caste, class, and gender neutral, has to be fulfilled in the context of cultures. If God is not proposing proposing to judge anyone on the basis of their food habits, dress code, worship style or culture, then why should you?

Religious Ritual to Kingdom Reality

The new wine, the universal priesthood of all believers, consists not in liturgical or sacramental roles but in global Kingdomization. Priesthood is no longer for a select few but for everyone, everywhere, who consecrate themselves for ministry. Yeshua not only preach the Kingdom but demonstrated it in His daily life. He changed the oppressive religious structure into a dynamic, relational, experiential and a replicating movement that would change political, social and economic systems, transforming waste cities and wilderness into the Kingdom of God as first modeled in the Garden of Eden.

The church is no longer a mere Sunday worship center but an agent of catalytic change in the community, enforcing kingdom governance and values. Kingdom means “King+domain” wherein His Constitution prevails. The present form of parliamentary governance cannot work without an undergirding of spiritual democracy. Yet how can a church that does not practice spiritual democracy within its congregation ever hope to impact secular governments?

If you want to change the world, then first change your church structure from hierarchical to prophetic and apostolic.

Indian Emperor Ashoka (300 BC) was so impacted by a bloody war that he sent an army of evangelists that converted all Asia, from Persia to Japan, to Buddhism and made it into a global religion. Emperor Constantine (300 AD) came to Rome, saw a solar cross in a vision, had it imprinted on the handles of the swords to fight a bloody war. Overnight the cross became a symbol of war and has continued to fight bloody wars throughout Church history.

A traffic policeman wearing his uniform carries all the weight of the government with power to control traffic and to stop any vehicle, even if it belongs to highest of the land. Without his uniform he is nobody. Aaron had to put on his priestly garments before he could enter the sanctuary to worship in the tabernacle.

Today, we put on Christ as our priestly garment and enter the sanctuary which is the God-assigned place of our work and worship. Entering our workplace temple without understanding our role as royal priests would render us as powerless and ineffective as a traffic policeman without his uniform.

The Scripture says that you are complete in Christ and that you must present others complete in Him (Col. 2:10; 4:12). We should celebrate Christ on weekdays as much as we do on Sunday. Sadly, we put on Christ only on Sunday, hanging Him in the closet the rest of the week. The church is full of Sunday flip and Monday flop Christians who send confusing and contradictory mixed messages. What use is a traffic policeman at a crossroad without his uniform, and what use is a Christian at the crossroads of life without Christ as his uniform while on duty during the week? The answer is: worthless.

No wonder "hell has opened its mouth beyond measure where multitudes of the elite of the world go," simply because the entire church is powerless during the week (Gal. 3:27; Isa. 5:14).

Our judgment no longer depends on our religiosity but on what we did for the hungry, thirsty, homeless, naked, sick and prisoners, healing the brokenhearted, bringing recovery of sight to the blind, liberating those in captivity and declaring the good news of the return of Christ for judgment. The work place abounds with such people (2 Cor. 5:10; Matt.4:23; 25:31-46; Isa.51:3; Eze. 36:33-38; Luke 4:18-19).

From Barren Synagogue to Multiplying Church

The Old Covenant was made obsolete, when the Jews sold Yeshua for thirty pieces of silver and plowed them into a potter's field. A broken earthen pot, can never be repaired (Zech. 11:10-13; Matt. 26:15; Heb. 8:13).

It required ten male members to qualify as a Jewish synagogue. Yeshua trimmed the flab and slimmed the size of His Bride to where two or three truth seekers congregate to eat, where the main dish is the Lamb. They munch, muse and mutate to plant Meta churches.

The church is not about meetings, programs or even lifestyle but about a Person, about Yeshua Messiah, the Lamb. Such are the authentic Bride, because the Groom is present in their midst. Transiting from a “single-roofed mega church” to a citywide “multi-site meta church” must be our goal.

The denominational church was, once upon-a-time, the new wine skin that God blessed. Some of the saints of yesteryear, whom we eulogize today, having heard the call of God to take the gospel to distant places, had in fact broken away from their church and were severely persecuted by it. Change is in the air, and there are many options. The only option that is not available to the church is its status quo. Not to change would be an act of denial of your faith. God is now blessing the Metachurches; which are the new wineskins, filling them with new wine. The old adage that business people are implicitly greedy and con artists is no longer tenable (Hos. 12:7).

Christian businessmen and professionals are changing work ethics and adding value in their colleagues, clients and customers. We need to encourage them that they are pioneers wherever they are planting the kingdom and need to make it a disciple-making hub, so it multiplies into multiples of Meta churches.

The new wine skins are led by apostles (sent ones) who go work “outside the camp bearing His shame.” Apostles are foundation layers, not so much for others, and never with brick and mortar, but always in others. Even if this stretches your imagination, it remains the blue print of the original church (Matt. 9:17; 18:18-20; Acts 2:42-47; 2 Cor. 14:24-26; Heb. 13:13; Eph. 2:20).

The Adamic Work & Worship Model

The Bible opens with God hard at work creating the universe. By all accounts, He is still at work. He commanded Adam to work in the garden

before the curse fell. God did not curse work; He cursed the land. If He has created us in His image, and He has, then we are co-creators endowed with creativity who should be creating, innovating and working as He does. Our creative work in the secular world should glorify His name.

The Hebrew word for work (*avodah*) in the old Anglo-Saxon language is “weorc-ship” or “work-ship.” Later on some smart guy took away the letter “k” and made it ‘worship’ and thereby completely altered its original meaning. God “placed” Adam in the garden to “dress” it (work, workshop) in the garden (Genesis 2:5, 15). The word “dress” (*abad*) can mean pruning or purging (like the Greek *kathiro*) as well as expatiating from demonic attack, to make it more fruitful (John 15:2). No place on earth, not even the Garden of Eden, was demon free. Spirits were lurking around until the Devil found an entry point.

God had placed Adam in the garden to protect it from the devil and as a multiplier to be fruitful, multiply, fill, subdue and have dominion over it, and then do the same over the remaining barren earth. However, Adam chose the Tree of Knowledge of good and evil to achieve that and failed fatally. Adam chose knowledge over obedience and instantly lost the garden with the first bite of the forbidden fruit.

When God visited him during the cool of the day, it was not just to take a pleasure walk but an *accountability walk*. God took an account of what Adam had done during the day at his work place.

Our reward depends upon abundant fruitfulness ‘on site.’ The greatest commandment expects you to love God with all your faculties, substance and might (Deut 6:5; Mark 12:30). Such love cannot be practiced inside a church; it can only be practiced in the context of your work place and your neighborhood where you interface with others of all walks, not just religious.

For the worshipper of God, work (labor, enterprise, exertion) is worship: “Whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Yeshua ... and not just be men pleasers ... and you will receive the reward of your inheritance... It is the Messiah that you serve” (Col. 3:17; 23-24).

Lord Yeshua is looking for laborers, not those who work from paycheck to paycheck, but those who labor and convert their workplace into His harvest field. It is these laborers who are assured rest when they die: “Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now... that they may rest from their labors, for their works follow them” (Rev. 14:13).

Your work station is your altar. Failure to factor in God as our supreme boss, or the Great Commission of our Lord as the supreme goal of our daily labor, would be to toiling just for Mammon, the god of money, which would be vanity.

It is only when we minister to God through our work that we can enjoy the fruit of our labor. For this, we need to see every lost soul as a treasure in an earthen vessel that can be transformed through the power of His Excellency (2 Cor. 4:7).

Adam made a bad choice and died instantly, even though he was buried 930 years later. Any one who says that his business cannot be run on Judeo-Christian principles has denied the faith and is already spiritually lost and burial several years later is a mere formality.

Running a business on biblical principles requires paying proper wages to employees as well as remitting taxes while avoiding bribery and corruption. A get-rich-quick mentality is greed, the quickest way to disaster. The aim of your business or profession should be to make you a millionaire of souls through your income (Rom. 13:6-8).

Choices

You might have made bad choices in the past, but it is not too late, for God gives you an option: “I have set before you this day, life and death... Choose life that both you and your seed may live” (Deut. 30:19). So choose wisely because it has consequences both for you and your seed. Any excuse that you are stuck in the mud, will not do (Ecc. 5:10; Psa. 16:11).

Abraham asked for a son but later had to offer Isaac back as a sacrifice, thereby prospering and becoming a blessing to all the nations of the earth. Hannah asked for a son but later had to offer him back to God, and Samuel became the greatest prophet, judge and leader of his day.

Elisha asked for a double portion of the Spirit, became an economist who solved a subprime debt trap (2 King 4:1-7), a hydraulics engineer who pulled an iron axe from the bottom of an overflowing Jordan (6:4-7), a physician who performed the first cardiac mouth- to-mouth resuscitation on a dead child and also cured leprosy (2 Kings 4:32-34; chap. 5), an army general who defeated the enemy with dinner diplomacy (6:22-23), and a royal priest of Israel. Even in the grave his bones resurrected a dead man (13:21).

Solomon a wise king but a foolish man, asked for wisdom but used it for acquiring luxury and sumptuous lifestyle, and perished. So, whatever talent or resources God has given to you, offer it back to Him and he will multiply you and your gifts and talents.

Yeshua Messiah has placed us wherever we are as His ministers, and we must make every effort to make disciples, right there. At the end of the day, we must account for the work and worship done in the garden-domain in which God the Father has placed us. God is now opening up incredible possibilities for deploying all disciples in accelerating a full engagement with everyone in all situations. All we have to do is to love those who are in our social and professional networks and influence them.

Yeshua Messiah sent out his disciples two by two wherever He was to go (Luke 10:2). Going to work without taking Yeshua with you is handing your worksite on a platter to the Devil. Your work place is your inheritance, and you must possess it, bringing there a piece of paradise, and go where father Abraham is and not wherever father Adam is (Col. 3:22-25).

Talmudic Judaism is the most vicious form of rabbinical Judaism. It calls mother Mary a whore, Yeshua a bastard, and Christians and Gentiles dogs. Islamic Sharia law is much more humane than the *Babylonian Mishna* law which permits men to violate young girls, among other things. The modern day Taliban are a tame version of what Talmudic Jews have been practicing for centuries. It is easier to get water out of rock than to convert a Talmudic-minded Jew into a Messianic Jew.

Yet even those rabbis worked manually to earn a living. They believed that the Torah is only worth obeying if it works during the week as much as on Shabbat. The concept of using Scriptural knowledge to earn a living was unthinkable to them. Even the much-despised Pharisees, who taught in the Madrasas (religious schools), were not paid but earned their living through their own businesses.

God chose vocational multipliers like fishermen, plowmen, seed-sowers, harvesters, reapers, fruit gatherers and shepherds who earned their living from in total dependence on God, praying and hoping that their labors may be rewarded. They worshipped God and served others with the products of their labor.

When Paul came back to Jerusalem and was boasting about his great achievements among the Gentiles, the elders quietly informed him that there were now thousands of zealous law-abiding Messianic Jews. The Greek word for thousands is myriad, and each myriad consists of ten thousand (Acts 21:20).

The Hebrew terms for work and worship (*avodah* and *abad*) occur some 800 times in the scriptures, more than all other words for worship, praise and music combined.

Worship, sacrifice and ministry, are all biblically-synonymous words. The Greek word for minister (*leitourgos*) means, 'one who serves others from his own resources.'

While five prophets and teachers were 'ministering' in Antioch, the Holy Spirit instructed them to separate Paul and Barnabas for 'work' (Acts 13:1-3). Apparently, no money changed hands.

Paul said that he was a servant of God whose 'work' was to worship God through offering up Gentiles as sacrifice (Rom. 15:16). Like Paul, we should redefine our work and worship as offering zillions of sanctified Gentiles symbolically as sacrifice in our homes and workplaces as God's holy altar, as prophesied in Isaiah 60:7, 21.

Market Dynamics

The market functions in a completely different paradigm from that of the church. We live in a fast-paced world that is catapulting at breakneck speed. We eat fast food, buy fast cars and acquire faster computers with an unlimited, high-speed Internet connectivity but faster is not necessarily better.

The church approach is one of *laissez faire* (let it be) whilst the business approach operates aggressively with expansion trajectories to capture the market with new products till some of these reach a ‘tipping point’ where they become a self-propelled movement. Companies do a great deal of research on the kind of products that consumers will buy, on quality control and on how to package and deliver to consumers on site. Consumer satisfaction remains so extremely important that, if there are any weak points, strategic inputs are provided immediately to induce more sales.

Constant customer monitoring are vital for market penetration and for getting their product into the fast track. Companies train their personnel in communication and analytic skills, while insisting on a high level of energy and passion in promoting their brand in a very competitive market. Simply put, marketers are expected to do just one thing – perform – on which depends their ascendancy on the corporate ladder. Their success or failure is measured in numbers.

Sadly, the church knows next to nothing about how to market the best product in the world (salvation) and the best multi-national brand name (Yeshua Messiah) that every citizen desperately needs. A Christian that makes no difference in his workplace is a leached salt that adds neither taste nor preservation to their colleagues’ lives. We have to discard our outdated operational methods and start a direct, door-to-door delivery system, just as our Lord and his disciples did during their ministry.

“No one should regard us as anything else than ministers and distributors of the mysteries of God” (2 Cor. 4:1).

Every Christian makes either a positive or a negative impact on his worksite, never a neutral one. The Greek word for minister (hyperetes) can mean 'oarsman' or 'navigator'. 'Secular' is a convenient term for a God-free zone, and therefore demon infested. The Father has strategically placed you there to take authority, chase out the demons, subdue it, and plant His kingdom there.

It matters little whether you are the CEO or the janitor (Eph. 6:5- 10). Whatever your position in the system, you are there to navigate others out from their demon-infested jungle. Torah (law or instruction) derives from yarah which means to shoot or to point out, and the Hebrew word for teacher (moreh) means one who shows the way (1 Cor. 4:1-2; 1 Timothy 3:2).

Every businessman, or a professional should be considered a strategic church plant and equipped to function as such. His gifts and calling should not be wasted in fruitless church programs but harnessed in his workplace to do 'business as mission' with the mindset of God. There is a huge army of entrepreneurs languishing in the pews whose synergy could finish off the enemy and penetrate its last bastion, the murky market place, provided church is ready to do so. Commissioning a plethora of well equipped 'market place missionaries' has the potential to change everything we do as mission.

The Dirty Fighter

The business of a king is to take possession of his domain and expand it, while the ministry of a priest is to provide connectivity between creatures and their Creator. The kingdom is an invading culture, and the market place is where the gospel finds the most convergence. Kings do not just sit on their throne and dish out judgments. Rather they also go to war to subdue enemies and take dominion over hostile kingdoms. God has placed you where you are to wage war, subdue demonic rule, and recover what the first Adam lost. Our global task is to take dominion over all the earth (Dan. 7:18, 27).

But does the church have what it takes to meet the enemy's challenge to protect the innocent who are going to hell for want of action by us? The choice is between keeping our heads buried in the sanctuary

or locking up the rascal behind bars for a thousand years. Remember it is not the church-goers but the cross-bearers who have what it takes call the shots and to tear down the strongholds of the Devil.

Balak whose name means a 'devastator,' king of the Moabites, a cursed race, hired Balaam, a prophet, with promise of financial and other rewards, to curse Israel. The strategy resulted in Israelites indulging in degenerate Baal-Peor worship. Baal means 'lord' and peor means 'opening.' In actual terms, Baal-Peor means 'lord of women's unmentionable.'

Worship of Baal-Peor required prostrating oneself naked before its idol and then rising up to play, which meant ritual sex. Many of these temples had a brothel attached to them where temple prostitutes lived supported by the rich merchants of the city.

Israel's idolatry and sexual immorality in the wilderness precipitated God's wrath, and 24,000 died as a result of the plague. They gathered before the tabernacle and cried to the Lord, but nothing happened until Phinehas got up, went and speared Zimri and Cozbi, a pagan priestess, who were fornicating openly. The plague stopped, and God blessed Phinehas because he was zealous for Him.

Saul tried to spear David to finish him off. When you get excited and start working among the Gentiles, the spears will not come from the Philistines but from insiders, friends, family and church members.

Yeshua rebuked one of the seven churches for the sin of Balaam of Baal Peor, which is today rampant in our community. We must be zealous and action oriented, and stop the rot (Num. 25; Rev. 2:14).

The buildings, the priests, the rituals, and even the pictures of Jesus, serve as modern-day idols. The pictures of a long-haired Jesus, decorating Christian homes and sanctuaries, are actually pictures of the Greek god Zeus and the Egyptian god Sarapis. According to Jewish laws, a long-haired Yeshua would not have been allowed to enter the temple (Eze. 44:19-20). Paul discouraged men having long hair. Paul was not talking about a head cloth, for both the Jewish men and women kept their heads covered, both in Public and in the temple, anyway. He was talking about Christ who is the covering for both men and women, not only for men,

since man (Adam) includes both sexes (1 Cor. 11: 2-16; Gen. 1:26-27; 5:1-2). Now God does not look at the length of hair but at the heart hence we must get rid of our idols, that is whatever that exalts itself above God in our lives.

Abraham was focused on worship of God by offering his son Isaac on the altar. An angel asked him to look beyond the altar and then he saw the ram stuck in the thicket. We Christians should not be bogged down with petty rituals but make Christ our covering and look beyond the sanctuary and find the lost sheep captured by the Devil in the thickets of the world and offer them as spiritual sacrifice.

“Correct your opponents gently. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will” (2 Tim. 2:25-26).

Are You Rapture Ready?

David, a prophet, priest and king, never ascended into heaven (Acts 2:29-34). Immediately after our death, we are not going to float into some mystical paradise and have an emotional reunion with all our long departed loved ones. On the day of resurrection, the saints will burst out of their graves with new, spiritual bodies; rise up in the air to meet Yeshua and wait to descend with him onto the Mount of Olives. We will then inherit for eternity our allotted portions of the Millennial Kingdom that we helped plant. If you planted nothing you will inherit nothing.

The Rapture is a hotly debated subject. Some believe in pre-tribulational rising, others in a post-tribulational rapture, while still others are somewhere in the middle like “pan-trib,” believing everything will just ‘pan out.’ It does not matter much which are more right; the most important thing is the direction in which you will be headed, shooting up to meet Yeshua in the clouds or staying back in your rabbit burrow.

This depends very much on whether you are ready now. No possession now, no free flight ticket then. When all the Christians have occupied their respective paradise, the kingdoms of this world will

become kingdoms of our God and His Messiah. (2 Cor. 15:44-54; 1 Thess. 4:15-17; 2 Thess. 2:1-7; Col. 3:24-25; Rev. 11:15).

Yeshua taught clearly that no one has ascended into heaven except He Himself (John 3:13). We are here and now to birth the kingdom of God and inherit the planet earth. Every time you enter your workplace, you must proclaim: "The word is near me, even in my mouth, and in my heart, that is, the word of faith" (Romans 10:8); therefore, "I am a minister here to navigate all the lost through the maze of snakes, scorpions and crocodiles, to plant the kingdom of God and inherit this space (Lev. 25:23).

If you have a negative mindset, then the devil is lurking at the door to compromise you, and the battle will be lost even before it begins. Christianity is not about flowing with the current, rather against it. This warning was given to Cain who murdered his brother Abel and had the audacity to ask, "Am I my brother's keeper?" (Genesis 4:7, 9). We do not know who all will be in Hell, separated from God, but we are sure Cain will be there for rejecting the greater counsel of God. Let us also not forget that Cain was a religious man who offered a sacrifice. Yeshua came and changed the definition of murder: they are not only body killers but also soul killers (Matt. 5:21-24; 1 John 3:15).

Let us be brutally honest and accept that most of our churches are "Cain Churches" that murder the innocent on a daily basis. We run and manage our churches in ways that allow millions of souls to perish. All those with whom we work are our brothers and sisters, saving their soul must be our primary concern.

In a faceoff between a housefly and a tiny ant, it is the mighty housefly that runs away. Christians, the mighty men of God are somewhat like flies, when, at the slightest threat, they duck and run crying, "Wee wee" all the way home. Every encounter with the world outside is a divinely-ordained encounter, so we must rise, soar and conquer, lest we atrophy. Remember the seed, the soil and the sunshine are free for everyone to grow, flower and bear fruit right where God has put us. It is up to us to use it or lose it.

Only in sharing do we become more universal and less individual. The church needs to train us, not only in knowledge and skills, but also to upgrade our boldness factor to take care of all the fiery darts of the devil. When threatened and thrashed black and blue, the disciples did not cry wee wee all the way to the upper room but prayed to upgrade their boldness and for mighty signs and deeds (Acts 4:13, 29; Eph. 6:12-18).

Although Thursday is not an important day in the church calendar, that is the day on which Yeshua died on his cross; not on Good Friday. Otherwise he could not have completed his mandatory three days and nights in his tomb. It was also on a Thursday that he ascended into heaven. We should seriously celebrate Ascension Day by walking up a nearby hill to experience what it will be like to ascend on the day of Rapture or, more seriously, to be left behind. Remember out of 500 who had seen the Risen Christ, only 120 obeyed the call to wait for empowerment by the Holy Spirit.

Today there are so many opportunities for evangelism! The gospel of love, truth and life should be dripping out of our mouth even as we are commuting to work or having tea with friends, making a business deal or making simple telephone calls. While the opportunity to witness for Him may knock on the door every now and then, beware! the temptation to deny Him is always banging on the door. According to His promise God is now pouring out His spirit on all flesh. This includes you (Mal. 2:7; 1Thess. 2:19; Joel 2:28-29).

Time Management

Of all the things that the devil steals, the most precious is your time. Now if you have no time for God, then beware lest He have no time for you. Ability without availability is of no use to God. Just as to get money you have to make money, similarly, having been created by a creative God, find creative ways of making time for exalting your Creator. Many in your social and professional network where you spend most of your time and energy want to know what makes you tick as a Christian. Give them a reason to ask you for the reason for the hope you have (1 Peter 3:15). They may or may not agree, but they must not ignore you because it has consequences, for you and them. Yeshua said, "I must work the work of

him who sent me while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work.” (John 9:4)

A psalmist instructed us to count our days. Only seventy years (25, 550 days to be exact) are allotted to us for productive work, while some of us are already living in our grace period (Psa. 90:12). Calculate the days you have frittered away in frivolous activities and how many days are left for you. Do not wait for death to overtake you before doing whatever it takes to finish the task of bringing Christ back on earth, so you never have to die.

Just take one step of obedience and ‘break the curse of the urgent’ because the most urgent is not necessarily the most important. Staying focused on the most important is the key to success.

Leaving eternal footprints in the place where tread all day, is the way forward. Intentional planning for kingdom expansion should have at least as much space on your daily agenda as does your business expansion. All that is missing is actualization of your faith, in tangible ways during the week that add eternal value to everything you do.

Shift from wherever you are and start counting your days; be like the children of Issachar who had understanding of the times to know what Israel ought to do (1 Chron. 12:32).

Pray to God to open your eyes to myriad opportunities that crop up every day, and upgrade your boldness quotient to express your faith wisely. Making money should be your priority, but making disciples and planting the kingdom should be your top priority: “Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you” (Matt. 6:33).

Money should be the byproduct of our ministry. Living to make a living is hum drum; helping someone in need is sheer joy but saving a lost soul is absolute bliss. If you do God’s business first, then He will take care of your business. If He can feed the ravens, clothe the lilies, and make the sunshine and rain to fall on the righteous and the sinner, then there is no problem for Him to take care of your bread, water, raiment and roof over your head.”

Your Primary Nuclear Church

There are plenty of good people of other faiths on earth who “also” believe in Yeshua though not in His uniqueness. Yet it is not good enough to be good, for God is not looking for good people but for perfect people. However, no one can be perfect in the sight of the Holy and perfect God; only by God's grace does the Spirit of God that make us perfect in His sight.

The most important thing about a believer is that he loves the truth that makes him free, free from reputation, tradition, being a man-pleaser, and from the cares of life itself. Either you believe His claim: “I am the way and the truth and life and no one can go to the Father except through me” or you do not believe Him. If you do not believe Him, then you make Him out to be a liar (John 8:32, 36; 14:6).

The primary purpose of your engagement with the world is to salvage the doomed, translating them into the Kingdom of His dear Son (Col. 1:13). A Great Commission deficient church cannot do that.

Yeshua answered brutally to a man who wanted to follow him: “Let the dead bury their dead; you follow me” (Matt. 8:22). The kingdom of God must remain our first priority. For this, every believer needs to be equipped and made fully functional. Financial wealth does not make you rich, for it cannot buy you salvation, but you can be rich in relationships and gather treasure in your heavenly account.

The church needs to make a mega shift from the ‘weekly’ to ‘every day’ paradigm as common currency. Change from your formal, religious, meeting orientation, to an on-the-job orientation, just as Paul did while making tents. Doing so will bruise a few egos, but the kingdom of God will come with force only when believers make their weeklong workplace their nuclear church, while Sunday church becomes just a “Hi! Hello!” handshaking, extension church. It is time to break from the mother church and start your own family.

We must stop massaging human egos and make Yeshua Messiah “high and lifted up” wherever we are, be it the shambles where the meat offered to idols was sold (1 Cor. 10:25) or a den of thieves in the market

place (Mark 11:17). If your church does not equip you for that, then it needs overhauling by ego busters. Viewing your job as just for earning a wage is indicative of spiritual blindness. Recognizing your job as ministry is enlightenment. Isaiah 6:1

Paul's nuclear church was at Corinth where he launched his ministry by opening a tent-making shop (2 Cor. 9:1; Gal. 1:17-20). Cornelius' primary church was at military headquarters; that of the governor of Cyprus in the palace. Lydia's nuclear church met at her house and the Philippian jailor's church gathered in a high-security jail. They were all work place apostles. It is time for Christians to deliver their 'goods' wherever they are parked.

It is not difficult to imagine that thousands of Diaspora pilgrims returning to their countries after a fifty-day holiday, from Passover to Pentecost, would eagerly narrate the events that took place at Jerusalem. A shop-keeper, a tailor or a carpenter would drop his tools and say to visitors at his workshop, "I saw with my own eyes Yeshua's crucifixion, the stone rolled away from the grave and the ascension and I heard with my own ears in my own native language Peter's message at the Pentecost." He would then probably add that, "I am one of the 3000 who got baptized that day."

Tyrannus versus Synagogue Model

Paul started his ministry in Ephesus by re-baptizing twelve disciples of John, with both water and spirit, who had never heard of the Holy Spirit. Three months of weekly, passionate preaching to Jews, every Sabbath in a synagogue, resulted in zero impact. So he shifted to the private hall of Tyrannus, situated in the middle of a dirty, smelly, noisy fish market. While making tents, he dialogued with his clients, nomadic shepherds. This, combined with extraordinary miracles, resulted in gospelization of Turkey within two years. Paul was not a mason, building houses for stationary people, but a craftsman who combined his business with making disciples of itinerant folk.

Healing ministry alone results in arrogance: "I am a great big healer," while the Word alone produces intellectual arrogance: "I am a great big

theologian.” A combo of both discussion and miracles changes the spiritual map of any place (Acts 19:1-12).

Shifting from preaching to the converted by adopting the Tyrannous model of dialogue, deliverance, discipling and dispatching others into the harvest field can significantly change the religious landscape within a very short period of time. We do not know what Paul did in the third year in Ephesus. Presumably, he itinerated, strengthening his disciples wherever they were.

Global Commissions In the Old Testament

The Creation Commission: The Meta church was in the heart of God from the beginning, when he commanded Adam “to be fruitful, to multiply, to fill the earth, to subdue it and to have dominion over it” (Gen 1:28).

This Creation Commission was a global mandate designed and commissioned to metastasize all over the earth and to fill it.

The Abrahamic Commission: This also had global mandate, “You shall be a blessing to all the families of the earth”; “I have made you a father of many nations” (Gen. 12:3; 17:4; Gal. 3:8; Rom. 4:17).

The Mosaic Commission: This was global, “You shall be a kingdom of priests to all the nations of the earth...” (Exo. 19:5-6).

The Gentile Commission: “From the rising of the sun to its going down...in every place incense and pure offering shall be made...for my name shall be great among the Gentiles.” This commission changed the focus from the Jews to the Gentiles (Mal. 1:11).

Many New Testament apostles operated from their business premises, while itinerant business people like Titus, Epaphras, Archippus, Phoebe, Aquila and Priscilla became multinational apostles. Dr. Luke the beloved physician must have converted his clinic into a worship center, for the Greek word for curing (therapeuo) can mean both ‘healing’ and ‘worship.’

When Yeshua demolished the ceremonial priesthood, we ceased to be ritual priests ministering to the faithful in a sanitized sanctuary and

became vocational priests who minister to the lost at our worksites everyday. The two kinds of priests function in different orbits. Every Christian is now called to partner with God in His world mission.

Functions of a Priest

Offer sacrifices – In the context of the New Testament, it is Gentiles that are to be offered as a sacrifice. (Rom. 15:16)

Speaking the Word – it should be dripping out of a priest's mouth; equipping the flock with sound doctrine (Mal. 2:7).

Intercession – Pray for the rulers, the city and the nations, serving like a watchman on the wall (1 Tim. 2:1-4).

Provoking each other unto good works – shine as lights to those in darkness (Heb. 10:24; Matt. 5:14; Isa. 49:6).

Our job is Kingdomization of homes, work sites, offices, market places, board rooms and parliaments, until the kingdoms of this world have become the Kingdom of our God and His Christ (Rev. 11:15).

Kingomization requires that we draw up a detailed master plan for our city and nation. Paul says, "I am a wise master builder." A master builder has a detailed blueprint of the edifice long before the first spade is put to the ground to dig the foundation (1 Cor. 3:10).

Equipping the saints

Instructing: Laying a foundation of sound doctrine while equipping believers to convict antagonistic and hostile nonbelievers.

Coaching: Most Christians suffer from a huge disciple-making skills deficit. Transferring skills like a football coach on the sports field until the athletes become skilled players. Coaches do not replace players, they only remove blinkers and build them up.

Mentoring: Modeling changes attitudes, worldviews and imparts goal orientation. Mentors transform, milk-guzzling spectators into meat eating thrilling performers (Heb. 5:13).

However, the whole process can be short-circuited by the Holy Spirit (John 14:26). Equipping is to be evaluated on the basis of performance and fruitfulness of trainees and not on academic tags.

The changes mentioned above are not optional add-ons. The New Covenant (NC) has replaced the Old Covenant (OC). The Book of Acts tracks the transition from the Hebraic Covenant of Law to the New Testament Covenant of Grace. We are not to mix Law and Grace by reverting back to David and his noisy instrumental worship, nor to Solomon justifying church building nor to Aaron for a temple priesthood nor to Moses for the tithe, for which practices there is not a single New Testament verse to substantiate. Now all these have become anathema to God. God is no longer interested in the Temple and its rituals but in simple Gatherings and their fruitfulness.

As a believer, you may call elders to pray for you when you are sick, but do not make a habit of going to healers to be prayed for, lest you minimize Christ in you who is the healer and the hope of glory to the Gentiles (Jam. 5:14; Col. 1:27). For the Devil's tactic is to replace Christ in you, with your healer thereby diminishing your own royal priesthood (Rom. 8:6, 11; 1 Pet. 2:9). Healing and deliverance is for winning Gentiles and must be followed soon with discipleship, lest Christ say, "I don't know you" (Matt. 7:21-23).

Even shamans and sorcerers, practice healing and exorcism, but without factoring in redemption, the whole exercise stands worthless. Although the New Covenant makes the Old Covenant "obsolete" (Heb. 8:6-7, 13), this fact does not render all 613 laws irrelevant. There remain at least 134 laws relating to God, prayer, study, marriage, hiring and firing, diet, deviant sexual behavior, property, peace with neighbors, etc., describing good behavior that remains relevant for all.

We do not have to be legalistic about them but observe them anyway because of the higher law of love. However, much excess baggage was later added by the Pharisees in the *Mishna* (oral laws) that was choking the Kingdom.

The English word Pharisee comes from the Hebrew *perushim* (Greek *pharisaioi*) meaning separatists. They called themselves, "the holy

community” and their leaders ‘men of wisdom’ (*hakhamin*), to separate them from the common Jews whom they called ‘people of the synagogue’ (*bene ha-keneset*).

This two-tiered structure in the modern church, consisting of clergy and laymen, makes us a duplicate church full of hybrid Christians, because the church is a fellowship of Royal priests. The New Covenant, the benchmark against which we must evaluate and measure the degree of hybridization in our church practices.

It sets the standards for us for making the hard choice either to stay in the fox hole stagnating in animal blood of the Old Covenant or go about surgically removing the malignancy until we have returned to the Yeshua’s blood of the New Covenant with its intended form and function. Rituals can no longer get you to heaven, fulfilling the Great Commission can. “Fulfil” (Greek - pleroo) can mean perform, execute, complete, saturate, finish etc.

God’s heartbeat is to see all nations, tongues and tribes gathered before His throne to worship Him, by our making of disciples, baptizing, equipping and sending them out to the ends of the earth:” As the Father has sent me so I send you.” It is not a sit, soak and stagnate, weekly religion, but an everyday, perform or perish global Commission. Christianity is not about going to church service once a week, but making a covenant to serve as a light to the Gentiles, restoring the desolate land and finishing the God’s agenda of evangelizing the planet earth.

The Decade that Changed The Church

The longest lasting Revival in Church history took place during the Communist persecution in China between 1947 and the late 90s. During this period, the Chinese Christian population grew from about one million to its present hundred-plus millions, without foreign missionaries, dollars, pastors, tele-evangelists, crusades, leaders, sacred buildings, Sunday worship service, guitars, Bibles or tithing. However, later on all these have sneaked in through the backdoor and are succeeding in killing the movement.

Sociologists suggest that every nation, including China, registered an economic boom which ran parallel to its church growth. Now, as the church scales up the corruption ladder and her integrity score slides down, so does the nation collapses morally, ethically and economically.

“The early churches were strong in faith and grew in numbers daily” (Acts 16:5). They had both quality and quantity. Yet still in the first century, the seven churches named in the Revelation of St. John had already grown lukewarm and corrupt. Then came Bishop Ignatius (martyred in AD 110) who ruled that bishops were to be treated on a par with the Lord, and that no baptisms or love feasts (Holy Communion) could be celebrated without the presence of the clergy. Thus, he introduced the Reverend culture, killing the Body Ministry described in 1 Corinthians 14:26 led by the brethren (a fraternity of men and women).

That Episcopal decree resulted in the clergy dominating and dehumanizing 99% of believers whom they called laymen. These clergy acted as bosses, legislators, administrators and worship leaders. The greatest single challenge facing the church ever since is how to level the valley between the all-powerful clergy and the merely- mortal laymen, the children of a lesser god.

Yeshua commanded, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” If your church has not made you an expert fisher of men as yet, then it cannot be the church of Yeshua Messiah because that is all that is required of her to teach you.

It is time for the ‘layman’ to get out of the fish bowl and assert their right to go fishing with a tackle, for the transition is likely to prove brutal, acrimonious and convulsive. Much has been given to you and much will be required of you. One day the Master Fisherman is going to ask you, “How many fishes have caught that are in the bag?”

Then came the Roman Emperor Constantine (AD 272-337), a sun worshipping, hybrid Christian who did a lot of good but substituted his solar cross for the Menorah lamp as a sign of the church (Rev. 1:20). He sanctified many pagan traditions, including musical idolatry. It was he who built the first Cathedral, removed the volunteer traders and

businessmen leading micro-missions replacing them with paid professional clergy.

Constantine declared Sun-Day a day of worship, appointed himself virtual Pope, banned house churches, and herded all believers into brick and mortar buildings he called church. Although he made Christianity a state religion by sticking a Christian label on almost everybody, few of these became true disciples. The modern church is nothing but a repackaged version of Constantine's model.

Constantine's non-bailable crime was to murder relational household churches having accountability to each other, replacing them with an institutional church with accountability to none. Yeshua asked, "Who is my brother, sister and mother" and then answered himself, "He who does the will of my Father" (Mark 3:31-35).

Spiritual parents along with their spiritual sons and daughters constitute a household church and not an institution. Institutionalization makes her barren. The Bride needs to be in a family-like situation to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth.

Constantine's monuments, the modern sanctuaries, stand as obscene symbols of arrogance in the midst of death, destruction and devastation all around. They are cancerous, man-made models that have metastasized all over the world, slowly but surely gnawing at her innards. Mammon, rhetoric, entertainment and music have divorced the Bride from her true husband and made her elope with Lucifer as his concubine.

Mine is not an anti-cleric rhetoric but a call to restore a biblical protocol that resonates with God's agenda, so that, "none should be lost". Mine is an urgent plea to get out of the static, stationary church paradigm and start planting multiplying metachurches, to finish the task.

The Gregorian Order of Worship

In the fifth century Pope Gregory the Great of Rome (AD 590-604) who despised the highly interactive and dynamic worship of the house churches, redesigned a formal order of worship for the churches.

1. The Chant, which we now call praise and worship,

2. Two Scripture readings chosen by outsiders.
3. An out-of-context sermon that has no relevance, either to immediate concerns or to the Great Commission.
4. A not-so-subtle pitch for tithes, offerings and donations.
5. The benediction (the Catholic dis-missal or Mass) that does not bless them to be a blessing to others.

No traditional church is exempt from this extra-biblical Gregorian edict. Whatever you do in your church is a repackaged version of the gift of the great Pope.

Nothing in this system equips and matures a believer to be a work place apostle (Heb. 5:12-13).

Just as the Devil corrupted the seed of the woman (Eve), and as God destroyed a whole generation, so Constantine and Gregory corrupted the seed of the Bride, and there is no reason God will not eliminate this institution. In the past, God overlooked it but now He is about to phase out these extrabiblical legacies which remain huge liabilities, in kingdom expansion.

However, just as the real church survived in secret, often in illegal house churches, so we, to be a church, need no more than a Bible and a couple of friends to eat, meet, gossip the gospel and multiply. This authentic Christianity remains the most cost-effective way of reaching the ends of the lost world.

A thousand years later, there came Martin Luther's Reformation (from AD 1545). Though Luther preached sola scriptura and 'priesthood of all believers,' but in practice he further concretized church structures and a Reverend culture by banning house churches. Not creatures but only their Creator deserves the title of Reverend. With the voices of the apostles and prophets suppressed, the modern church has firmly planted herself in Babylon, sucking in the material tide of the world while marooned like a beached whale without a mandate of core values. Her claims do not measure up to her tactics. She has gone the way of the flesh, and everyone is doing his own thing. Babylon means confusion – to

make a name for one self and acquire security by erecting a huge building.

The evangelical churches of the USA, with a membership of twenty-nine million, are bleeding at the rate of half a million loss of membership every year. Perhaps the Lord is leading this exodus. Though, not everyone will join the house church movement and cross the Jordan, hopefully some will. Those who choose to stay in Babylon will do so at their own peril (Jud. 21:25).

In 1910, there came forth a global strategy from the Edinburg Convention where over 1000 western missionaries with a colonial mindset resolved to conquer the 'dark,' heathen continents of savages and barbarians, through multiplication of missionaries and mission stations but not of partners. The tone and tenor of the rhetoric was patronizing and magnanimous, standing on high moral ground. The lone voice of V.S. Azariah from India fell on deaf ears: "Please do not send us missionaries; send us friends." Most missionaries are salaried theologians but not disciple makers who are hung on correct doctrines but not necessarily obedience. Worse still they reduce the church to buildings, bodies, dogmas and budgets.

A hundred years later, in 2010, it is the savage barbarians who are taking center stage, as the center of gravity for missionary action shifts to the global south while the global north disintegrates in post-Christian decadence, itself becoming a mission field. Sadly this great convention, like most conventions, is still the hegemony of highly visible scholars operating high up on the tree of knowledge of good and evil. The real performers at the grassroots have no voice.

The fly in the ointment turned out to be the mission stations, with their penchant for recruiting more missionaries from the homeland church instead of developing local leadership who could be leaving their footprints in every village. Donald McGavran, a so-called 'father of modern missions,' proved no exception to this fault during his tenure in Takhatpur village of Central India in 1930s and late 40s. While he kept looking for external barriers to church growth movement, the real problems actually lay within the colonial structure of the church. He, too, failed to nurture local leaders, never inviting any of his favorite disciples

from central India to Fuller Institute at Pasadena to teach them church growth principles.

The World Wars effectively shut the door on foreign missionaries as the churches got busy with their own nation building. The baton was never intentionally passed on by intention to locals, rather it was forced on them because of the independence movements. Because foreign missionaries urged Indian Christians to take side with them, not surprisingly the Indian church suffers to this day from an anti-national, colonial stigma.

Praise God that the house churches are now sending more oikos missionaries out into the lost world, changing the spiritual profile of their regions. This is not to condemn all missionaries, for tens of thousands gave their lives for the Kingdom. The church has, however, undergone more cataclysmic changes,

especially in the last couple of decades, than had taken place in centuries. With between 80 and 100 million followers in secret house churches in China; 200,000 house churches planted in India; a million evangelical Latin Catholics now worshipping in Basic Ecclesial Communities (BEC); five million Americans in over 30,000 house churches; a million Shiite Muslims crypto believers in Iran where conversion is punishable by death, and several other countries reporting explosive growth, the return of the prodigal church back to the loving Father's house church represents a full-circle reversal back to God's intended, original, house-to-house form and function. The era of the blond Jesus is over, for he is now incarnating with black, brown and yellow pigment.

Of course, some of these house churches are only recycling institutional Christians (IC) from their pews to living-room sofas without multiplying into metachurches, while others are on the road to disaster as they retrogress into institutionalism. But the good news is that in many countries, HCs are changing the demographic profile. House churches (also called simple church, organic church, biblical church, underground church, New Covenant church, etc.) are scripting and dictating new rules and roles. It is neither their location nor their rituals that distinguish them but their Body life and replicability.

The house church movement is much bigger than you think, for the simple reason that many operate below the radar, often intentionally. All reported statistics measure only the organized house churches that form just the tip of the iceberg. The amorphous, rabbitine, gecko (house lizard) sized churches that abound in the developing countries and in hostile nations cannot be measured and must not be reported. God had promised that the latter rain would prove more than the former rain, and it is raining house churches all over now (Joel 2:23).

All religions are seeing a precipitous fall in their membership as folk disengage themselves from organized religion of every kind and fall off the religious map. The biggest challenge to Christianity comes not from other religions but from a rejection of all forms of organized faith.

Vision

Our Lord had a very clear vision: “For this reason I came into the world”:

To seek and to save that which is lost (Luke 19:10);

To destroy the works of the Devil (1 John 3:8);

To release the captives, give sight to the blind, liberty to the oppressed and preach the gospel to the poor (Luke 4:18);

To give abundant life (John 10:10) and;

To build His church by giving His life a ransom for many (Matt. 16:18; 20:28).

Yeshua, having set his face like flint, without wavering, marched to his death on a Roman cross.

The first step is to enunciate a clear vision. She needs to repent that she has not capitalized on the opportunities available before her. Next, she must translate that vision into stated objectives and measurable goals. A church without a roadmap based on the above foundation remains truly lost. Sadly, many churches do not even have a vision document. Lack of objectives and timidity in taking risks by setting goals are the hallmark of most mediocre Christians. Maintaining *status quo*

sends a robust signal to the Devil that the church is firmly committed to dancing in both camps, ready to deny to the four billion Gentiles of the world entry into the Kingdom, letting them perish by default by simply not doing anything.

Fortunately, some believers are now seeing the big picture and turning into global Christians and implementers of God's end-vision that all nations, tongues and tribes are to be gathered before the throne of God to worship Him. They are not satisfied with the slim pickings of a few baptisms here and there.

The harvest is actually ripe, and we should be busy reaping it, bringing in sheaves, not content to decompose in the pew (Psa. 126:5-6).

Of the 16,000-some People Groups in the world, nearly 6000 are still to be reached. Though two out of every three persons in the world live in Asia, some 70 percent of Asians have yet to hear the gospel. However, a very encouraging sign is the precipitous fall in the number of major Unreached and Unengaged People Groups (UUPGs) of 100,000 or more population. Of the 639 UUPGs worldwide, the 345 listed for South Asia has been reduced to some 170 (Matthew 24:14).

Adopting UUPGs is not the end of the task, for hundreds of millions remain Unreached and Unengaged within each major People Group (PG), requiring customized strategies to disciple and mentor them "until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in" (Rom. 11:25).

Our God operates through covenants. He made a covenant with Adam, Noah, Abraham, David and many others. He sent Yeshua as a covenant to the Gentiles (Isa. 42:6; Luke 2:32). The Hebrew word for covenant (*beryth*) means to cut or sacrifice. Now the church is a covenantee to be a light to the Gentiles who sit in the shadow of death (Acts 13:47). A church that does not focus on inheriting the Gentiles and making the desolate cities into God's dwelling place nullifies the covenant, proving unfaithful to her calling (Isa. 53:3).

We are seeing early signs of traditional churches moving into the market places, board rooms, parliaments and even the United Nations. The biggest challenge to explosive growth and stunning multiplication remains how to infiltrate every secular job where Christians work and

earn their living. Fulfilling the Great Commission is not only a desirable option but a visible and verifiable outworking of a genuine Christian. Praise God that the Christian-centric church is rapidly becoming Gentile-centric, weaving a dynamic, multi-cultural, multi-language, multi-ethnic tapestry. "Completion thinking" is rapidly replacing a status quo mindset (2 Cor. 8:11-12).

Prayer is a Covenant

The Greek work for prayer (*proseuchomai*) can include the making of a vow or covenant. Prayer is not merely a private shopping list but a covenanting with Elohim to bring His kingdom onto planet earth. Many think that Churchill's brilliant strategy won the World War II. Actually, one of his advisers had organized a daily one-minute prayer for the whole nation. Everyone who had covenanted to pray dropped whatever they were doing and fervently prayed for their nation for one minute, changing its destiny. Prayer does not change things but God does, when we pray.

Pentecost did not happen because of religious superstars agonizing in prayer towers, but by the prayers of ordinary people like fishermen, tax collectors, farmers, shepherds, carpenters and business folk. Believers are increasingly praying Kingdom prayers: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth," touching the very heart of God. "Ask me and I will give you nations for an inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession" (Psa. 2:8).

The rising tide of global prayer is raising up Elijahs who stand up and face the Jezebels who are deceiving and perverting institutions, communities and nations. Sadly, many obstacles are of our own creation, being relational or financial, health or work safety related. As Elijah's prayer changed his world, so prayer can move mountains, today, provided we have faith to believe in what we ask (James 1:5-8; 5:16-20). The righteous are those in a right relation with the Father, forgiving the sins of others. It is only those whose prayers the Father answers. If you cannot forgive others, then forget about having your prayers answered; it does not work (Mark 11:23-26).

Nazarites like John the Baptist and Paul, who sacrifice their comfort to fast, pray and baptize are rising up everywhere. Fathers and sons are returning to each other (Mal. 4:5-6). Prayers for healing and deliverance, for unreached people groups, for finding “the man of peace,” for making disciples and planting churches, are rearranging paradigms and shaking the nations (Luke 10:5-7). Intercessors are taking up their position as watchmen on the walls to pray, as each believer is called to pray for his city (Jer. 29:7) as well as for the peace of Jerusalem (Psa. 122:6).

Morning Prayer

1st minute: Harvest Prayer

Ask for nations, both for the people and for their land. “Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.” (Psa. 2:8; 126:5- 6)

Ask for reapers. “Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” (Luke 10:2)

Ask for your goals to be blessed. “May he grant you your heart’s desire and fulfill all your plans!” (Psa. 20:4)

2nd minute: Diagnostic Prayer

Ask to find out the personal and corporate obstacles and strongholds within and without that obstruct kingdom expansion. “See if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!” (Psa. 139:3-4; Acts 26:17-18; Rom. 7:19; Tit. 1:16).

3rd minute: Listening Prayer for an Action Plan

Quietly and intently listen to revelations. God will give you a specific strategy to fulfill His plan in your domain. “Surely the Lord God will do nothing unless he first reveals His secret to his servants the prophets.” Amos 3:7. “Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things that you do not know” (Jer. 33:3).

Evening Prayer

1st minute: Accountability prayer:

Every evening, God walked with Adam. This was not just a pleasure walk but an accountability walk related to the assignment that God had given to Adam to work and protect the garden. g.Take a walk with God during the cool of the evening and account for your actions done during the heat of the day. See if you faithfully carried out God's action plan, and if he was glorified through your work and witness. "The kingdom of God does not come with observation ... it is in the midst of you" (Luke 17:20-21).

2nd minute: Thanks giving prayer:

For revealing the mystery that you are the hope of glory of the Gentiles, and for using you as an effective tool in opening doors and planting His kingdom within others, "until Christ is formed in them" (Col. 1:26-27; 4:1-6; Gal. 4:19).

For ensuring a nationwide, united avalanche of prayer reaches the Throne." The smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, rose before God from the hand of the angel" (Rev. 8:3-4).

The three-minute prayer, offered first thing in the morning and the two-minute prayer for the evening are designed to help you go out weeping (liquid prayer) and come back rejoicing bringing in the sheaves (Psa. 126:5-6).

Such prayer is resulting in the opening of spiritual eyes, demolishing of strongholds, shaking of the very foundation of the realm of darkness, changing governments, rearranging economic paradigms and religious landscapes.

Since the concept of watchman appears some 300 times in the Scriptures, it must be important to raise up a Gideon's army of watchmen who will pray and power their way into enemy territory, taking possession of the market place. Ezekiel 33:1-9

The AD 2000 Movement, that birthed the global prayer explosion for the unreached 10/40 Window countries, is resulting in a Saturation Church Planting Movement (SCPM) all over the world. The knee jerk effect of the 9/11 trauma precipitated a massive prayer response which is creating a huge turbulence in the Arab and Muslim world. Prayer walking, all night prayer, nationwide and even global prayer events are demolishing religious, mental and social strongholds. Economic meltdown is driving unprecedented, individual and corporate putting on of ashes and sack cloth in global repenting.

All great church planting movements are preceded and bathed by great prayer movements. Homes and offices are turning into deliverance centers. "Bless me" prayers are giving place to kingdom prayers: "Bless all the nations of the earth" (Gen. 12:2-3) and "Here am I. Send me" (Isa. 6:8). "Be a blessing!" these words to Abraham are not only a promise but a command, in Hebrew.

You have to be the change, that you want to see in others. Mission begins where you are and ends in eternity. Without Yeshua you exist but with Him you live.

New Wineskins

Movers and shakers are adopting cities, regions, nations and people groups, turning their world upside down. The little trickle flowing from pews to living-room sofas will soon become a mighty stream, unshackling millions to flow out into the harvest field. The house church is not their destination but only a debriefing center and a transit camp for launching out into the enemy camp. The destination is not an elephantine church of Gideon's army of 32,000, but an army of 300 zealous soldiers who are committed to taking possession of the land. The glory goes to Yeshua, not to the crowd.

Just like in the vast, world ecosystem, there is biodiversity with room for each living being, however insignificant, to play a significant role, similarly in the church every believer should be able to find a ministry niche to fulfill their God-given role.

It is not big, highly visible elephants as much as birds, beetles, bugs, bees and lowly earthworms that work the soil, enhancing organic food production to put bread on our table and to sustain the creation.

A thumbnail size of soil can contain as much as 100 million or more micro-organisms. Each bacterium, under favorable conditions, has the capacity to multiply 15 million times or more in just 24 hours. These microbes, break down thorns and thistles, fix nitrogen and carbon, produce food for your next meal and oxygen for your next breath. The whole earth is teeming with life (Gen. 3:18).

Sadly, we seem to care more about, non-proliferating elephants than about the microcosm below that is multiplying by the minute, right under our feet.

Highly-visible, elephantine churches do little to change a nation's spiritual ecology. The larger the church, the less its possibility of replication, while the smaller the gathering, the faster it grows and multiplies. The higher the density of such multipliers, the quicker the weeds and the pests (demons) will be replaced, and the spiritual landscape become beautiful and fruitful.

It is only when we grow isolationist that we become parasitic and predatory. We must shift from toxic junk food dished out in the traditional churches, to organic harvesting of souls which require micro-missions, the new wineskins, teeming with life, that break down thorns and thistles, restore life and multiply by the minute.

Jerusalem, The Original Church Model

According to Acts 2:41-42, they devoted themselves to four basic things:

Apostolic teaching: "Go make disciples"

Fellowship, a relational, caring, sharing household of God. It is key to equality and mutuality.

Breaking of bread, agape meals

Prayer for signs and wonders and for opening of doors.

This brought measurable results.

According to Acts 2:43-47, they were experiencing:

Fear of the Lord among the people,

Signs and wonders,

Sharing of material blessings,

Going out and finding the lost sheep,

Breaking of bread from house to house,

All rejoicing,

As a result, the **Lord added new believers** to their numbers daily.

Soon the believers were upgraded into disciple making disciples that could not be numbered, followed by murias (tens of thousands) of zealous Messianic Jews, resulting in daily planting of new churches (Acts 2:27; 4:4; 6:1, 7; 16:5; 21:20).

All these components serve as powerful growth accelerators producing a maximal yield with minimal loss as folk come rejoicing.

However, there will be huge post-harvest losses, if care is not taken. It is also important to improve constantly the quality of what remains.

The highly-interactive small house churches can ensure both retention and quality. Churches and missions must invest heavily in their post-harvest operations, adding value to their final product. Just having folk sit in the church is the best way to ensure attrition.

Your church should be known for its productivity in terms of number of baptisms of Gentiles, villages and ethnic groups reached, rather than by its theatrics and gimmickry. As house churches become more and more like the New Testament model, daily addition of new followers of Yeshua becomes their benchmark.

However, not even daily addition is the goal but producing an unstoppable momentum, beyond human control, through rapid multiplication. Men take a bride, not to grow her in size, but for her to

reproduce and multiply. Thus, our goal must be multiplication rather than church growth (Acts 16:5).

Yeshua is the true vine, and he is perfect. We are imperfect branches, but we can move towards perfection by bearing new fruit every season. The bench mark of our connection with Him is fruitfulness, not external trappings. Even if you are well connected with the church, if you are not bringing new fruit (lost souls) into the Kingdom, then you might end up as fuel for the fire. Gathering again and again the same old fruit will not do. You do not require a computer with an Internet connectivity to get connected with God. All you have to do is go water your vine with liquid prayer and manure it with the word of God to come back rejoicing with sheaves (Psa. 126:5-6).

“He who abides in me brings much fruit” (John 15:5).

“Every branch that bears not fruit is cast into the fire” (John 15:2, 6).

“You shall know them by their fruit” (Matt. 7:20).

“This is how God is glorified that you bring abundant fruit, then you will be my disciple” (John 15:8).

“ I have chosen you and ordained you to bring forth lasting fruit” (John 15:16).

There are nearly 70 references to fruit and fruitfulness in the New Testament.

Biblical Leadership

Titus 1:5-9; 1 Timothy Chap 3; Acts 6:1-7 and Hebrew 13:7, 17 reveal seven major functions of a healthy E-7 leader:

Exalt God

Envision the flock

Empower the Body

Equip the saints

Engage the enemy

Evangelize the lost and

Enlarge the kingdom

Most churches, measured on a scale of 0 to 10, score miserably in all respects. They exalt those who occupy the platform, have blurred vision, do not minister to each other, and carry no burden for succession by planning or to evangelize the lost.

The scripture encourages those who are spiritually mature to aspire to be overseers. The Greek word for aspire (*orego*) can mean 'to stretch out to achieve something.' Aspiration is different from ambition which is selfish. A selfish person looks at the world as a market for making money by exploiting others, while a spiritual person looks at the world as a family, striving to convert it into a household of God.

Qualifications of a Healthy leader

Good Reputation: One wife, not alcoholic, not greedy, etc. There are several character traits that make or mar an elder. It is not good enough to be a church member with good standing; one must be of good repute and have a credible testimony among those who are outside the church. This requires that we offer ourselves as a reasonable sacrifice to be fully used of God (1 Tim. 3:7; Acts 6:3; Rom. 12:1).

Good Manager: Leads his own household, otherwise how could he manage the household of God? His children walk in faith, and he financially supports his family. Ability to earn a living and support your family must remain a priority, otherwise the Scripture labels you an infidel (1 Tim. 5:8).

Paul himself, having no wife or children, is never referred to in the Scriptures as an elder. An elder has to be a good husband and father, a good neighbor and an exemplary colleague. This requires that we offer up our families as a reasonable sacrifice to be used of God.

Good Steward: Stewardship has at least these five facets:

Steward of your body and mind: Offer yourself as reasonable sacrifice (Rom. 12:1, 2).

Responsible stewardship of your family (1 Tim. 5:8).

Stewards of mysteries of God (1 Cor. 4:1).

Accountable to God for the souls under our care (Heb. 13:17).

Stewardship of money, wealth and resources (Tit. 1:7).

Steward of God's creation (Rom. 8:19-22; Psa. 8:6-8).

An elder's job is not just to count offerings but to "watch out for your souls." The word 'watch' means to be sleepless, to be awake. Elders are to lead by example and not for filthy lucre. This requires that we surrender all our property, money and resources as reasonable sacrifices to be used of God (Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:3; 2 Cor. 4:1).

Hospitable: The Greek word *philoxine* means entertaining strangers and thus entertain angels unaware. You are commanded to practice hospitality. It is the identity card of a "person of peace". No hospitality, no house church. This requires that we open up our homes to be used of God (Rom. 12:13; Luke 10:5-7; Heb. 13:2).

Sound in Doctrine: You convict and silence those (non-believers) who contradict:" Casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God..." The Greek word for able to teach (*didacticos*) does not mean eloquent in speech but skillful in communication. Even an illiterate person can be skillful communicator. This requires that we acquire all the necessary knowledge and communication skills to convict non-believers (2 Cor. 10:3-5).

Most of the criteria for appointing elders are character issues. Since nothing is even remotely mentioned that is good about the Cretans, the assignment that Paul gave to Titus in Crete was to convert these good-for-nothings rascals into obedient, responsible and productive elders. Appointing elders is not just a celebratory event but a process of fasting and ministering to the Holy Spirit who then assigns the work to be done (Acts 13:1-4).

There was no pyramidal church leadership structure in New Testament times. Believers could be called apostles, elders, bishops (overseers), deacons, or brethren, all of whom could be fivefold gifted

ministry equippers. These operated within their own cities and had no administrative jurisdiction outside. Administration followed a Synagogue structure whereby three 'rulers' formed a tribunal who judged cases concerning morality, money, theft, admission of proselytes, laying on of hands and a host of other things detailed in Mishnah. This structure probably existed in the Church of Corinth therefore Paul discouraged believers going to secular courts (1 Cor. 6:1-7). There was another structure of seven who oversaw Sabbath services, instruction, distribution of alms, etc. That is probably why Peter asked the Greek disciples to elect seven men of good repute, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom (Acts 6:3).

Church leadership should be like the masala (spices) found in Indian curry. One ingredient alone does not make curry which requires a variety of them to bring out the required zing and taste. There should be a plurality of elders serving as a leadership team in which each one is learning to be a team player.

This will avoid the rise of authoritarian tyrants and recourse to hirelings. Like the Jerusalem and the Ephesian elders, these should play key roles in making corporate decisions. The concept of one minister for one congregation remains extra biblical. Every Christian must know that they are a minister with full authority, accountable to the Body and, through the Body, to the lost.

Unlike Peter, Paul, even though he was an apostle, did not qualify to be an elder, for he was not married. Elders, being father figures, oversee the qualitative and quantitative growth of their flock. God chose David to shepherd Israel, because he was experienced in taking care of "ewes great with young," the reproductive segment of the flock. Presumably, David handed over to his servants the responsibility of taking care of the other sheep.

Culling, that is getting rid of the non-productive, barren sheep, is an important principle of sheep rearing. Handing over the noisy, non-productive sheep to the nearest Pentecostal church will improve your relationship score in the local Pastor's Fellowship, discourage sheep stealing and increase fertility rate of the flock as well as your profitability.

Appointing elders in the city who have the right biblical qualifications for feeding, caring and leading the flock is crucial for making sheep healthy and reproductive. These criteria have little to do with academic qualifications. God intends His will to be understood by all, including non-literates, so he revealed it to ordinary folk, in ordinary language.

By all accounts Peter was a failure. After laboring all night, he never seems to catch any fish; he gave wrong advice to Yeshua, not to die on the cross for which he was accorded the title of satan and finally denied Him. Yet with all his frailties, the Lord chose him to feed his sheep as an Elder. There is a lesson for all those who have a low image of themselves (1 Pet. 5:1-4).

The lost of this world do not need scholars but rather spiritual fathers and mothers who bring many sons and daughters to glory (John 13:24, 35)

Elders are appointed to serve a whole city, not just one congregation. This means they are not only responsible for flock inside the fold but, more importantly, for the flock that is outside the sheepfold. This is crucial for church growth and multiplication. At first, the Jerusalem church only appointed deacons (practical ones), but later some of these must have been promoted as elders, for they played active and decisive roles in the Jerusalem convention (Acts 6:3-6; 15:2, 4, 6, 22-23).

The Antioch church exalted God, ministered to each other, and appointed self-supporting elders who then went and multiplied, disciples, elders and simple organic churches all over the known world (Acts 6:3-7; 13:1-3; 14:23; 20:28; 21:18; 15:6).

Leadership Ladder

Three kinds of leaders in the scriptures.

1. **Self-appointed:** Korah appointed himself a leader of Israel in opposition to Moses who was God's appointee, and so was consumed. Diotrefes another arrogant leader, wanted to have pre-eminence in the church (Num. 16; 3 John 1:9).

2. **Man-appointed:** Saul was approved by public opinion and anointed with oil but from a bottle but not from a horn like David was, and he perished. Samuel wanted to appoint his unworthy sons as prophets. There is nothing wrong with promoting your offsprings, provided they are called. There was a succession of Yeshua's relatives who became leaders in the Jerusalem Church, starting with James his half-brother. These were called 'masters'

3. **God-appointed:** Abraham, Moses, David and a string of other prophets, including Paul, were called and anointed by God for shepherd-leadership. This is how authentic Christianity spread in the first century, until grievous man-appointed and self-appointed wolves arose among them not sparing the flock (Acts 20: 29-30; Rom. 8:30).

Three Levels of Operational Leadership

Top Leaders: These have apostolic vision, resonating with God's will that none should perish, providing strategy, passion and ability to communicate clearly, motivating others to buy into their vision, and raising resources to fulfill that vision. They are secure enough to find an inner circle of advisers who compensate for their weakness. They can prioritize issues; stay focused on the most important, not getting bogged down with micro-management.

The more successful ones prove highly relational, "people connectors" (networkers) who functioning as spiritual fathers or mothers, communicating their vision through modeling. They did not graduate from the University for Apostles but overtime grew and matured and became productive.

The insecure impose a "positional" leadership, eschew partnership, and function as flagrantly-arrogant, bureaucratic, corporate CEOs. They do not empower their colleagues but control them through paychecks and other means, and have no succession plans. Biblical leadership is not about position, power, perks, status or wealth but about making a difference in others' lives.

Their vision gets flawed when Kingdom building is replaced with personal empire building. Yeshua blessed his disciples "to do greater

things than these.” No guru or teacher wants his disciples to do better than he. Only a biological or true spiritual father is proud when his progeny do better than him. A leader of leaders is one who births many leaders with the clear understanding that “they will do greater things than he” (John 14:12).

Human leaders should not limit the extent of achievement of those they lead, as over time the “disciple” may have much more potential than the leader had. Constantly dismantling the ceiling and raising the bar is a very important function of a top leader which cannot be delegated to others. Yeshua, the King of kings, is constantly birthing many new kings (Rev. 1:6). Having a great vision and a cutting edge strategy, without an ability to raise and harness resources, from the harvest field, to fulfill that vision, amounts to pure hallucination.

Remember, you might be a great general like Joshua, but the strategy to demolish Jericho came from God. Joshua merely but faithfully implemented the strategy all the way to the hilt and so came out victorious. Like Joshua you must go with the mindset that God has already given the place you tread (Jos. 1:3, 7-9).

Second-Level Leaders: These are mentors who build up the infrastructure (lay the foundation). Mentors are not counsellors or advisers but spiritual parents who impart discipling skills to multiple generations of Timothies (2 Tim. 2:2). They are apostles (sent ones) and have to be financially compensated, for being constantly on the move. Their competence depends on their degree of first-hand exposure in the mission field as well as to a variety of cutting-edge trainings. They know that developing leaders is not conducting seminars but modeling a lifestyle: “Imitate me as I imitate Messiah.” They should be evaluated not only on the basis of their knowledge, but on the ability of their trainees to bring in large hauls of fish.

Be careful of the excellent discipleship training courses that no one can put into practice. Sometimes the content is good but their lecture format leads nowhere. Sometimes it is vice-versa. Discipleship is not a program but a lifestyle. It is therefore important to find practicing mentors. There is huge gap between supply and demand of these spiritual demographics changers. It is a great folly to promote gifted

teachers to administrative office jobs. Poor performance at their level indicates poor leadership at the top, which has to be rectified or changed. The bigger the apostolic infrastructure of skilled fishermen assigned to the harvest field, the greater the yield. The ultimate purpose is to produce a spontaneous church planting movement (CPM) whose momentum spins out of human control.

Third Tier Leaders: These are not bishops, CEOs or military generals but those having the courage to be effective witnesses who refuse to follow the crowd, take a stand for their faith and to be counted. Most have gone through the crucible of persecution, from their family and community and hostile anti-Christians. They chose Yeshua Messiah over their mother, father, brothers, sisters and property. These are volunteers, new believers who bridge the gap between heaven and earth, real kingdom pushers where the rubber meets the road.

They also bridge the huge trust deficit between the community and the church. Having tasted healing and deliverance, they go and open closed doors, removing blindness through their testimony, "Whereas I was blind, now I see." It is a major folly to make them earn their maturity by sitting and stewing in the church pews. They must be equipped on site and sent out instantly as witnesses like the Samaritan woman and the Gadarene who had a legion of demons in him.

Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims are not interested in a challenge to debate and argue or in your demonstration of knowledge, but "in a demonstration of love and power of the Spirit which they cannot deny" (1 Cor. 2:4). Once the demonic walls have fallen through a power encounter, equippers come and train the new believers to witness effectively as fishers of men.

Remember, God has rejected the wise, the noble and the mighty and has blessed the weak, the meek, the merciful, the peaceniks and the persecuted making them inheritors of the Kingdom (Matt. 5:1-10; Acts 1:8; Heb. 8:11; 1 Cor. 1:26-31; 2:4).

Cerebral Christians, if available at all, play a secondary role in maturing new believers in sound doctrines, as they have no competence to disciple those from another faith. The primary force for opening

frontiers is new believers. Cataracts fall and closed doors fling open by power preaching through signs and wonders, and through witnessing in one's own culture, context and heart language (Acts 26: 18; Rom. 15:19).

This training requires a wider, broader canvas than what formal, theological academics provide. Adding experiential and relational dynamics to instructional matrix, results in transformational leadership for effective witnessing in the workplace.

In the *first phase*, integrating hands-on instruction in a market place context provides the key to equipping leaders, lest we start looking for human credentials. This requires bridging and integrating training and ministry directly with the market or work place, lest we end up with dysfunctional leaders. Yeshua pleads, "The harvest is ready but the laborers are few." Academics is of little use in this phase (Luke 10:2).

In the *second phase*, "Scripture is ... profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness" (2 Tim 3:6).

Just as in Yeshua's ministry, cleansed lepers, seeing blind, hearing deaf and leaping lame, brand new believers, insiders, these are the real kingdom expanders. It is they who are re-painting the religious canvas of the nations through their powerful testimonies. Yeshua rebuked religious leaders: "You are in error because you do not know the scriptures or the power of God". Without a proper balance of both components, "rightly dividing the word of truth," error creeps in (Matt. 22:29; 2 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 4:12).

Sadly most Christians, including theologians, remain biblically illiterate or at best semi-literate, for, not knowing their authority. They err, not being wise enough for the salvation of others, nor can they equip anybody in righteousness (2 Tim. 3:14-17).

Biblical literacy means knowing that you have power over all the power of the enemy including the ability to cast out demons (Luke 10:17-19). Additionally, literacy implies the ability to deftly wield the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, to convict those who oppose (Tit. 1:9). A mature Christian is one who is able to say like Paul, "Imitate me as I imitate Christ" (2 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17).

If you must start a Bible school, then invite those with broken and contrite hearts, the oppressed by the devil, the spiritually blind, deaf, mute and dysfunctional, those in bondage and in prison, the immoral and the rogues, especially from the market place. Bring them to repentance and equip them to go and bring many of their kind into the kingdom. Do not use them as witnesses for the armchair Christians for cheap publicity but send them to reap the harvest.

Please do not cover their shame with paper degrees (fig leaves). In due course God will cover them with Christ as their covering.

Thank God that this is already happening as more and more “laymen” acquire keys of the kingdom, resulting in increasing numbers of saved souls. Jesus did not challenge us to become greater teachers or preachers than He, but to do greater works than him (John14:12).

There is no other work which is greater than that of saving souls. Most churches are being planted now in India and China, as in New Testament times, only after demon demolition, both physical and mental. Removing rampant biblical illiteracy from cultural Christians, converting them into discipling Christians and developing addiction in them for saving souls must be made our top priority in this decade. (Luke 10:19; Mark 16:17; Eph. 6:17; 1 Cor. 1:24; Matthew 12:29; 16:19; Hos. 4:6)

Neither pew warming nor sofa squatting is your destination, but possessing your God-given domain. Any church that is not reading, studying and implementing the Great Commission is carving its own tombstone and marching into oblivion. In the meanwhile, God’s army is marching on her knees, advancing on mats lain on mud floors, to the ends of the earth, removing blindness, setting captives free and possessing her eternal inheritance. (Acts 26:18)

Business as Mission

Christian means Christ Bearer (Acts 11:26; 1 Pet. 4:16). Yeshua means “Yah saves” (shua=salvation) and Messiah means anointed one. Every Christian must realize that they are permanently anointed (24x7) with the name and the authority of Yeshua Messiah for every situation, whether

at home, in the market place or at the worksite, and their purpose is not only to save others but to restore the entire broken world.

He is not just the Savior of humans but Lord of the Universe. Inheritance is not only individual but corporate, as well: “partakers of the inheritance among the saints” (Acts 20: 32; 26:18; Col. 1:12).

We must be the church wherever “we live, move and have our being” (Acts 17:28). While addressing the Athenian intellectuals, Paul took this quotation from a Greek poet Plautus (5.4.14), devoted to the mythological Greek god, Jupiter. We must learn to apply biblical principles wherever we are, whether in politics, government, administration, business, finance, education, healthcare, media, law enforcement or our professions. We need to apply local syntax and metaphors, weaving mission into every fabric of our life, including our business, so that all processes and products, customers and clients, buyers and suppliers, carry the gospel, turning it into kingdom business.

Yeshua was not a monk dwelling in a monastery but a craftsman who became a market place minister. His neighbors knew him as a carpenter so refused to accept His divinity (Mark 6:3-4). If he ministered to priests in the temple at the age of twelve, then he would certainly be ministering to people who came to His carpenter’s shop. That is how he grew in favor both with men and God (Luke 2:52). He spent thirty years of His life in the market place, not in a seminary. He was about His fathers’ business, both his spiritual Father and earthly father. Throughout His earthly life, not just the three and half years, he ministered daily to real people in real life situations.

Churches should be ordaining and releasing tens of thousand of market place ministers, so that none should perish. Prioritizing church based ministry and marginalizing the market place ministry reveals flawed theology. Yeshua rejected both the Jerusalem temple and the Gerizim worship models. He never went to the temple to worship. If and when he did go, it ended up in a confrontation with the authorities. Finally, he went there with a whip and cleared out the place. He was neither bound by religious boundaries nor external symbols like the temple and synagogues. He released a Samaritan woman to worship in spirit and in truth at any place and at any time (John 4:20-24).

The first time worship took place in the New Testament was at the birth of Yeshua in a smelly, dirty cowshed where wealth producing cows, sheep and donkeys sang with an angelic choir.

There is no earthly reason why all members of our wealth-producing business centers should not join in worshipping and glorifying God, turning it into kingdom business. After all the market has the smartest people on earth: investors, executives, founders, manufacturers, designers, analysts, salesmen, physicians, engineers, lawyers and scientists, not only with the best brains but with ingenuity, hard work, risk-taking and entrepreneurial skills. Whilst the Scriptures celebrate wealth, biblical inheritance laws made it impossible for anyone to become filthy rich, for its statutes are brutally distributive and unabashedly biased in favor of the exploited and the poor. We do not work for money, but we work for God who provides the money we need. Recognizing your profession or business as mission is the key to understanding of your real role as an honest broker for God (Deut. 8:17-18).

It is time to recognize market place ministry as valid, full-time ministry. The market place is the heart of any city, throbbing with buyers and sellers, rich and poor, thieves, boozers, stock market manipulators, Mafia, liquor barons, pimps and shady ladies, extortionists and revilers, crooks and charlatans of all kinds, who will not inherit the kingdom because the church failed to sanctify and justify them (1 Cor. 6:10-11; Titus 1:12). Yeshua wants to build His church right at the gates of Hell and change them into pearly gates (Matt. 16:13, 18).

When the Lord Yeshua returns, the last place he would like to find you is in a church building, where immature babies are fed milk every Sunday. He would rather find you practicing your royal priesthood wherever He has placed you in the world, bringing many sons to glory. Hebrew 5:12-13; 2:10. There are two kinds of families on earth now: Adam's family, belonging to the Devil and death, and Yeshua's the belonging to God and life. It does not require having a lot of knowledge to agree with Moses who said, "I have set before you this day life and death. Choose life" (Deut. 30:19).

A city's shopping malls, sidewalks, cafes and parks should be the primary centers for disciple-making and mentoring through signs and miracles. Almost all the signs and wonders in the New Testament times took place in secular settings and none inside the temple. Without signs, wonders and mighty deeds, disciples cannot be made, churches cannot be planted and the kingdom of God cannot come in power. We are not called to be scholars of the epistles written on paper, but to be epistles written on flesh (2 Cor. 2:2-3). Every Christian is a new creation and an ambassador with a new ministry of reconciling the lost of this world (2 Cor. 5:17-20).

Heaven a City, not a Church

Remember heaven is not a church, strumming a harp in an endless worship service but a city whose builder and maker is God. Very soon God is going to become a city dweller. He does not live in the church. He is Emmanuel who lives among His people. In heaven there will be no religion, only relationships.

Do not go shopping for a church, rather go to the shopping places in the city and plant a church there because that is where Yeshua would be. The most High will hand over to you whatever kingdom you have planted here on planet earth, to reign with him in eternity (Heb. 11:10; Rev. 21:2; Dan. 7:18, 27).

Like Adam, entry into heaven is likely to be barred for those who have not bothered to taken possession of the domain that God has given to them here on earth now.

Today mentoring multiple generation of disciples is the buzz-word. We are not called to make just to make disciples but to make disciplers-makers who have the capacity to demolish the gates of hell, while building His church, multiply disciplers, a trans-generational assignment. Any analysis of a church's performance should be done from this perspective (2 Tim. 2:2).

Maximizing the potential of believers to becoming champion disciple-makers, baptizers and equippers must be in the DNA of every successive believer. This is the key to hyper-acceleration. Every living thing has been

designed to pass on its reproductive genes to its next generation, and disciple-making is no exception.

The Kingdom *mantras* consist of:

Sound doctrine for pulverizing opponents, just as Yeshua did every day in market places, the synagogues and homes of the people (Acts 2:42; Tit.. 1:9; Matt. 12:29).

Fellowship is a prophetic act that provides interconnectivity with the community through edification, exhortation and comfort. It includes table fellowship which results in daily addition of the church (1 Cor. 14:3; Acts 2: 42, 46-47).

Prayer in English means to “entreat, implore or beg”, whereas the Hebrew word for prayer (*tefillah*) means “to judge oneself”, implying self-examination. Introspection results in repentance, seeking and conforming to His will for the healing of the nations (2 Chron. 7:14).

Shifting from stagnation to vibrancy, requires a “kingdom mentality,” with a “kingdom vision” having a “kingdom strategy.”

“You are a chosen generation, chosen to be royal priests, a holy nation, God’s very own possession. So, you must show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of darkness into his wonderful light” (1 Pet 2:9; 4-8; Rev. 1:6; 5:9, 10; Exo. 19:5-6).

It is not doing the work by yourself but multiplying ‘doers’ that completes the task.

Fivefold ministry gifts are not something new that is conferred by Yeshua on His church. These already existed in the Synagogue structure which included an announcer (*shaliach*) who served as an apostle and was sent forth to announce the gospel, a migratory evangelist (*maggid*), a scholarly teacher (*batlamin*) and a minister (*chazen*). In post exilic times, the rabbi was considered to be a kind of prophet who spoke edification, exhortation and comfort (Eph. 4:11; 1 Cor. 14:3).

An elder (*zakin*) one who had retired at the mandatory age of fifty from service in the temple and was now a respected counselor (1 Cor. 14:3; Num. 8:25).

Democracy was not first invented by Greek philosophers, for shared leadership existed in the synagogue structure. The fivefold ministry structure exists to edify the Body. The evangelists preach the good news, the teachers communicate sound doctrine, the shepherds tend the flock, the apostles establish them, and the prophets connect them to God. The Great Commission is the common thread that unites them.

Let no one tell you that the Great Commission was only meant for the eleven apostles and had an expiry date. Such a person is operating from the tree of knowledge of good and evil and needs to be told, “Get thee behind me Satan.”

All these gifts remain age and gender-neutral being for “everyone, everywhere, until the end of the age” when the kingdoms of this world will become the kingdoms of our Lord and his Messiah. You may pick and choose your own gifts but do not stop there, rather constantly upgrade yourself until you have the highest gift, that of a prophet, with whom the Father talks directly (1 Cor. 14:1). Though Philip was only an evangelist, who served the tables, yet he healed the sick, delivered the demonized, baptized by the thousands and preached the gospel to the Gentiles in Samaria (Acts 8:5-12).

New believers have a burden for reaching their own extended family (*oikos*), friends and associates. New believers are not interested in a ministry of resurrecting dead churches, whether called revival or renewal. They are redefining church as an assembly of passionate Royal Priests who are zealously taking ownership of their kingdom (king + domain), adding to the statistics, changing religious

demographics, enforcing kingdom values and culture (Luke 12:32). Knowledge is being redefined as experiencing the power of God for unleashing Yeshua Messiah everywhere. Mentoring is no longer just providing a cram challenge as measured by grades obtained in a classroom, but imparting skills, insights, motivation and confidence to finish the task (1 Cor. 2:5; 4:20).

Neither Yeshua nor his disciples nor the Old Testament prophets ever attended an academic institution or leadership training program. If anything, they withdrew into a wilderness where God spoke to them

directly: “God will do nothing without first revealing it to his servants the prophets” (Amos 3:7). The detailed, end-time, apocalyptic vision was revealed to a hermit named John, a prisoner in a cave on the Isle of Patmos.

Knowledge is no longer limited to the written scripture (*logos*) but includes God speaking directly (*rhema*) into the lives of people through dreams, visions and signs. Yeshua did not send his disciples out to intone empty words but he gave them power over all unclean spirits, to heal the sick and to preach the gospel of the Kingdom (Matt. 10:1). Yeshua grades us according to how much cross we bear and not by how many academic marks we obtain by much talk and little action (Mark 10:21).

Paul had to unlearn his academics before he could become an apostle. Leadership criteria no longer include academic knowledge, but to know Christ intimately and be obedient. Transition of power from the clergy to “nobodies” stands as the greatest change that is taking place. God is increasingly choosing the foolish things of this world to confound the wise (1 Cor. 3:11; 1:27). You do not have to be a theologian to be a blessing to the nations (Gen. 12:3).

The church is reinventing herself from inward centripetal force, “churching the unchurched,” to outward centrifugal force, “unleashing Yeshua Messiah everywhere.” The new paradigm is, “Let us do greater works than these” (John 14:12).

You are Called to Be a Baptizer

Under the Old Covenant, Jews took a bath of purification to gain entry in to the temple. Yeshua changed that bath into an entry point to heaven (Mark 16:16). Even though He was the sinless Son of God, by getting baptized at the hands of John, with one single act, Yeshua identified Himself with the sinners of this world.

Later, He baptized more sinners through his disciples than John did (John 4:1, 2), and he commanded his disciples to baptize not just individuals but nations (Matt. 28:19). Baptism includes submission and offering yourself as a reasonable sacrifice for His purposes. Anyone who wants to imitate Yeshua and be obedient to Him, had better start baptizing, regardless of what your man-made church rules say.

The baptized are getting converted into baptizers as a basic requirement to qualify as a disciples of Christ. The central part of a church's agenda should be to upgrade all its baptized believers into *baptizing disciples*. Yeshua was a baptizer and he commanded each one of us to be baptizers. Contempt of this command results in non-productive Christians of which there are far too many.

John, Peter and Philip the evangelist, were all known baptizers. John delivered all his sermons while standing in the water. He condemned the clergy of his day in the strongest language and would probably do the same if he were around today.

Pulpit and pews obstruct kingdom proliferation. Standing in water while expounding the word accelerates kingdom expansion. It was Apollos, a brilliant expositor of the scriptures, who founded the church of Ephesus knowing only about John's baptism of repentance. He knew nothing about the laying on of hands and the baptism of Holy Spirit, until he was instructed by a young woman named Priscilla . Baptism without empowerment is of no use (Acts 18:24-25; 19:1-7).

As in New Testament times, baptisms are shifting from the church baptistery to pools, ponds, rivers, buckets and bathtubs. God does not look at the amount of water nor the gender or the academics of the baptizer, but at the heart (John 4:1, 2; Matt. 3:11; 28:19).

Kingdomization

Today we are the largest church on earth in history. Many nations, tongues and tribes and cities have been reached, Christianized and churched. Yet we have a very poor social audit score. Yeshua never preached the truncated gospel of salvation alone for individuals, as most of the modern evangelists do, nor did He just transfer knowledge which is very small part of disciple-making. Rather He preached and lived the kingdom in His daily interaction in the community.

Church planting is not our goal (Matt. 16:18); our ultimate goal is the Kingdomization of communities. One challenge is how to metamorphose traditional churches, to shift them from the shallow, murky waters of Sunday-worship centers into the deeper, catalytic waters of holistic

community restoration (2 Cor. 5:17-20). It is the whole Body that is the witnessing community of faith, having many organs and expressions.

A Bible-shaped culture includes love, joy, peace, justice and abundant life with social, political, economic, health, educational and ecological transformation. Spiritual transformation must lead to an upward socio-economic mobility (abundant life), not only of individual's but of communities', which should be assessed on the basis of a social audit.

Kingdomization includes redeeming the professions, so that workstations, offices, businesses, market places, board rooms and parliaments become outward, authentic expressions of the Kingdom of God. Demolishing an anti-Christ culture and planting a godly counter-culture, through our secular jobs, must become our passion.

Spiritualizing every thing and condensing it into a Sunday service diminishes the length, breadth and the depth of the gospel.

Peter started his ministry in his fishing boat, Cornelius at army headquarter, Proconsul Sergius in the governor's residence, Ethiopian Eunuch in the ministry of finance, Pricilla and Aquila in their tent making workshop, Lydia while selling expensive purple cloth to the rich, Phoebe in Rome while conducting her multinational business.

There are two kinds of Christians; the first kind are productive and therefore effective whilst the other remains barren therefore ineffective. One Greek word for lazy (argos) can mean 'ineffective, useless, ' etc. Another Greek word akarpous means 'barren, unfruitful, ' etc. Peter uses both these terms to create a clear understanding of what we have to do in the market place to be effective and productive:

“For if you acquire these qualities (mentioned in earlier verses) progressively, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive. But if you do not have them then you are myopic and blind... Therefore my brethren be zealous to make your calling and election sure. For if you do these things you will never fail and you will receive entrance and a great welcome into eternal kingdom of our Lord and savior” (2 Pet. 1:3-11).

Isaiah is more encouraging when he tells the barren (Hebrew, aqar, can mean 'sterile, extirpated') "to sing with joy and enlarge the place of her tent, stretch forth her curtains and lengthen the cords. Break forth to the left and to the right and inherit the Gentiles as her children and marry the desolate cities and make them habitable because her Maker, the Lord of the universe is her husband." The norm for every healthy Bride must be to reproduce multiples of meta brides (Isa. 54:1-3).

The real deal is to prove fruitful, multiply, subdue your workplace and exercise dominion over it, right where God has put you. Your greatness consists in transforming yourself into a Tree of Life, so that the lost can eat your fruit and receive eternal life and even your leaves should be for the healing of the nations (Rev. 22:2).

Think Meta (Beyond)! The congregational model is being replaced with an inclusive community one. "Church culture" is giving way to "Kingdom culture." Accountability (authority) structures are ceding to relational equations (spiritual fathers and mothers). The colonial model is changing to self-supporting, fruit-bearing, anointed leadership.

The kingdom is never static or stationary. It is an ever-expanding reality that we the must keep on expanding until: "the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our Lord and His Messiah and he shall forever and ever" (Rev. 11:15). This depends on an intentional strategy of taking time out for our families, liberally supporting our parents, making peace with our neighbors, and loving our enemies. To achieve His objectives, Yeshua bypassed the hierarchical religious structure and went straight to the people.

Spiritual Warfare

The seeds of spiritual warfare were sown early in creation, when God said to the woman, "Thy seed will crush the head of the Devil" (Gen. 3:15). The Devil comes to steal, to kill and to destroy (John 10:10). He serves as Editor-in-Chief of the news media which are his mouth piece, daily screaming about stealing, killing and destroying. The appalling Human Development Index (HDI) in terms of longevity, health care, education, and income in the third world is a direct result of the Dragon's demonic stranglehold.

Throughout her history, the church has fought false wars with visible enemies, the Jews, the Communists, the Catholics, the Nazis and even with fellow Christians whom she called heretics. To wage an effective war, the church must recognize her true enemy.

God created us in His own image and likeness. Our spirit serves as our God connector. Our soul consists of mind, will and emotions. Since we are created in the image of God, our soul has the freedom to choose between good and evil. This is where we choose either to exalt ourselves or to glorify God. Even while glorifying God, our real motives remain suspect., for when we choose to exalt ourselves, pride takes over and in reality we exalt the enemy.

Thus, our soul remains the real battle field. Our Body serves as our earth connector, obeying whatever the soul commands. When the soul takes over, the spirit within us dies, as it did in the case of Adam, and ever since, of all humankind.

Unless our mindscape changes, there can be no change in the landscape. The Deceiver colonizes our mind with false values, worldviews and ideologies. He is a blatant liar who works in subtle ways, and Christians are not exempt from his attack (2 Cor. 4:4; 2 Cor. 10:3-6). In fact we may be the primary object of his attack. Christians must recognize their true enemy who operates from the spirit world, the Dragon and his principalities, powers, rulers of darkness and his hosts. Only then can she take her position, seated in heavenly places, and demolish her enemies by the manifold wisdom of God (Eph. 2:6; 3:10).

Whether you know it or not, and whether you like it or not, you are at war. The Dragon, your accuser, has a one-point agenda: to destroy you. Your failure to enter the contest will result in your ending up as mincemeat in his sandwich.

There are no soft options, so it is critical that you position yourself for a direct confrontation, lest you be vanquished by a dirty fighter. The first thing you have to do is get training in demon demolition and deliverance. Then get rid of your own demons. This requires a thorough spring cleaning of your body, mind, spirit and especially your mouth. Bad

mouthings of other believers commits murder most foul (Psa. 51:10; 1 John 3:15).

To get started, you do not have to go anywhere else; the Scripture is full of counsel, ask the Holy Spirit to be your teacher (John 14:26). Yeshua did not ask you to go to any specialist. He said, "In my name you will cast out demons" (Mark 16:17). House churches are the best places wherein to get to know your authority, to learn to arm yourself with spiritual weapons, and to begin the demolition and deliverance process. Compromise, capitulation and surrendering to the enemy are not the options available to a true disciple, nor the ignorance of the consequences will be of any help.

The search and destroy operation has to begin by using the whole wisdom of God from house to house (Acts 20:20, 27). The best indicator of Kingdomization of the city is the mouthpiece of the enemy himself, the news media: Declining crime rates - less fraud, theft, murder, violence and mayhem.

There used to be many gods, but now Lord Corruption of scams and scandals, is the god-in-chief, superseding all other gods, corrupting governments, judiciary, economics, education, communities, especially religions. Lord Corruption siphons billions through dream merchants offering a piece of paradise to gullible devotees. Galloping corruption of things divine constitutes the most serious form of delusion, having no salvific value. All these are funded and fuelled by money from corrupt markets.

The collection box is a symbol of materialism and represents an attempt to bribe a holy God. Not the content of a collection box, but social, economic, ecological, political and spiritual transformation of the city should be a church's performance parameter.

Fisherman's Training

Neurological sciences have come to validate the interactive nature of house churches. Research shows that sermons, lectures and tuitions, especially when delivered by authoritarian figures like pastors and professors, create dependency that produces oxymorons, whereas interactive sessions create challenges which develop problem-solving

dexterity. The skills to macro-manage a nation must be acquired by micro-managing a home church.

Toppers do not necessarily make the best problem solvers. Top universities give preference to home schooled applicants over those from institutional schools. This trend is also reflected in the diminishing role of seminaries which offer extensive, expensive classroom-based education - mere transfer of knowledge.

Years of interaction with Christians, by Christians, for Christians from Christian books written by Christians for Christians, creates a huge disconnect with non-Christians. Such exclusivist Christianity must give way to greater social networking, if the agenda to reach all nations, tongues and tribes is to be met.

Seminaries train professional job seekers (pulpit orators, Eucharist servers and tithe gatherers) for the religious market, not disciple makers and kingdom expanders. Whereas secular education prepares one for climbing the corporate ladder for personal gain. Yeshua taught (not preached) his disciples from a floating pulpit, then immediately commanded them to launch out into the deep, helping them to catch a large haul of fish.

Most Christians are like a fishing boat that is tied to its moorings (the church) and never been launched out into the deep, remaining unengaged, unchallenged and no fish. Without weathering storms, you can catch no fish. If Helen of Troy launched a thousand ships for wrong reasons, then you need to be launched out there for the right reasons? For this you need to disengage from your moorings, and launch out with fishers of men whose nets lead to boatloads of fish.

No product can deliver what it does not have. Do not expect your wrist watch to serve you a cup of coffee, for it is simply not designed to do so. A seminary product does not have the competence to convert Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists and others of different faiths. He is designed for domestic consumption, not having been tooled for the export market. He is trained to expand a church membership but not to extend God's kingdom beyond its present borders.

Training for ministry among the lost of other faiths requires a completely different paradigm. The method and the content operate on a different orbit. While one fulfills the Great Commission, the other does not. The gospel cannot be preached overtly in hostile countries. Because you are created in the image of a Creator, you must find creative ways for reaching the lost in hostile environment.

The criminal on the cross glorified Yeshua, received pardon, proclaimed Christ to the other criminal and made it to the paradise.

It is time to bridge the gap between the rhetoric and the lost and seriously equip disciples to be launched out into the deep as fishers of men. Every disciple who is not equipped and launched out, is a criminal waste. Yeshua never spoke from the same pulpit twice.

Seminaries or Pilpeliya

Interactive house gatherings serve as equipping hubs for hands-on practitioners who mentor champion disciple-makers, baptizers and equippers in fulfilling the Great Commission. No point in sending out half-cocked fishers of men, only to goof things up.

The Jewish Beth Midrash or “house of learning” was also called “house of interaction”. Unlike our seminaries who specialize in giving Ph.Ds. on Boredom, the midrashaim are popularly called pilpeliya (hot pepper) because of the hot interaction (literally, yelling) that takes place in them. Yeshua interacted all day long in synagogues and houses, conducting highly-interactive, daily, road shows. Paul reasoned, persuaded and disputed with the Jews right inside their synagogues (Acts 17:2, 17; 18:4; 19:8-10).

Orthodox Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and Jews would not be seen dead or alive inside a colonial-style, traditional church. Sadhu Sunder Singh, India’s best-known sage said, “If you must preach the gospel, then serve it in an Indian bowl.” Very few come to Christ through an intellectual discourse. Those who do come so, are not experience driven but intellectually motivated and therefore shallow.

Mass distribution of gospel packets produces little fruit but much persecution. Western models of tele-evangelism only transfer

information and entertain armchair Christians. Even showing of Jesus Film on a large scale does not produce disciples. Despite astronomical claims, these are only evangelistic tools.

Such efforts may draw a few seekers from other faiths but produce little lasting fruit due to dismal follow up. In today's digitalized world, we should develop a national grid to personally visit seekers, and to do so within days if not hours. The objective is not to catch stray fish here and there but to trigger a mass movement by incarnating Messiah in human hearts and minds, redeeming communities and cultures.

The majority of new believers come through power manifestation such as healing and deliverance, and increasing numbers of Muslims, are coming through dreams, visions and direct revelation, just like Paul did (Rom. 15:19; Acts 9:1-22). The birth of Yeshua Messiah and his church were marked by a burst of dreams, visions, and prophecies, even angelic hosts joining in. Sadly, all these have been replaced by a burst of programs orchestrated by professional event managers. The crowds that walked the dusty roads with the humble itinerant guru, in the remote corner of the Roman empire, were mostly poor, illiterate, often hungry and desperate. The knowledgeable pharisees came only as self-appointed inspectors of his theology.

This picture is somewhat different from the modern crowds that flock to convention halls with cushioned chairs in pursuit of happiness to hear their religious icons who are backed by speech writers, make up girls, wardrobe valet, stage managers and of course the latest technology for psychedelic effect.

The Devil's strategy is to keep you pre-occupied with programs that you have little time or inclination to seek and to save the lost. The world does not need event managers but worksite ministers. Every Christian must know that he is a Christ-bearer who not only carries the name but also the ambassadorial authority of Christ. He should be trained to be an expert seeker and saver of the lost sheep, until there be no more lost sheep in their God-given domain. Expert does not mean that you have all the answers; even sub-optimal knowledge, like that of the Samaritan woman at the well, is enough to bring whole villages to the feet of Yeshua, provided you have the required passion and the motivation.

Redeemed sheep are our eternal inheritance (John 10:16; Luke 19:10; Psa. 2:8).

More healing takes place in house churches, through His stripes, than all the cures effected through expensive, technological medication in hospitals. Even so, the church is more than a healing and deliverance center; she serves as the conscience of a nation when speaking prophetically about the coming judgment.

The role of this prophetic church is to reconcile nations through her prophetic acts and utterances, before judgment falls. She must reconcile the lost, preparing the nations to receive their King. The church of Yeshua Messiah is a reconciling community.

To make this happen, every new creation (born-again believer) must jump out of their spectator's seat into the arena and fulfill their own ambassadorial ministry of reconciliation (Acts 2:17, 18; 2 Cor. 5:17-23; 2 Cor. 14:1-5; Ephs. 2:19-22).

The Mismatch

The traditional church has worked very hard to achieve irrelevance and succeeded. Now there is a yawning gap between the people and the church. God be praised?! This happened because of the great mismatch between Yeshua's people oriented dialogical style and the way in which the modern church functions. Yeshua told a story and then asked questions. Sometimes he answered by counter questioning. Our leaders deliver distilled sermons with no room for any questions. Leaders are supposed to serve as equippers rather than sermonizers. Long-term, formal education prepares pulpit orators comforting the faithful, while interactive house churches prepare fishers of men for the benefit of those outside the fold.

The key to church reproduction and multiplication is not anointed Sunday sermons but a gift assessment of each believer and capacity building through contextualized skilling and up-skilling that hones their connectivity with those of other faiths.

Paul preached contextualized messages, but how? When he was in the Synagogue, he preached to the Jews from the Torah and the

Prophets, not about God but about the Son of God; but when he was with the Gentiles in the market place, he preached with signs and miracles and from their own sacred texts, as he did in Athens. Theological training has been reduced to an ability to cite and recite textual knowledge. Bible schools have become textbook recitation centers devoid of training in fishing skills. Ministers trained in a classroom paradigm, unlike Yeshua's and Paul's disciples, have no skills and therefore no courage to engage in dialogue and dialectics even with their friends and colleagues, let alone with the hostile world. If anything, theological training hones an arrogant elitism.

Calling a believer a layman minimizes him, just as calling another believer reverend exalts him that amounts to mocking God. Gal. 6:7 Just remember Yeshua is our leader and commander. (Isa. 55:4) Everyone is created in His image and likeness. Subduing the barren earth and having dominion over it requires leadership qualities, so all we believers, without exception, have inherited leadership DNA.

This requires a change in our attitude to life, which is changing from subservient to assertive, articulating your goals and purpose in life, and then zeroing on those objectives that must become the driving force and passion of your life. Accomplishing those goals will determine where you end up in eternity.

The Israelites shouted in the wilderness, take us back to Egypt and slavery because we want our onions and cucumbers. Christians have been shouting for ages, keep us in slavery, locked within the four walls of the sanctuary, for we are not used to freedom and truth.

When a wild elephant is caught, he is shackled to a tree with an iron chain, he fights hard to get free but soon gives up. Later the keeper just ties him with an ordinary rope and the elephant does not make any attempt to break loose because he thinks he cannot and becomes captive. Most Christians do not know the power and the potential they have and stay captive to traditions.

There is an urgent need to set at liberty the prisoners of traditions to unshackle captive laymen, equip them and release them as worksite

ministers into the lost world. Only those who cross the Jordan will make it to the Promised Land.

Theology is not abstract knowledge of God but how to reclaim and restore those taken captive by Satan. Yeshua sent you to catch the fish and He will clean them for you. Yeshua does not call qualified people; He qualifies whom He calls (Rom. 8:30).

It requires two kinds of people to finish the task of the world missions: “senders”, who are strategic mobilizers, and trainers, who resource the “sent ones”. You might be a local “sent one” who helps plant local metachurches and makes them grow at the fringes, or you may be a cross-cultural “sent one” who goes and plants metachurches beyond the perimeter. In either case, you need pre-launch equipping and resourcing.

If your Christianity is limited to sitting in a church Sunday after Sunday, and your destination is sixfeet underground, then you will catch no fish there, nor will they teach you how to catch fish, because they themselves do not know “how to?.” Besides, they are more interested in making a hole in your wallet than in imparting soul-saving skills.

The joyful noise of the ninety-nine sheep in the church cannot make heaven rejoice, but a small still voice of God can do just that when whispered into the ears of a lost sheep (Luke 15:7, 10).

On an average, one shepherd is needed for a population of 1000. India with a population of over a billion, needs a million shepherds. In addition, to catch up with the birth rate, which increases by 50,000 a day, we need 50 or more shepherds every day. It costs at least \$1000 of foreign money per year to train one pastor in a seminary, who will graduate deluded that some church has to provide him with salary and perks for shepherding a non-replicating flock. Academic excellence provides ego strokes but no fruit.

This system trains charismatic fund raisers who frequently visit or even take up permanent residence abroad to raise ever-increasing amounts to sustain non-productive structures. At this rate, it would take forever to graduate enough shepherds to match our basic need. This shepherd-deficit could easily be met if just five percent of the millions

Christians decided to get their butts off the pew and disciple and equip just one shepherd every month.

Each learner's training should be linked to their productivity and measured by numbers of baptisms, of churches planted, of ethnic groups reached, etc., as it was in the New Testament times. Transformation of the city should be monitored and measured in terms of life-related changes in the community such as food on the plate, clean drinking water, access to quality health and education, wiping of tears from their eyes and the size of the smile on peoples' faces.

Be very cautious about your assumptions. Everyone has something to give, whether time, talent or resources. If you assume that the people are poor and cannot give anything, then you will leave them paupers, because God can only multiply what they give him. If they give nothing, then God cannot multiply anything.

The simple organic house church does not need money to be planted or to operate. To catch up with the needs of this nation, appropriate, relevant mentors have to be trained on-site with insight. This can only be done by setting up chains of bi-vocational mentors who earn enough both for their own living and for their ministries.

If as few as five percent of believers baptized only one seeker every month, and as few as five percent of the churches planted just one Meta church every month, then millions of baptisms would take place every year, and the earth would be filled with the glory of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Fortunately, there is a wind of change blowing and the content of training material and of teaching activity is being filtered through a Great Commission grid and a Kingdom framework (Hab. 2:14). Giving dialogue a chance, is the way forward for dealing with the lost in the world around us through worksite ministries.

Performance Evaluation

Assess performance on the basis of soul-winning skills (fruit bearing) rather than on oratorical skill (John 15:5). Not academic tags but past performance is the best predictor of future accomplishment. Yeshua,

Peter, John, even Paul, were “achievers” more than orators. Quality of worship, academic excellence, gadgetry, large crowds, big budgets, churning out increasing numbers of seminary graduates, fielding impressive numbers of missionaries; none of these is any longer an adequate benchmark of effectiveness in changing religious demographic landscapes.

Not increasing your workforce but optimizing their effectiveness is the way forward. Passion for finishing the task requires planning, execution, finance, training and guidance in order to accelerate and translate a local movement into a global movement.

The primary objective of teaching, training, coaching and mentoring is the embedding of Yeshua’s discipling DNA. The DNA of a dog will always reproduce a dog. The DNA of Yeshua, “Christ in you, the hope of glory for the Gentiles” will always reproduce “Christ- like disciples” (Col. 1:27).

Evaluation of apostolic ministries by non-apostolic, professional, management specialists is fraught with danger. Apostles are mavericks who think and act so differently that they do not fit well into man- made structures. Recall how Paul publicly rebuked Peter, and how Peter complained that Paul’s writings were hard to understand.

However, in God’s economy he gave them different action domains, so that they did not interfere with each other’s ministry. Even though external donors stand genuinely interested in best practices, they should not take the driver’s seat when asking for an evaluation, lest they end up controlling the ministry through dollars. Evaluations should not be open ended but conducted by peer-level leaders whose terms of reference should be clearly spelt out as to whether it will be a:

Financial audit – describing accounting practices.

Administrative analysis – describing management procedures

Leadership profile– describing decision making structures

Ministry performance – describing inputs and outcomes

Well-intended though misguided people, both nationals and expatriates, have, in the name of transparency and openness, destroyed ministries. Sometimes it is best to say with Yeshua: “You will recognize them by their fruits.”

It is always best to let Yeshua take the wheel and all of us enjoy the journey, finishing the race in glory (Matt. 7:20; 2 Cor. 14:32; Gal. 2:11-14; 2 Pet. 3:15-16).

Stability and sustainability, concepts related to finances and membership, are no longer buzz words. Remove the collection box and soon a ‘sustainable’ church will vanish, whereas an authentic church will not only survive but thrive as it did in China. It is not a ‘stable’ church’s members but migrant laborers who spread the gospel throughout the world. Mobility, flexibility and ‘multiplicatively’ remain the key drivers.

God will not give you 100,000 souls in a hurry, if you are sitting all dressed up at church with nowhere to go. You must, first, make an apostolic covenant to become a blessing to all the nations, then, build a credible apostolic infrastructure of competent fishers of men who are “disciple-makers, baptizers, equippers and senders.”

These must have the capacity to mature and multiply several generations of disciple-makers who bring forth thirty, sixty, hundred and even thousand-fold fruit that remains (Isa. 60:22). The larger the apostolic net of “skilled fishermen,” the bigger the catch.

The strategy that our Father has given to us promises: “The little one shall become one thousand.” All you and your disciples have to do is to diligently disciple just one person into the Kingdom every month, and you will become one thousand in ten months. If all the two billion Christians (Christ-bearers) of the world were mobilized for this, then the remaining four billion people of the globe could be evangelized within months if not weeks. More realistically, if 95% of Christians were considered dysfunctional, the remaining five percent could still bring back Christ to earth in our own generation (Isa. 60:22).

This is not mere semantics but urgent, for cataclysmic changes are taking place on earth moving towards a global economy, one-world government, pervasive new age philosophy, resurgent Islam, aggressive

Buddhism, vigorous Hinduism, liberated sexual and deviant behaviors as norms.

Money Multiplication

Even within the church, ecclesiastical financial crime, amounting to some \$32 billion annually, exceeds the \$29 billion income of foreign missions per year. All this, along with ominous galactic signs in the sky, points alarmingly to the near emergence of Antichrist, of the Beast and the apocalyptic end-time. It is important to get many more souls into Messiah's Kingdom, before the rapture happens, to protect them from the wrath of God and the brutal tribulation that will follow.

Wealth is not silver, gold, money in the bank, stocks or even property. The word wealth comes from old English weal (well-being) and with the suffix "th" indicating state, meaning "a state of well-being." God is not fixated only on your financial health, but he does want you to prosper in all things, including your health, soul and business (1 John 2; Psa. 67:2).

Borrowing money to buy happiness denies God an opportunity to provide miraculously an abundant life for you. Remember, money has no memory, experience does. You may not remember how much you spent on your education or honeymoon, but you will remember the experience.

However, before he fixes your finances, you may have to offer something that is very precious to you. By offering his son Isaac, Abraham became a friend of God. By offering her last morsel, the widow of Zarephath saw her oil and flour multiply. By relinquishing her gods and nationhood, Ruth became an ancestor of Yeshua. By pouring out her most expensive nard on Yeshua's feet, Mary a repentant sinner, became a symbol of hope to generations of fallen women. Through faith in Yeshua, we become eligible for all the blessings of Abraham, to be a blessing to others.

Do not expect the poor to say, Thank you, after you have given a small portion of your blessings. Instead you should say, Thank you, to the poor for giving you the opportunity to share from your abundance. In receiving, a poor man is temporarily enriched, but in giving, you become

eligible for a permanent reward. So you benefit more than the poor man does.

Christianity is not about charity; it is about biblical justice and salvation. Giving to charities for humanitarian causes does not earn you many merit points; only giving in the name of Yeshua, or of a prophet, or of a disciple, or giving a cup of cold water in the name of the least in the Kingdom, multiplies your blessings. The first commandment is to love the Lord and the second is to love your neighbor. Reversing that is a road to disaster.

A Jew was expected not to shorten his hands when a fellow Jew stretched out his hands in humiliating poverty, even on the brink of the Jubilee year when there was little hope of his recovering the loan (Gal. 3:14; Gen. 13:2; 24:35; Mark 9:41; Matt. 10:40-42).

Yeshua is not fixated on the rich or on the poor; he freely mixed with both (Luke 19:24-26). He became poor to make us "rich." He discouraged hoarding and the love of money which translate into greed, when like alcohol it begins to control us (Luke 12:19).

The early church members sold all their extra houses and lands (plural) and laid the proceeds at the apostles' feet (Acts 4:35). Salvation is not in the security of the four walls of a sanctuary but in the insecurity of going out and sharing the pain, the suffering and the rejection of others.

Singing, "We are standing on the promises of God," should be banned for those who are still sitting in the premises of the church." Secular giving to the poor is mere humanitarian work because it bears no lasting fruit. The tree of knowledge has the same roots for good and evil. If you plant good trees in your garden and do not take care, then overtime the evil weeds will overtake them. Secular humanism is all flesh and no spirit. The knowledge tree of good and evil is about relying on self- the flesh that will overtime bear evil fruit (Matt. 7:16-20).

You begin to operate from the tree of life when your flesh is sacrificed on another tree called the cross. Being a tree of life and doing good in the name of Yeshua ensures a 100% return on investment here on earth as well as treasures in heaven (Matt. 19:21, 29).

Yeshua said that the poor will always be with you. Currently, some 30,000 people die of starvation every day. Everyday, some thirteen million orphans worldwide silently suffer physical, emotional, verbal and sexual abuse out on the street or at home, having nowhere to turn for help. They not only need to be mothered and fathered but to be made disciples. Your success is to be measured by the size of the smile on their face.

A certain rich young fool was a model religious man who tithed and kept all the laws yet loved his wealth too much to follow Yeshua, so he perished.

Affluence plus ceremonial faith do not add up to salvation. If that rich man had done what Yeshua told him to do, he would have received a hundredfold more wealth than what he possessed, as well as eternal life. Like him, most Christians are hybrids who will not give up their comfort zones, so they practice tokenism to help the poor. God so loved the "world," not just the Christians in the church, so that "whosoever," which includes businessmen in the market place, may believe and follow Yeshua. When they do, the kingdom will go ballistic and explode all over.

The word 'perish' actually means 'to be lost' which implies a disconnect with God. Diligently observing ceremonial laws, like that rich young man did, leads to perishing which is the exact opposite of eternal life. All forms of preaching and teaching, especially oratory, prove worthless, unless they equip the saints for the work of the ministry, for the building up of the Body. Anything less is a biblically- illiterate church.

A healthy church gathers to minister to God and to each other, then sends out apostles, as did the church at Antioch did (Acts 13:1-3). Sharing the whole wisdom of God from house to house is the biblical way of practicing Body-life and finishing the task.

The tiger in you has to be un-caged from the church and empowered to prowl fearlessly in the jungles of the market place. Remember the power behind you is far greater than the task ahead.

There is a *pintele* (Hebrew for 'spark') inside every human being who yearns to connect with their Creator. All we have to do is to pour onto it some oil (Holy Spirit) and ignite it (Prov. 6:23). All are created in the

image of God, but have failed to honor him as God; instead, they have glorified four-footed animals, birds and creeping things. Changing them is our job. Not to do so would result in the wrath of God being revealed both to them and to us (Rom. 1:18-23).

Learn some biblical mantras for the demolition of mental strongholds:” Our weapons are not made of ironmongery but include the sword of the spirit...capable of demolishing demonic thoughts, ideas, ‘isms and ideologies.” (2 Corinthians 10:3-5) Fortunately today, thousands of professionals and business men are using their professions and businesses to partner with God to expand His business, and in the process are seeing their own spiritual and financial health flourish.

The church’s primary business is to coordinate between heaven and earth, removing her inconsistencies and contradictions. Secure your place in the Lamb’s Book of Life by setting spiritual goals and accomplishing them. Do not be deluded into thinking , “Once saved, always saved”. Let no one rob you of your crown by entrapping you in a faith-versus-works debate. Martin Luther started the confusion when he wrote, “The just shall be saved by faith alone”. He added the word ‘alone’ which is not scriptural. Be sympathetic to him, for he was fighting a war of attrition with the Catholics who believed in doing good works ‘alone’ (Rom. 1:17; 3:28; Gal. 2:16; Matt. 16:27).

In Yeshua’s theology, faith and works are not mutually exclusive but supplementary and complementary to each other. All the patriarchs and all the apostles had faith that they demonstrated through works. Yeshua came to do the works of His father, and we are called to be fishers of men, witnesses, ambassadors, fruitbearers, crossbearers, harvesters, shepherds and laborers in his vineyard; and those are all works of faith. Coming into faith is to be birthed into the kingdom, whereas translating that faith into action takes work.

Let every believer heed the command:

“Commit your work [*maaseh*] to the LORD, and your plans will be established” (Pro. 16:3).

The Hebrew word for work here (*maaseh*) can mean “action, transaction, activity, product, property, possession, business, ” etc. As

our benchmark, whatever we do must withstand the scrutiny of God and glorify Him.

The Greek word for economics (*oikonomia*) can mean “management of a household.” If we manage our households biblically, then we will not be subject to consumerism, market manipulation and meltdown orchestrated by the god Mammon. Rather the economy will be Kingdomized which means that there will be more honesty, transparency, moral integrity and equitable distribution of resources. Sadly, many church leaders, fueled by greed, indulge in sinful practices thereby becoming idolaters, worshipping the god of wealth and, worse still, creating followers in their own image and in their own likeness.

Churches must battle against their rot within, restoring biblical integrity and thereby redefining the world economic order, and assuring an abundant life for all. “Any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:33).

An encounter with Yeshua transformed Zacchaeus who then redistributed his wealth. Zacchaeus became a true disciple of Christ on the day he transferred the ownership of his wealth after asking the Lord, “What shall I do with your money.” As believers transfer their property deeds to the Master, the real owner, and open their homes for apostolic ministry, the house-to-house movement has the potential to become the epicenter of changing into equitable global economics. (1 Tim. 3:3-5; 1 John 1:2, 4; John 10:10).

As it is, some five percent of families own 90% of the wealth of the nations, while we all work for them. This is because they know how to make the money work for them. Even though we are called to be the head and not the tail, and to lend to the nations, Christians remain the tail, because the church does not teach sound biblical financial principles other than teaching ad nauseam and ad infinitum on tithing from Malachi 3:10-11. The whole world is the stakeholder to whom the church is accountable.

God owns it all and we are called to be His wealth managers, so that there is an equitable distribution to all. The word “steward” means manager or supervisor. We are never owners; the Master is the only

owner. We are just managers of whatever wealth or possessions he gives us the power to earn and manage (1 Chron. 29:11-12).

“And you might not say in your heart that the power and the might of my hands have gotten this wealth; for it is Lord your God who gives you the power to get wealth, so that He may fulfill the covenant which He made with your forefather” (Deut. 8:17-18).

All believers are blessed to be a blessing to all the nations of the earth, just like our forefather Abraham was blessed (Gen. 12:3). We are not called to manage only the tithe but the 100% for “the earth is the Lord’s and everything it contains” (Psa. 24:1).

This includes all our possessions, our house and everything inside it and outside it, our vehicle, our bank account, etc. Since all wealth belongs to the Lord and we are only stewards, we simply do not have the right to spend it as we would like. Rather we remain accountable to the Master for the use of everything in our possession.

Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw—each one’s work will become manifest, for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed by fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done (1 Cor. 3:12-13).

Many businessmen work extremely hard, from early morning till late at night, building their business. Yet, if you take no time out for God in your workplace or for your family at home, then you can look forward to your business and family being liquidated. Scripture says, “It is in vain that you rise up early and go late to rest, eating the bread of anxious toil; for he gives to his beloved sleep” (Psa. 127:2).

There is no such thing as a successful, self-made businessman, which is egotistical. All good gifts come from above. Paul exhorts us to offer up our bodies as reasonable sacrifice (Rom. 12:1-2). However, without the baptism of our wallet, the covenant is incomplete. Otherwise, we will end up leading a ten percent godly life and a 90% ungodly life with unbaptized money.

“Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to

give strength to all” (1 Chron. 29:12). You cannot be the owner of your assets and business and, at the same time, be a disciple of Christ (Luke 14:33). Only when we recognize that all our wealth belongs to him, will we be able to make apostolic investments without wasting it to buy happiness (Gal. 6:8). Of Yeshua’s 38 parables, 16 relate to money. Yeshua says that no one can serve two masters, and that is the truth (Matt. 6:24).

So when you choose to say that God has no role to play in how you manage your money, you are choosing to be a borrower and not a lender, the tail and not the head. Do not minimize the value of managing your money biblically, for it can make or mar your relationships with God, with your family and with the world. One of the biggest factors leading to divorce is financial tension in the family.

Millions entering house churches are ravaged by poverty and its devastating consequences. It is not governments, multinationals or the rich that will change the financial profile of the world, for they are part of the problem and not of the solution. They are the creators of economic disparity that leads to poverty and slums and shanty towns which stand as vulgar monuments of their contribution.

Billions of dollars have been wasted in constructing and maintaining unscriptural church buildings, in glitzy, manipulative, media evangelism and dishing out toothless paper degrees. None of these tags provide entry into heaven. All this wealth could have been used for advancing the kingdom by training skilled fishers of men, ameliorating poverty, and in meeting the needs of the 10/40 Window countries. Remember there will be no shanty towns in the New Jerusalem (Acts 20:33-35).

Who Runs the Market, Anyway?

Obviously, it is the Devil who occupies the driver’s seat. The stock market is a gambling casino, an economic WMD (weapon of mass destruction). It is the best place to become a millionaire of dollars and a moral bankrupt. Of the 40 miracles in the Book of Acts, 39 took place in the market place.

However, the traditional church has left the market place to be seduced and ruled over by the Devil who had the audacity to tell Yeshua,

“The glory and the splendor of the market place belongs to me.” John affirmed this when he said that: “the whole world lies in the power of the evil one” (Luke 4:5-6; Matt. 4:8, 9; 1 John 5:19).

Now, God did not choose you just to be worker living from paycheck to paycheck. Rather, he died to make you priests and kings to reign on earth, including the market place (Rev. 5:9-10). “You shall lend unto many nations but you shall not borrow; and you shall reign over many nations, but they shall not reign over you” (Deut 15:6). Without controlling money you cannot reign on earth. As a king you are never just an employee; but always the owner with responsibility to govern, harness finance, communicate, educate and to ensure health and security for your people. Kings have a conquering mentality and they are always trying to find ways to expand their kingdom and influence. Christianity is all about shifting from being a nobody to being a shepherd-king in your God given domain.

To finish the task, many of our deeply held assumptions about lack of power, finance, staff, influence and authority must be challenged and a royal-priesthood mentality instilled. Stay away from those who habitually sing: “It can’t be done; we don’t have the money for it.” Such nay sayers never get anything done. Avoid those who are going nowhere, because that is where they will want to take you.

Peter and John started their ministry with, “Silver and gold have we none but such as we have, in the name of Yeshua...” The church needs go-getters who believe in the God of the impossible: “Who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we can ask or think according to the power that works in us” (Eph. 3:20;).

Doing Business with God

Combining business with ministry is not a new idea. It was there all the time. The goods, services and the clients are constantly changing in the market place. Only those who are constantly innovating, survive; the traditional ones, even the top Fortune companies invariably fall off the chart. Hence all Christian businesses must be evaluated not on traditions but from eternal perspective. What you do in your domain will last for eternity. You have a choice to be rich towards God or being a rich fool. If

you do not take possession of your domain just remember, “The Most High rules in the kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever He likes” (Dan. 4:25).

The market place is one of the last frontiers controlled by the devil through which he controls the nations, and his stronghold must be broken. For this we need to pray, “Thy kingdom come and thy will be done in the market place.” Paul says, “I die daily.” Since no one can serve two masters, our agendas and priorities must die daily, while establishing the kingdom must supersede all our other priorities. Only then will we be able to declare: “The kingdom of God has come upon you” (Matt. 6:24; 12:28; 1 Cor. 15:31).

A pastor on the pulpit is in the wrong place saying the right things to the wrong people. An entrepreneur should be up there, and tell all those professionals or a businessmen to get their butts off the pews and go back to the market place and deliver both quality goods and services as well as salvation to the lost. This does not mean that you should not gather. Of course you should take a Sabbath rest from all your work, but not around a pulpit but around a *benshem*, a Jewish dining table which acted as a family altar, where you can break bread and open your heart. Your accountability, transparency and openness with peers will open up hearts and minds of non-believers, who will never have an opportunity to hear the gospel otherwise. They will then go and multiply *benshems* all over the city.

If God has called to you to be a workplace apostle then do not aspire to be a pastor in your spare time. He is a full time Lord and not a spare time God. Combining business with ministry requires team work, so take God with you just like, Yeshua told his disciples to go two by two wherever he was to go. Luke 10:1, 2

Although the taking of usury for loans made to a needy fellow Jew was strictly forbidden in the Torah (Deut. 23:19-20), *heter iska*, entering into a relationship or a partnership for profit sharing was not. Yeshua told the story of a rich man who entrusted some money to his servants with which to gain a profit: “Do business till I come.”

The Greek word *pragmateuomai* can mean “to occupy, trade, barter, ” or literally, “do the work of a banker” (Luke 19:13). Upon the rich man’s return, there was accountability. Suitable rewards were given to performers and punishment to a non-performer. Invested capital still belongs to its original owner (Deut. 8:17-18).

The poor shall not cease from the land, until sound, biblical principles are applied in the market place (Deut. 15:7-11). The reality is that God wants us to manage profitably the five or two or one talents that he has entrusted to us, before he will give us a million dollars or a million souls, making us ruler over ten cities. First, we have to acknowledge that it is he who owns it all, then make a firm decision to demonstrate it in practical terms in our daily living. When we get our house, car, job, Credit card or whatever, we have to ask Him, the owner, how best to use the facility in order to multiply His name.

These multiplicative principles apply to becoming a financial millionaire as much as to winning a million souls. Your financial million should enable you to be a blessing to all the nations of the earth, and make you a millionaire of souls (Luke 16:10-12; 19:11, 27; Gen. 12:3).

Actually the divine mathematics starts with just one, “The least one will become a thousand and the smallest one a mighty nation” (Isaiah 60:22). If every disciple made just one more disciple every month, then in ten months there will be a thousand disciples and they will become a mighty nation.

However divine math is more than just addition, the first step (Acts 2:47), you must aim to graduate to multiplicative and exponential stages (Acts 6:1, 7; 16:5). All you need is faith the size of a mustard seed and the Lord can make it grow into a tree so big that the birds can come and nest there. The Lord’s mathematical table operates differently, for it carries faith’s limitless checkbook with it.

The Hebrew word *mitzva* means both “command” and “connection.” The Great Commission, is a profit sharing partnership, a mitzva between the Master and us. One of the crucial questions that God will ask us in our final audit is, “What did you do with what I gave you?” Your answer will have eternal consequences.

The capital that he has invested in us includes our abilities, talents, education, skills, influence, house, job and many other resources, that are to maximize revenue and profits through glorifying him by making abundant disciples in the place of business. (John 15:8)

Working only for a monthly paycheck reduces you to a mere hireling who is clueless about the big picture and therefore clawless in the secular world. God has anointed members in the Body to be successful in the market place. Whether we end up as rulers of cities or be condemned to outer darkness depends very much on how profitable we are to the Master.

The stock market logo represents a huge, snorting bull, the golden calf that nearly destroyed all Israel in the wilderness (Exo. 32:20). It is time to take the bull by the horns and capture the market and work places, such that the money and resources can be taken from the unjust and given to the just.



“The first came before him, saying, ‘Lord, your mina has made ten minas more.’ And he said to him, ‘Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities’” (Luke 19:16-17). Money multiplication is a key to disciple multiplication and to taking over cities and nations because only then you will not borrow but lend to the nations and rule over them.

God said, “If you obey my commandments then you shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow, and you shall rule over many nations, but they shall not rule over you” (Deut. 15:5-6).

Money power and ruling power go hand in hand. God told Daniel that he does not want his people to be ruled by heathen. Daniel became both rich and the de facto ruler of Babylon (Dan. 2:44).

Since most traditional churches are money and resource guzzlers, there must be tight monitoring to see that the bulk of the money gets invested, and stays invested in apostolic ministries and not on budget-guzzling church programs that take the Kingdom nowhere.

Market and Work place Apostles

Apostolos means “sent one” and market place apostles are a special breed of boundary breakers who go restructure mindscapes, economies and businesses. They impose Kingdom values and ethics while helping the local believers to possess their domains to finish the task. No point in being born again and being broke.

Apostles break generational curses of poverty, restoring abundant life which is more than having your needs met. Since most of us are involved one way or the other, buying, selling or working in the market place, we have to understand its demonic dynamics and to demolish them. Yeshua came to demolish the works of the Devil (1 John 5:8). Binding the strongman, plundering his possessions, must be in our trajectory. Then, spraying financial bullets at the apostles till they finish their agenda of making disciple of all nations (Matt. 12:29).

It is not how you project yourself from the outside but how you conduct your business and impact your staff, clients, vendors and colleagues, defines who you are. Through biblical principles of money multiplication, wealth management and job creation, new believers are turning into entrepreneurs, which is giving them abundant life and also making them rulers over several cities (Luke 19:11-27).

If all the silver and gold belongs to our Father and he has given it to us, the heirs of his Kingdom, then we should make every attempt to take it back from Lucifer the looter, without feeling any remorse. Lucifer is not

stupid, he does not ask for a blank check from you. He is a deceiver who employs subtle ways of getting at your bank account, just like he got to Eve in the Garden. He did not ask Adam to eat the forbidden fruit, for Adam would have never done so; rather he waited for a weak moment and deceived her.

Every time you have an urge to go buy something, check it out first with the owner (God), for you are not the owner but only a steward of your bank account. In any case, whatever you buy does not belong to you, the steward, but to the owner. You are a temple of the living God, and everything that comes to you is for multiplying temples of God like you: “The earth is mine... and all the silver and gold is mine... and all the cattle on the thousand hills are mine; says the Lord. The heaven and the highest heaven belong to the Lord but the earth He has given to us” (Exo. 19:5; Hag. 2:8; Ecc. 10:19; Psa. 50:10; 115:16).

Subduing the earth includes subduing its wealth, harnessing it for Kingdom expansion. Every one, rich or poor, religious or robber (they often go together), beggar or prostitute, everyone out there is busy making money. Some are successful while others fail. The Scripture says, “Money answers everything” (Eccl. 10:19). If that is so, then the church must teach not only tithing but also sound biblical money management. Not doing so either by design or by negligence, the effect is equally devastating on home economics, which then snowballs into a global economic holocaust, as happened recently.

Apostolic finances generated by future house churches will prove economic powerhouses fueling spiritual, social, political, environmental and economic revolutions. Multiplication of disciples leads to money multiplication. The church must change from an economic tail into an economic head (Deut. 28:12-13). Though making money through ministry is out, making ministry through money has always been in. The prosperity culture with its selfish, self-seeking motives has been exposed as having a demonic connivance. Acquiring filthy lucre is not the goal, but acquiring abundant fruit through our own resourcefulness sets the agenda (Deut. 8:17-18).

Donor Agencies

Donors are increasingly leveraging outcome-oriented ministries rather than traditional, activity-intensive ministries. This is rapidly expanding the Kingdom. Short-term funding, however, leads to donor-hopping by mission leaders, which takes their prime time away from their mission field. Asking zillions of questions, in the name of reporting, after laying gifts at the Apostle's feet, has no biblical warrant and reveals a controlling spirit that lacks trust. Employing poor evangelists to finish the task is degrading them to mere hired workers. It is not partnership but outsourcing and exploitation. On the other hand, leaving a trail of easy dollars has destroyed many ministries.

However, there is an encouraging sign of a greater openness among donors who are increasingly getting together, consulting each other and prioritizing ministries. This has its own inherent dangers as falling foul of one donor or their consultant can put you out of the loop with all the other donors with no recourse. Sadly, because over 97% of donor funding is still largely focused on already evangelized populations, the unevangelized world keeps on growing.

Beware also of unethical fundraising, especially by big time evangelists who make a very emotional appeal, asking you to reach for your check book right now as the holy anointed moment to receive supernatural blessings in return. They may tell you that the salvation of millions is just one donation away, through their particular brand of evangelism. This is day light robbery of guilt-ridden, gullible Christians who readily pay for going to heaven without having to repent or change their character.

Also beware of unethical micro-credit enterprises that get their money as donations or at very low interest rates, and then lend it at high rates, to the not-so-poor. Many have no discipleship goals, so the kingdom does not expand. Working through house churches or through some other mission outreach, such as literacy programs, would greatly enhance the impact of these agencies.

Recommended, core, focus areas requiring major funding for world evangelization Include the following:

Apostolization of finances, that is, shifting from spending on non-productive preaching, evangelism and church maintenance to major investment in productive performers who expand the Kingdom.

Contextualized training of multiple levels of leadership, especially church planters and holistic development advocates, providing them with necessary tools and transport. Learners' competence should be assessed on the basis of their ability to transform gospel-deficit areas. Like the school of Tyrannus, self-supporting workers should be able to change the religious demography in just two years.

Basic research and monitoring to avoid haphazard evangelism while perusing proactive, informed strategies. Assess the productivity of an organization's programs in terms of both quality and quantity of disciples made, baptized, equipped, and sent out. Define indicators for a social audit of holistic city transformation. Although God operates systematically, those born of the Spirit often do not: "Like the wind, they blow where they wish and no one knows where they come from and where they go." So be prepared for surprises (John 3:8).

A seamless transition from dependence on foreign funding to raising resources from the harvest field must become our strategic priority. Remember it is the micro-sponsors of the micro-projects for micro-gardens who have the potential to restore the planet earth into the Garden of Eden, in our generation.

Cultural Indigenization

The East is not lagging behind in exporting its culture to the West. There are now some 15 million Americans attending Yoga classes, often in church buildings, spending seven billion dollars every year on yogic gear and yogis. Yoga means "union." Hindu Yoga teaches you to control your breath and empty your mind.

While it cannot connect you to God, who breathed the breath of life in you and made you a living soul, Yoga can connect you with a breathless, empty-minded spirit of death. In fact, there is an asana or posture called the shavasna "corpse yoga" whereby you play dead. You do not have to go to a witch to become a sorcerer, Yoga will lead you there just fine.

The Christian Yoga or union is just the opposite and positive, “You in me and I in you and they in me ... that they may be made perfect,” that is union with Christ (John 17:21, 23).

There is a huge tension between Westernized Christianity and indigenous, eastern, cultural expressions of ecclesia. There has been a brutal, cultural invasion from the West, colonizing the indigenous church; “If you do not worship the way we do, then you are not really a Christian.” Cultural imperialism has done enormous damage to the indigenous church movement in many countries.

Modern Christianity is another name for Western sub-culture and has to be dealt with, just as the apostles and elders had to face off with Judaizers and circumcisers in the New Testament times. It is not necessary to be called “Christian” and attend a church in order to connect with God. Hindu, Buddhist and Muslim followers of Christ will be in heaven while still maintaining their cultural identity (Rev. 7:9).

Billy Graham, the greatest evangelist of our times, preached to well over 200 million, collecting response cards from over 2.87 million of them whom he referred back to existing churches. This made Billy Graham extremely popular with the churches but left him with little lasting fruit. Within a year, only a fraction remained in the church. The reason was that they were lectured to but never disciplined.

Churching does not make anyone a disciple; discipling does, which is a different ball game from listening to anointed sermons. Disciples are made one on one or in small group interactive dynamics in a house church context. Making disciples who make disciples is Yeshua’s command. Timothy got so entangled in shepherding a local church that Paul had to write to him to remind him to get back and restart a multi-generational leadership training chain (2 Tim. 2:1-4).

Every Sunday, the traditional church makes huge promises but then under-delivers the rest of the week because it is so entangled in its own affairs. Our goal must be to incarnate Yeshua Messiah in human hearts within their own heart language and cultural context. Reaching the unreached requires a completely different syntax than what is spoken from pulpits and in Christian circles.

Institutionalized Christianity dismantles new believers' culturo-socio-economic moorings. To precipitate exponential growth among the Jews, Paul circumcised Timothy in broad day light. That act, along with the apostles' letter accepting Gentiles who stay in their own culture, created an environment in which "the churches were strengthened in faith and grew in numbers daily" (Acts 16:1-5).

In a very Jewish manner, Paul also kept an oath and shaved his head (Acts 18:18). Worse still, he went to offer an animal sacrifice at the temple (Acts 21:26). None of these acts would ever slide across the palate of orthodox Christians, yet Paul the apostle did all these strange things to make disciples (1 Cor. 9:19-22).

Culture is a powerful gospel tool that Paul used to the hilt. Today's Christianity, especially worship service, unambiguously portrays a western subculture that outsiders identify it as such. Biblical Christianity is not a western subculture but a counter culture that challenges the world's values and standards. People want Yeshua Messiah without having to pollute their own cultural identity.

It is not how many people of different cultures come to your church that will penetrate their communities but how well you are equipping them to love Christ within their own subcultures. To stimulate both qualitative and quantitative growth, circumcise (debug) your spiritual vocabulary in order to redeem other cultures in which people express their spirituality, morality and identity.

Effective evangelists are increasingly building bridges that reach those of other faiths by finding their "hidden treasure," making known to them their "Unknown God," just as Paul did in Athens. It was not Paul who took Christ to Athens; for Christ was already there in their sacred texts, poems, stories and culture. This is not to give an unqualified endorsement to heathen literature - it is still heathen - yet it is amazing how much of it in sync with the gospel that can be profitably used as bridges.

By all accounts, Paul proved a failure in Athens, performing neither miracles nor baptisms. Yet he sowed the seed which, in due course of time, made Athens the capital of eastern Christendom. Similarly, the

present-day pool of influential crypto believers will keep swelling until it goes critical and explodes.

Best Practices

Yeshua initially taught his disciples to launch out into the deep and catch a boat load of small fish. Later he upgraded their skills to cast the net in the shallow waters. This time He did not say launch out into the deep, yet they caught 153 great big fish (Luke 5:4; John 21:6). The big fish included a Governor of Cyprus, a Treasurer of Ethiopia, a Roman Centurion (Cornelius), a multinational business woman (Lydia, a seller of purple) and a very influential Phoebe.

Early in the history of the Christian movement, the simple gathering (assembly or congregation) was renamed “church” after the Greek sorceress Circe. Also called Kirke, who carried in her hand a golden cup filled with wine of fornication that transformed her gullible devotees into pigs (Rev. 17:1-6).

Not surprisingly, church practices like buildings, clergy, Sunday services, sermons, music, ritualized sacraments, tithing, hierarchy, programs, Christmas turkey, Easter eggs, Friday fish, ad nauseam, that is, institutionalized merchandizing of faith for exploitation of the gullible. The principalities and powers and rulers of darkness, and the deluding Circe, must be unmasked and busted.

Church growth, the dream of every cleric has now shifted into Kingdom multiplication. The biggest battle that is to be fought is not with the Islamic terrorists, which is, admittedly, huge, but in “setting the captives free” from bondage to the church, so that they can go and change the Islamic world. Invite your church to advance from the simple arithmetic of growth to the divine mathematics of multiplication (2 Tim. 2:2).

Healthy growth at the fringes and fruitful multiplication beyond the fringes that result in Metachurches will commence as soon as the clergy are freed up and the laymen are reactivated. The secular world cannot change until the somnolent “laymen” suffering from grasshopper syndrome, take their backsides off their pews and tell Lucifer to do a vanishing trick from your God-given inheritance, wealth and property. For

we are Kingfishers to our friends, neighbors, colleagues and clients in our neighborhood, worksites and businesses.

Kingdomization of the secular world is the way forward to make the Kingdoms of this world to be the Kingdoms of our Lord and his Messiah (Rev. 15:11). We must stir up our own charismata and cooperate with God rather than asking him to cooperate with our programs. Stop serving God as His adviser (2 Tim. 1:6).

The Noachian Code

At the Jerusalem Council, the Apostles and the Elders imposed only four laws: to abstain from idolatry, fornication, strangled meat and drinking of blood. They did not impose church buildings, pastors, Sunday worship, tithing or programs. Later on, neither Peter, John, James nor Paul even remotely suggested any of these artificially- manipulated, genetically-modified laws to the Gentile churches.

The Jews had formulated seven laws from Genesis 9:4-7 (compare Acts 15:20), sometimes called the Noachian Code, which includes the Adamic Mandate. These prohibit idolatry, murder, theft, sexual immorality, blasphemy, and eating flesh with blood in it, and require just laws.

The apostles reiterated four of these here. These are eternal laws, signed by God and sealed with his rainbow, binding on all B'nai Noach (the children of Noah) , which includes all mankind, living creatures and the earth, for all times. God Himself has taken this covenant seriously and wrapped His Throne in heaven with the same rainbow (Rev. 4:3). Noahic covenant will be in force, "While the earth remains, seed time and harvest, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Gen. 8:22).

Abraham and his ancestors followed this code until his circumcision. Noah's ark had room for both the clean and the unclean creatures but finally only the clean creatures were offered as sacrifice. It is important for us to remember that our business/worksite is an altar for sanctifying unclean sinners and offering them as living sacrifice. If we do not do it then the Devil is using it as his altar anyway.

On 20th March 1990, U.S. President George Bush signed a historic joint resolution of both Houses of Congress, recognizing the seven Noachian laws as the “bedrock of society from the dawn of civilization,” urging everyone to “return the world to the moral and ethical values contained in the seven Noachian Laws.” All the nations need to practice them.

The Torah revealed 613 precepts called the Mosaic Law (mitzvah) specifically for Israel. These include the Ten Commandments. Messianic Jews continued to observe most of the Mosaic Law, including the offering of animal sacrifices (Acts 21:21-26; 24:13- 18), until the destruction of Jerusalem by the Roman general Titus in AD 70. Roman general Hadrian in AD 135 barred Jews from entry into Jerusalem for a hundred years, following a revolt by Bar Kochba that the Romans crushed. Scattered in Diaspora for over 1800 years, without a temple and priests, Judaism has never been the same.

This does not mean that the entire Old Testament was abrogated; it remains the Word of God. Its laws were made by a perfect God so they must be perfect and good for mankind. Even Yeshua subscribed to them. However, we Christian believers relate to God by grace and not through ceremonial Laws. Even so, to be under the grace does not mean lawlessness, for God has now written the New Covenant in our hearts (Jer. 31:31), and we lovingly obey the commandments of our Lord Yeshua Messiah. John 14:15

The persecuted Messianic Jews went into hiding, opted for small modules and multiplied. This made a full circle back to the portable sanctuary called the tabernacle in the wilderness. The Feast of the booths was one of three mandatory feasts for all Israel, along with Passover and Pentecost. All three constituted the pilgrim feasts, harvest feasts, times of rejoicing. The feast of Booths will remain mandatory even in the new Kingdom of Yeshua, the King of kings. Decorating the booth with farm produce and especially palm branches is important part of the celebration, for palm trees represent fruitfulness even in desert conditions.

Those in Christ are the seed of Abraham, so all Christians should be celebrating feasts, not hesitating to flaunt your spiritual harvest. All

nations, tongues and tribes, who will be wearing white gowns and standing before the Throne, singing praises, will also be carrying palm branches as a sign and evidence that they have been fruiting wherever they were placed (Zech. 14:16; Rev. 7:9-10; Gal. 3:29; Luke 21:24).

God told Moses to tell Pharaoh, "Let my people go, that they may make a sacrifice unto Me and celebrate a feast." (Exodus 5:1; 8:8). Our Father loves for us to celebrate his feasts with rejoicing. It is not a mere cerebral exercise but enjoying His fellowship. Nowadays, as we break bread from house to house, we celebrate Him.

The blueprint for the house church in a Gentile setting with a global mandate was prophesied in Malachi, the closing Book of the Old Testament,

"From the rising of the sun to its setting, My name will be great among the Gentiles, and in every place incense will be offered to My name, and a pure offering. For My name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts" (Mal. 1:11).

The physical sanctuary is changing, from the church buildings to Gentile homes. Likewise, the timing is changing from that of Sunday services to that of: "From the rising of the sun to the going down of the same."

Prayers are changing from saying "bless me" to the burning of incense (intercession) for the nations that reaches the Throne of God. The fruit of our lips is changing from feigned worship to the offering of pure, baptized, sanctified (free from sin) Gentiles, the fruit of our labor.

Whilst the Lord's sanctum sanctorum (Holy of Holies) lies within our hearts, whether we like it or not, the Lord is already shifting his physical sanctuary into Gentile homes, into market places, even into Muslim mosques, Buddhist temples and Hindu shrines. When Yeshua said at the last supper that one of them would betray him, his disciples did not accuse each other but honestly asked, "Lord, is it I?" Stop finding faults with your situation and circumstances, and evaluate your church against the Lord's benchmark which is the fulfillment of his Great Commission Mandate (Matt. 26:22).

It is in the work place that your faith collides with reality. The market is a tough nut to crack, having an aggressive culture of haggling and bargaining for the best deal. It is easy to sermonize but tough to melt sinful hearts as Peter's exhortation did, when listeners were pricked in their heart and cried, "What shall we do?" If the church wants to become a beacon of light to the lost in the market, it must crack open its own defensive hard shell and become vulnerable as a coherent debating and haggling enterprise as was practiced by our Lord Yeshua in the streets and homes of Palestine (Acts 2:37).

Paul reasoned and disputed with the Jews in their synagogues, not about God but about the Son of God; but with God-fearing proselytes, not about the Mosaic laws but about the Noahide laws; and with the Gentiles in the market place at his tent-making shop, not from Jewish scriptures but from their own religious texts about salvation within their own cultural context. Ten years down the line as the top apostle, Peter and many other Jewish leaders, including James, the Lord's brother, pastor of the Jerusalem church, shockingly still lived in a state of denial as far as the Gentile issue was concerned (Acts 21:21-24; Gal. 2:11-14).

The Lord had to tell Peter three times to go to the house of Cornelius, a God-fearing Gentile, before he relented. Even there, he was ranting about the Jewish customs when the Holy Spirit, in desperation, took over from him. It was the circumcised who got the shock of their lives when they saw Gentiles filled with the Holy Spirit. We can sympathize with Peter, because, after his return to Jerusalem, he was court-marshaled by the hard-core, bigoted, Messianic Jews, not for converting Captain Cornelius and a hundred soldiers under his command but for eating with Gentiles (Acts 10:28; 11:3-4). This strategy of breaking of bread from house to house sent the gospel careening down the streets of the market places of every nation under the sun (Acts 17:17; 19:8-12).

1 Corinthians 14:24-32 describes a functioning New Testament model of a growing, multiplying, participatory church. Each one has a song, a revelation, a teaching, a tongue, an interpretation, a dream, a vision or a testimony. Everything is done in an orderly manner, so that the church is edified, with unbelievers repenting and joining the church.

Speaking in tongues here was not the noisy, Pentecostal version with lots of fire and no substance. There were often visitors from other countries who spoke a different language, so an interpreter was required. Even in regular synagogues, there was a post called meturganim, an interpreter skilled in languages. When a foreigner would speak into his ear, the interpreter would shout out the meaning to the audience, which sometimes reached outside the building. Yeshua alluded to this when he said, “What you hear in the ear, proclaim it from the housetops” (Matt. 10:27).

Train Demon Busters

Training done in well-crafted, modular courses and in short, sharp, intensive, ongoing, repetitive workshops oriented to best practices, ensure that everyone gets the hang of doing skills. The well crafted glamorized, formal systematic, linear, but toothless and fruitless seminary training, is being replaced with live, “menu-based, ” interactive, real time, customized training, delivered on site, converting grasshoppers into powerpacked high velocity demon busters.

The absolute minimum that anyone with a Christian label must do is to go out and make a small difference in the world they live in, as a fitting tribute to Messiah. Loving our neighbor is a good start, especially if we do not like him, for it is not you, but Christ in us, that compels us to love him.

It takes four years of seminary education to produce an orator and Eucharist dispenser with tithe-gathering skills and a vision to fill the pulpit and the pews. This training does little to expand the Kingdom, for it is designed for maintenance. Judging by its attrition rate, even that is a failure. Status quo mentality is dangerous, as it blinds you to the next move of God.

On the other hand, Yeshua’s style of disciple-making apprenticeship in the field imparts vocational skills that cannot be acquired by reading books. Therefore, intellectual training in classrooms remains a case of irrelevance, due to its misdirected effort and lost purpose. “As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you” into the world (John 17:18)

As a time warp, if a teacher from the 18th century were brought to a classroom today, with a blackboard and passive students seated in rows, conditioned to “listen, copy and reproduce at the examination,” he would have no difficulty in adjusting.

The reality is that an average young child, reared in his home, lives in an interactive, digital world that makes him creative.

How pathetic are the environment (classroom), method (passive learning), content (irrelevant, divorced from reality) and communication (no feedback loop to know if the students implement or not)! All these are designed to kill students’ creative entrepreneurship that God gives to every individual. Putting a few computers here and there proves only cosmetic; the whole system has to change.

A twelve year old boy was sitting in a traditional church on a Sunday morning, when a Hindu fanatic barged into the church, went straight up front, and shouted that his gods were greater and more powerful than their God Jesus. He challenged them to an open dialogue with him. As expected, none of 200 or so Christians took up the challenge. Rather, a couple of musclemen got up and bounced him out of the church. This incident left a deep impression on the young boy who started studying the Hindu literature and is today challenging and convicting high-level Hindus into the Kingdom. Sadly, he has been thrown out of his organization for using pagan texts as a bridge and for associating with heathen instead of going to church on Sundays like a good Christian should.

Sermonizing from behind a pulpit is a snap. Training demon busters who break up dens of shady wheelers and dealers is a different ball game. “Whoever shall do and teach them (God’s laws), the same shall be called great in the Kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 5:19).

Theological training should result in trainees being sent out to bust up the dark, dingy world that sinister deities control, rather than into a sanitized, institutional church — “that every mouth may be stopped and all the world may become guilty before God” (Rom. 3:19).

Instead of rocking between academic and vocational training, our theological institutions ought to do some introspection and choose which

tree they want to climb, the tree of knowledge of good and evil which leads to death, or the tree of life which leads to eternal life. There are no twilight zones. A tree of life must bear new fruit every month and even its leaves must heal the nations.

The challenge is not to “fill the church” but “fill the earth” with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea (Hab. 2:14). “Who is deaf and blind ... as my servants and messengers?” (Isa. 49:19; Matt. 15:14).

Helen Keller, left blind, deaf and mute and a physical and emotional wreck by disease at the age of 19 months would have died a raging vegetable, but for Ann Sullivan, a teacher who decided to invest her life in training Helen and changed her into a champion communicator. In the same manner, the church must invest herself in her own handicapped members till they become robust communicators of their faith.

The greatest crisis facing church growth, disciple multiplication and expansion of the Kingdom is the pervasive “skills deficit”, the lack of ability to disciple the nations on site. It matters little how anointed your leader is or how biblically based your organization seems, if you do not know how to convict atheists, Hindus, Muslims, Buddhists and other lost people to become followers of Yeshua Messiah. Church has to change from a sermon-flavored, cosmetic institution into a robust, capacity-building movement. Without real-world application, our knowledge and training are as useful as teats on a bore hog.

The New wine is increasingly gathering in new wineskins, which not only look radically different but behave and function differently. It would be a foolish army general who planned a prolonged war on a long-term basis. Quick victory must be his objective. Yeshua Messiah commanded us to reap the harvest now, not four months later (John 4:35). Praise God that the church is becoming more relational (a household of God) and fruitful, while its vertical hierarchy is giving way to horizontal empowerment. The Bible needs to be studied not only for vertical relationship, but to see its teachings gravitate horizontally into the secular world and invest quality time with new disciples.

The organic House church brings, not only a shift of venue from pews to sofas, but is a nodal agency for replicating the Garden-of- Eden model all over the earth. Like the Hall of Tyrannus, the house church is becoming the focal point for trumpeting the gospel all over and going global. *Tyrannus* means a tyrant or a ruling prince. A tyrant was not a hereditary prince but a self-appointed one. Tyrant does not always mean a despot practicing tyranny; It simply refers to someone who dethrones an existing king , taking up his reins (Acts 19:9-10).

We need a minimum of organization and a maximum of organism. Leadership is not about controlling but about influencing and being productive. A Christian who exalts God but is not equipped to bust the kingdom of the ruler of darkness and declare Yeshua the ruling King of his God given domain, needs urgent help.

Women

In the Old Testament names of the women are rarely mentioned. These include the wives of Seth, Job, Noah, Ham, Shem, Japheth, Aaron, Moses' foster mother, Lot, Potipher and so on. How different in the New Testament! Mary of Magdala, a mystery woman who became an apostle to the apostles by carrying the good news of Yeshua's resurrection to His incredulous disciples. Lydia, Priscilla, Phoebe, the apostle Junia (Rom. 16:7), Mary the mother of Mark, Apphia, Nympha, Stephanas, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis and many other women opened their homes which became disciple-making hubs. Numerous women who were directly involved in ministry have their names mentioned, and without exception, all the house churches mentioned in the New Testament were facilitated by women.

God has handed over the church to his Bride. Since Yeshua died on the cross, purchasing with his own blood both men and women, liberating them both from the original curse of inequality. Now the woman has been restored as a helpmeet and who stands side by side with her husband wherever he happens to go, be it in the kitchen, the workplace or the pulpit. Relegating her to the backbench to cover her head and keep quiet shackles her to the original curse. In Christ, they both must love each other and submit to each other because both are

Brides of Christ. Sadly the church has not come to terms with this freedom in Christ.

The New Testament church suffered from Synagogue Syndrome, an illegitimate structure not mandated in the Old Testament, where they discriminated against women. Paul struggled against sexism, declaring that in Christ there is neither male nor female. He further instructed, "When you gather, each one (inclusive of women) has a psalm, a teaching, a revelation, " etc. The modern day Pentecostal church of Azusa Street in 1906 was founded by a core group of eighteen Afro-American women. Thanks to women, the Pentecostal and Charismatic churches remain the largest, fastest growing church movement, having some 500 million members, even as gender benders continue to oppress women using bizarre, scripture twisting and distorted takes on Paul's statements.

In certain cultures there may be difficulties with men and women meeting together, and this should be respected. Cross-gender disciple-making in any culture should be avoided as chemistry can foul things up, unless it is carried out by a husband and wife team. Psychologically, most men are cognitive and logical while most women are relational. Their working times are different. Men prefer formal evening gatherings while women are free from chores in the afternoons.

Women also have problems which can be shared and prayed for only by other women. They know better than men that the shortest distance between a problem and its solution is the distance between the knee and the carpet. The one who kneels before the Lord can stand up to anything. In a combined meeting, women usually prove reticent, but by themselves they have much greater freedom to exercise their gifts and talents.

Leadership in a biblical context means shepherding the flock (Acts 20:28). Women shepherding a flock was a common practice in OT times. Isaac, Jacob and Moses found their wives, while they were watering their flock after grazing them.

Emancipation has brought many blessings to women including income-generating opportunities. At the same time, it has separated them from their children, leaving these both fatherless and motherless, creating huge social and spiritual problems.

The same Greek word (*presbuteros*) means 'elders' for men and 'older women' can be translated 'women elders' who can best shepherd and counsel victimized women in the commercial world (1 Tim. 5:1- 2; Tit. 2:3).

Martha's kitchen church and Mary's living room church continue to attract multitudes to the feet of Yeshua, and are the fastest growing churches today. Both provide an excellent, missiological model of household church wherein everyone plays an equal but distinct roles in pushing the kingdom boundaries.

China was forced to follow this missionary model making women 85% of its pastoral leaders, and grew from one million to a hundred millions in fifty years. We can thank the Communists for demolishing Western, sanctuary model and putting all the male pastors behind bars. Such hostile activity has nearly always resulted in exponential growth of the authentic church, as it occurred after the destruction of the Jerusalem temple.

Illiterate, non-theologically-trained women do not lust for upward migration to the pulpit but willingly go downward to the lost. They are fulfilling Rebecca's blessing, "You will bear thousands of children who will possess the gates of their enemy" (Gen. 24:60). The global shift in balance of power in favor of women is our greatest hope for the future, as they unmask and emasculate the patriarchal stranglehold of the church. Fortunately, the Spirit is speaking at the fringes to poor, semi and non-literate women who are transforming communities and nations.

These women do not need special effects, fancy music or facilities for disciple making. They can disciple the nations right in the midst of the hustle and bustle of children playing and pooping and the clatter and the smells of the kitchen. Empowerment of women to go give birth to tens of thousands of spiritual children, mothering and smothering them with love, has been the single most cementing factor, in this decade, making the face of the church more like that of a Bride.

The Youth

The world has changed significantly since World War II, following a highly-accelerated self-destructive course. Up to that point, the

populations and their governments followed Judeo-Christian principles to some extent, and words like corruption, sexually liberated, hard rock, transcendental meditation and yoga were hardly heard of in the media.

While the fathers were away fighting a war, Lucifer sent his hordes to the fatherless youth turning them into Hippies, Beatniks and Flower children and used Hollywood to change their dress code, lifestyle, music and dance, food habits and value systems. He opened their eye-gate via TV and movies, their ear-gates via psychedelic music, gurus and mantras, their mouth-gate via marihuana and profanities, and finally their genital gates via pornography. All these gates of hell are actually within us and deemed normative in the post-modern culture.

This floodgate is keeping the gates of hell overflowing with deluded fatherless children. Unless the church wakes up and learns to have compassion for them, respect them, accept and love them, an entire lost generation is headed down under. In the last book, last chapter and the last verses of the Old Testament, God has threatened that the father-son relationship must be restored, "lest he smite the earth with a curse." This is a wakeup call for the church. Malachi 4:5, 6)

The modern generation has been fed on the false fodder of evolution. If there is no Creator, then there is no fall, and if there is no fall, then there is no sin, and if there is no sin, then we don't need a redeemer. And if there is no God then there is no accountability. This is where most of the young people are parked. Every day we hear news of youth involved in social evils like theft, rape, kidnapping, violence, extortion, suicide, drug abuse, alcoholism and rash driving. In most cases, they do so under peer pressure: "I was forced by my friends." Of course, poor parenting and irresponsible tutoring in schools also play major role.

Students on college campuses are so sexually liberated and vitiated that character development is no longer an issue with them. In the past, the church took responsibility for the education of the young, but since she repudiated her missionary mandate, her hottest topics are the legalizing of homosexuality, same sex marriage and live-in relationships.

Although only seven percent of the population of the USA is homosexual, it has successfully manipulated 93% of the population, the

government and the judiciary to pass laws in their favor. All these situations are guaranteed to breakdown the divinely-ordained, nuclear, family structure. God created heterosexuality; everything else must be a demonic invention. Condoms are not the answer, self-control is.

The basic benchmark of an effective church is her ability to restore the relationship between a father and his son. A father who is not a priest of his family and whose children are not walking in faith should not be appointed an elder in the church. Secular education is not the key to development. Look where it has taken the highly-literate, Western countries. Education that teaches neither character nor how to, “turn the hearts of the father to the sons and the hearts of the sons to their father” is worthless (Mal. 4:6). If anything, youth come back hostile to their parents. They may have the best secular education but lack the character, values and life skills that strengthen families, communities and nations; it is useless. “My people are being destroyed for lack of (godly) knowledge” (Hos. 4:6).

After all, the present economic mess was engineered by these brilliant but characterless economists who come from institutions of academic excellence. It is just 6% of the six billion population of the world, that own and control the entire economy of the world. Unless we put biblical values above profits, our nation cannot survive. A church that is spiritually, morally, socially, educationally and economically disconnected from the world cannot change it. The world is falling apart, because the church is having a picnic in blunder land every Sunday.

An aerial view of the world would show Christians celebrating their private faith, seated in their ornate sanctuaries, in the process of callously disregarding the destiny of the four billion people of the world who are yet to hear the name of their Savior.

Most parents are so busy at the import and export ends of their children that they lose track of what the end product should be. So they end up educating them to be professionals, managers, teachers and business men, while entirely missing that their home is a family altar and that they are supposed to be raising up Melchizedeks (kings of righteousness), with a dual role of being priests and kings for their cities.

Melchizedek was the king and priest of the Most High God, exercising both ecclesiastical and constitutional sovereignty over Salem City. Melchizedek ranked higher than Abraham because he blessed Abram, served him bread and wine, and received a tithe from him (Heb. 7:4-7). Melchizedek was not a temple priest but of the city of Salem. Yeshua Messiah's own higher Royal Priesthood was modeled on that of Melchizedek, requiring neither a hereditary lineage nor a physical temple, whereas the Aaronic priesthood required both a physical temple and a Levitical lineage.

Aaronic priests offered animal-blood sacrifices, whereas Yeshua, like Melchizedek offered only bread and wine. Even so, like the Passover meal, the Lord's Supper is to be taken in the context of a sacrifice. Eating the Lord's Supper without first offering a repentant soul as a living sacrifice is taking the bread and wine unworthily. The church is a corporate altar for offering sanctified Gentiles and transforming them into Royal Priests who reign on earth (Gen. 14:17-24; Psalm 110:4; Heb. 5:6; 7:3).

The Old Testament kept a sharp separation between the offices of priest and king. Priests wore a turban and kings a crown. When King Uzziah tried to offer incense at the altar, he was immediately stricken with leprosy. Only David effectively fulfilled the roles of priest and king, a prototype of Messiah.

When God became angry with Israel, he commanded that the diadem (turban) and the crown to be removed (Ezek. 21:26). So for 600 years, until Yeshua came, there was no rightful king, and the High Priest was phony whose post went to the highest bidder, approval by the Roman government which required greasing the system with bribe. "Every man did that which was right in his own sight," (Jud. 21:25) just as everyone does in the market place today.

We Christians are made prophets, priests and kings, through the blood of the Lamb. Yeshua Messiah is now our final Prophet, High Priest and King of kings. He also bought multitudes that he paid for with his own blood, to make them priests and kings (Rev. 5:9-10). They are Christians, not because of an emblem on their t-shirt, bumper sticker or singing of fireside choruses, but because they are restoring under God

their nation that has drifted under Satan. They clearly understand that, before they can wear their crown of gold, they will have to wear a crown of thorns.

The Lord is pouring out His Spirit on all flesh, that is, ordinary men, women and even children: “Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings have you ordained boldness” (Acts 2:17-18; Psa. 8:2; Matt. 11:25).

Amazing stories are coming out of little children getting baptized in the Spirit and doing signs, wonders and mighty deeds. These are not children brought up in a traditional Sunday school where they recite verses from the Bible and sing cute choruses, but are not taught to obey their indulgent parents who spare the rod and spoil the child. The children from their young age need to be trained in praying for the sick, delivering the demonized and making disciples.

It is not enough to produce biological children — almost everyone can — it is not enough to educate them and make them professionals — most do; it is more important so to bring them up so that they become spiritual fathers and mothers from their early childhood, bringing many sons and daughters to glory.

Permissive parents have to learn to teach obedience to their rebellious children, from their earliest childhood, lest they become like the children of Eli the priest. In that case, they might as well name them Ichabod which means “the glory has departed” (Pro. 13:24; 19:18; 1 Sam. 4:21).

The millennial generation needs to be clothed in glory, right where they are, for they are not interested in stability but like to be on the move and experiment with anything and everything. These abound in the market place, in cybercafés, in shopping malls and in corporate offices with competing pagan world views, the perfect place for reaching the cream of the crop.

Yeshua probably would have headed straight for those places to enjoy with them a cup of transformation coffee. The church must rule the streets and the back alleys of the city, before it can rule the nations.

The Y Generation connect with each other through cell phones and the Internet. There are 545 million cell phones in India, more than there are toilets. Since the structured church is not cool enough for those who live in the digital world, it must raise up digital crusaders who will saturate mobile phones with short messages, and the on-line world with the gospel.

To climb up the corporate ladder, they need lots of encouragement and external support. When that does not come from the family and the church then they turn to film actors, athletes, gurus and god-men of all shades and colors. The market place, a cauldron of witches' brew, promotes corruption, greed, immoral sex, drugs, alcohol, witchcraft, occult, abortion and much more. Since they will not go to church, the church must go to them. To clean up the mess, we need potent demon busters (intercessors) who will pounce on anything demonic and subdue it, turning the acrid smoke of their cauldron into a sweet-smelling fragrance that reaches the Throne of God (Rev. 8:3-4).

Failure to see the workplace as a mission field ripe unto harvest, or youth as raw material to be processed and put into the marketplace as her finished product, has seriously hurt church's credentials.

Lucifer once was the lead singer of the heavenly worship team. Now there is no special quota for musicians, singers and worship leaders in heaven. Music is only a talent. It is not mentioned as one of the gifts of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures. The church has all along been hitting the wrong notes, for music had little role to play in the persecuted church. Even without music, the early church grew exponentially.

Singing endless, acrobatic songs without offering lost souls as sacrifice does not resonate with biblical worship but quietly making melody in your heart connects you to God (Col. 3:16; Eph. 5:19).

We need Melchizedeks to go and serve bread and wine to the redeemed right in the market place and receive tithe from them. We should be imparting to our children the dual core vision of simultaneously being a financial millionaire as well as a millionaire of souls. This means rebooting the church and the family with their original operating system!

Fatherlessness

John the Baptists' primary ministry was not that of baptizing, which he did by the thousands, but of turning the hearts of fathers' to their sons and vice-versa, which he did to straighten the path for the coming Messiah. If the father-son relationship is not restored, then God will smite the earth with a curse. (Matt. 19:14; Luke 1:17; Mal. 4:5-6).

Rapid urbanization in search of quick prosperity is destroying fatherhood like nothing else (James 4:13-14). Almost 40% of children do not sleep in their biological father's home. Even where they live together, children rarely have any fellowship with their father who leaves early in the morning and comes home late, bringing work to do. Any free time he has he spends on his mobile phone, watching TV or provoking the children at the dinner table. Even if he pretends to be there, his wife and children know that he is emotionally not available.

This is true, not only of fathers gone to business dinners making deals, money, position and power, but also of Christian fathers who come from work and take off immediately for church meetings or bible studies, feeling very religious while robbing their family of their time. No wonder their family disintegrates! This is a more serious problem than many realize.

In the meanwhile, infant mortality rates, especially for girl children, have gone down substantially. Millions are now going to school, while many more millions are still grazing cattle, tending the farm or doing household chores. It is sobering to know that thousands of young girls are forced into the flesh trade every day. Some missions are doing a commendable job of introducing Christ through literacy classes.

This 4/14 Window or GenNext which is undergoing cultural hybridization and is proving more open to the gospel and ready to change. Reaching this population segment poses the biggest challenge of the decade. However, it would be a folly to focus on youth in isolation. In the conservative East, seminary-trained youth, clad in jeans and t-shirts, are not accepted as spiritual leaders by the village elders. As in biblical times, eastern cultures remain inclusive, involving the whole household.

Ministries should be start at the workplace where one spends most of his time. Fifty years ago, a child could reasonably expect to spend his youth with his family. No longer is this true, for the father has pitched his tent in Sodom with its prosperity cult, worshipping the Babylonian god Mammon (Jam. 4:13).

Fatherless children, suffer from rejection, and drift into alcohol, drugs and sex to fulfill their craving for love. Not only have fathers no time, but many mothers have time neither for family nor God. No wonder there is so much fragmentation of family and faith!

The first house church was planted when God had lunch with Abraham under a tree. Then in Egypt, the man was appointed priest of his family and instructed to sacrifice a lamb to save his household. The house church is based on Deuteronomy 6:1-14, which instructs men to diligently teach their children and grandchildren while they are sitting, lying or walking, so that they may not go after other gods.

Yeshua planted the first house church when he invited a couple of fishermen to his house by the river Jordan and discipled them, who then went set up a chain reaction of making disciples. These models remain our Magna Carta for making disciples and planting churches and protecting our families from going dysfunctional (John 1:35-37).

Wild Olive Branches on the Jewish Tree

The primary reason for which God chose Abraham to become great and Mighty, and to be a blessing to all the nations of the earth, was that He knew that, "Abraham will command his children and his household, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment..." (Gen. 18:18, 19; 1 Tim. 3:5).

The primary reason why God chose Abraham to become great and mighty and a blessing to all the nations of the earth was, because He knew that, "Abraham will command his children and his household, that they keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment" (Gen. 18:18-19; 1 Tim. 3:5).

A father must serve as a priest to his family first, before he can become a priest to the nations. You are the temple of the living God. How

does such a temple go to church? You do not become a priest by going to a church or to a seminary or by being ordained with laying on of hands of a religious somebody up there.

You only qualify to become a priest by the blood of the Lamb (Rev. 5:10). You actually become a functional priest only by offering sacrifices, which, in the New Testament context, means offering up Gentiles as a pure sacrifice in baptism which is dying with Christ. This happens, not in a church but anywhere, nor on Sunday but on any day, any time, from the rising of the sun to its going down.

In the scriptures, the big words, like redemption, remission, ransom, reconciliation, covenant, cleansing, propitiation, atonement, offering, justification and sanctification, epitomize the blood sacrifice of the Lamb of God.

The temple at Jerusalem was called by God Beth Zebach (house of sacrifice) and Beth Tefillah (house of prayer) for all nations (2 Chron. 7:12, 14; Isa 56:7).

The synagogue was a *Beth Midrash* or the house of study, to “diligently study the Scriptures because you think by them you possess eternal life” (John 5:39). Therein lies the secret as to why the Jewish people are among the most educated on earth. The thirteen some million Jews have won 181 Nobel Prize, more than any other nation on earth.

The synagogue was also known as a *Beth Kneset* where believers fellowshiped. *Koinonia*, translated "fellowship" means a sharing of resources, including love, with neighbors (*reya*) which in Hebrew means, “a friend, fellow" or simply "another person". A *reya* is not merely someone living in your neighbourhood, but anyone who is in need, as exemplified in Jesus' story of a Good Samaritan.

The Hebrew word *Bayith*, translated "house" can also mean a home, a palace, a court or even a dungeon. Thus a house church is any place where you study the Scriptures, offer up repentant souls as a sacrifice, and engage in prayer and fellowship including table fellowship and mutual sharing (1 Cor. 14:24-26; Acts 2:42).

At the temple, sacrifice preceded prayer, and no one was allowed to come empty handed (Deut. 16:16). In the Old Testament, a sinful man worshipped God by first confessing his sins, then taking a bath of purification, offering an animal sacrifice and then praying for the Messiah to come and heal the land.

After the full, final sacrifice of Yeshua, we no longer offer blood sacrifice. Even so, in the New Testament, it is still God's provision that every believer should function as a priest to the nations and offer up lost souls as a vicarious sacrifice, a sweet aroma to the unchanging God. Then we pray. This is true worship. God will not only forgive our sins but bless us.

God's blessing is not given us for buying fancy cars or luxurious houses but for us to be a blessing to others. Deceiver has deluded us into singing endless songs as worship. Thus, wherever we offer a lost soul, including the market or the work place or even a Gentile home, becomes the holy altar (Mal. 1:11; Rom. 15:16).

A new convert to Judaism had to do at least three basic things:

1. Get circumcised;
2. Take a bath of purification; and
3. Offer a sacrifice.

If he did not get circumcised, then he was only a "God fearer", a devout person like Cornelius, but not a Proselyte who went through the whole works. Now all of us, to be a full-fledged Proselyte, have to go through the circumcision of our heart, both males and females; take baptism and from day one, offer lost souls as living sacrifices.

Every Jewish father had four duties to fulfill towards his son:

Circumcise him,

Redeem him by offering a sacrifice,

Teach him the Torah and

Teach him a trade to avoid his becoming a beggar.

Jewish Children below the age of twelve years (before Bar Mitzvah) were not allowed into the temple. Yeshua Messiah reversed that restriction by commanding, "Let the little children come unto me."

E-Blasting

Internet is rapidly shrinking the world into a global village. Teaching, prayer requests, information and host of other things can be blasted in a jiffy to members of a network. Christians are far behind the Muslims who are already planning e-Jihad, nuclear bombs in a suitcase that can be exploded through the internet. Hindu gurus are able to gather a sizable crowd of devotees to their websites. Meanwhile, at least 500 million people of all ages participate in social networking sites, and a sizable segment of the younger generation literally lives in cyber space. To reach these, we not only have to plant cyber churches but also need to find effective ways to direct traffic in that direction. If the site proves user friendly, then young clients themselves will make the best advertisers.

Mobile cell phones are now ubiquitous. Bibles and teaching materials can be loaded into them as a very convenient learning tool. Instant short messages and prayer requests (SMS) can be sent worldwide. Presentation graphics and interactive e-learning is substantially reducing the learning span while widening the information highway.

Even though electronics can never replace one-on-one disciple-making, the church must seriously train techno-evangelists to reach those who live in a PC environment of cyberspace. "Virtual church" through blogging, video-conferencing and Skype is already a reality. Muslims are already running a very effective, round-the-clock, user-friendly, interactive program on "How to convert to Islam." Disciples must wage a full-scale "air war" through radio and Internet against the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2).

While God is working out his plan, keeping to his schedule, most churches lack strategic visionaries and planners who bring direction and purpose by protecting the church from fruitless programs. Flawed vision at the top runs rampant down a road to disaster. Many churches and missions maintain impressive website ministries with little action on the ground.

When Communism collapsed at the Berlin wall, the church was not ready. Now that Islam is on the boil, while Hinduism and Buddhism are in turbulence, and Mammon (money) worshippers are suffering meltdown, the church is the only institution that is not ready to capitalize on these opportunities.

Naturally, radicalized hawks are filling the vacuum. Mouth grenades hurled from your pulpit must cause spiritual explosions outside your church building; otherwise they remain defused explosives.

The Internet provides a fantastic tool for short-circuiting distances and conducting live, two-way training of global leaders in sound doctrine, best practices, strategic planning, management, innovation and entrepreneurship. This works even in turbulent environments for those who are already in ministry as well as for those who hold secular jobs and wish to get involved in ministry, who can learn in the privacy of their homes.

The church needs to get defragmented, rebooted and launched into space to reach tweeters, bloggers and other netizens living in the websites to gather a cyber-harvest (Gal. 2:2; Oba. 1:4).

Most churches' programs, such as Bible study classes, prayer cells, as well as women, youth and children's programs operating in isolation, prove fruitless "stuckages". These need to be converted into full-fledged, little churches with authority to make disciples, baptize, equip and send missionaries. Salvation restores our relationship with the Father, but it does not stop there. Nor does salvation end with our being born again. Rather it is our entry point into the kingdom. From there on it is your responsibility to turn the redeemed into redeemers. Salvation remains free whilst discipleship proves costly. Still, it is discipleship that restores you to the image of God (Eph. 2:8).

The secular and sacred dichotomy must be deconstructed to allow the true church to function in secular environment, to fulfill her ambassadorial role (2 Cor. 5:20), so that all engines can start firing simultaneously to dethrone the king of darkness and enthrone the King of light. Removing stuckages from the church is the key to acceleration. It is amazing how many are finding God after leaving the church.

Prophecy

God had promised that in the last days he would pour out his Spirit on all flesh which includes, businessmen, professionals, literate, non-literates, theologically qualified or ignorant men, women, children, old and young, men servants and female servants, so that all could prophesy (Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:17-18, 21).

The last days started on the Day of the Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came down in power and the church was birthed with 3000 souls added.

All curses against age, race and gender were broken and forever finished. Any bias and demographic discrimination is a return to the Adamic curse. The Holy Spirit came to empower everyone to be his witness to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8). Christianity builds an inclusive community that celebrates equality with dynamic diversity. In a non-prophetic church, you only learn to discriminate and accomplish nothing.

Unbelievers from “all nations” are to be invited in to a house of prayer and to get prophesied over, so that they can repent and be added to the church: “He who calls in the name of the Lord will be saved.” “All nations” are the stakeholders in the church, not just Christians. A church without “seekers” becomes a den of thieves who rob blessings from others for their own benefit. A prophetic church meets to multiply blessings for others (Mark 11:17; 2 Cor. 14:24-25; Rom. 10:9; 13; Joel 2:32).

The church is not to be led by an individual, rather the Holy Spirit guides the whole Body to minister to God and to each other. Everyone has the right to prophesy and to be held accountable for doing so. Speaking in tongues without an interpreter was not encouraged in the church (1 Cor. 14:26-32).

The prophetic church must fulfill the original Garden mandate which is to be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue it and have dominion over it (Gen. 1:28).

Once again, the Lord is shaking up his church and restoring the original shape, size, function and purpose. The canvas of a spirit filled

church is much wider than the Sunday worship. The New Testament model is a radically different paradigm (Joel 3:18).

Orality

All great religions and cultures have been sustained through songs, poems, drama and story telling. The Jewish system had two forms of instruction. Formal teaching of the Torah was given in a Bet Midrash, or "house of learning," while informal Haggadah or "telling" of stories was the most popular form of teaching, which the elders employed at Jewish feasts to relate the great things that Ha-Shem (The Name) had done for them. Even though well versed in the Jewish Law, Yeshua told parables as his preferred method of communicating spiritual insights.

A sermon, however anointed, is soon forgotten, whereas a story is not only retained but repeated over and over again. Yeshua taught through parables, and without parables he taught nothing (Math. 13:34). All his disciples were oral communicators who went and changed the world. If it worked for him, then is there is no earthly reason why it should not work for us? Four billion of the world's population belong to an oral culture. The Bible is the story book of God. It is the simple story tellers who are turning the world upside down in favor of Christ today. Sniggering at illiterate, barefoot disciples is giving way to admiration as the real fruit-gatherers.

Our Hebraic Foundations

God ordained Jews to celebrate a cycle of feasts which would be shadows of things to come. When they came together for the feasts, they would first confess their sins to two witnesses and then take a bath of purification at the mikve (pool). They would then offer a sacrifice at the altar. After that they would pray in front of the Holy of Holies, for rich harvest and for the coming of Messiah. They would then return to the camp and share a meal while elders shared the great events of the past and taught them the Torah. Then they would return home and serve as priests to their families until the next feast, only to repeat the whole process (2 Chron. 7:12, 14; Joel 2:17-18; Exo. 19:5-6).

All these shadows were fulfilled at the time of the Pentecost when the first church was birthed. After Peter's exhortation, people asked,

“What shall we do?” Peter said, “Repent and be baptized.” Three thousand new believers were offered as the first spiritual sacrifice, just like thousands of animals were offered on the day the Jerusalem temple was inaugurated by King Solomon. They were then divided into small house groups, who took part in apostolic teaching, breaking of bread, prayer and then multiplied daily (Acts 2:37-47).

Yeshua Messiah came and actualized the shadows into reality. We now first offer ourselves as a reasonable sacrifice through repentance and baptism. We then offer the lost sheep as living sacrifice on the altar which may be our home or neighborhood or the work place.

Then we pray to the Lord of harvest for abundant harvest of souls and for the incarnation of Messiah in their hearts. This makes us priests to the nations. This is the sequence in which the church should function.

The Jewish feasts were shadows confined to the temple while Messianic celebration is designed to reach the uttermost parts of the Earth (Rom. 12:1; 15:16; Mal. 1:11; 1 Pet. 2:5-6, 9).

Research and Information

To qualify as prophetic, a church must have a ‘completion mindset’ to fulfill the original Creation mandate to “be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue it and have dominion over it.” In real terms, this requires meticulous tracking to see that all nations, tongues and tribes are being made ready to boldly stand before the throne of God and worship Him. For this, the church needs to get out of its stationary mode, change onto the fast track and shoot for the finish line. There is neither personal glory nor short cuts, because all glory must go to Him, but this is the roadmap to qualify to stand before the throne of God (Gen. 1:28; Rev. 7:9-10).

Tracking and mapping makes the whole earth manageable and navigable. We depend both on revelation through the Spirit and on information through our mind (1 Cor. 14:6, 15). Gone are the days of haphazard evangelism. Mission agencies are now systematically researching nations, tongues and tribes, their geographical locations and cultures and so on, laying plans to reach them intentionally and proactively. Equipped with maps, stats and the Great Commission, in their own language and culture, we can go and change earth’s spiritual

demography. Tracking and mapping significantly increase the velocity of movement into unreached areas, because the strategy is based on information.

Research helps us to find out the lost segment within a community and to take appropriate steps to reach them. Monitoring of real outcomes tells us how well we are achieving our goals but, more importantly, the quantum of the task that remains to be done. Dynamic data bases help in making strategic course corrections. Guard against those who manipulate information to make it say what they want it to say.

Research must be initiated by stake holders, while any outsiders can assist them without controlling them. A research team led by technocrats can present their findings, but it must be spiritual fathers who are insiders that preside, providing an apostolic flavor and a prophetic interpretation of the information. After Apostle Paul and Prophet Barnabas reported to the Jerusalem church, which was presided over by Apostles Peter, John and James, they together drew up a four-point blueprint charting out for the Gentile church their next course of action (Acts 15:14, 19-20).

Research is expensive, requiring extensive travel and documentation. In some regions, several missions may be working, but each one can provide information only about its own work. So it requires an outsider to get the full picture of the mosaic; otherwise the data and the mapping will suffer distortion.

An overly-zealous focus on research diverts attention from building the Kingdom to building its data base, to the delight of researchers. The road to data collection is fraught with landmines that can ruin ministries, if data collectors are suspected of making money without sharing the cake with the field workers. New believers feel threatened by the amount of personal information being asked and documented. Most leaders do not want their data posted on websites, however secure the system might be, as any leak can seriously jeopardize their lives and ministries.

Although researchers try to get as much information as possible, they must recognize local leaders gifts and callings, and especially respect

their limitations, not coercing them into filling up endless forms. Anyway, most research has a very limited shelf life, as it quickly goes out of date.

Because information can be translated into power, it requires very astute stewardship. Apostles who have in mind the overall picture and strategy have a huge responsibility in guiding the gathering of information, its processing and its dissemination.

David was severely punished and 70,000 innocent Israelis died as a result of implementing a Devil-driven census. There is nothing wrong with collecting data, but David did so to show how great a king he was by bragging about the size of his army. Sadly, many missions do the same by bragging about their achievements, budgets and the size of their missionary army, thereby stealing glory from God.

There are 100,000 missionaries in the mission field today but only three percent are involved in reaching the unreached. The rest are preaching to the preached. Even there they fail to tell us the yield per worker which is often abysmal when measured with the number of baptisms as bench mark.

Research should define not only the gospel deficit peoples and places but also identify the most effective and productive ministries and their strategies, that can be emulated.

The analytical metrics of measuring a Spirit-filled church are not the noisy decibels of praise raised during a worship service, not even the number of disciples made, baptized and churches planted, but the poor and the destitute hearing the good news of bread on the table, fresh fruits and vegetables on the plate, tears wiped away, the size of the smile on their faces, and the apostolic outcome of daily addition of the lost into the Kingdom. Kingdom is more about relationships than about facts.

The indicators of life and community transformation include seeing people healed, restored, set free and ready to share with others what they have received. God is more interested in 'who you are' than the material goods you present to him.

Those indicators include many more intangibles, such as the impact of prayer that tears down strongholds, which cannot be accurately

quantified. It is the stronghold demolishers who free up ‘persons of peace,’ making it possible for others to go make disciples and plant churches. In CPMs, the crucial role of liquid eyes and bended knees is hardly recognized, while ‘outcome-oriented’ church planters get the credit and the funding.

Unfortunately, researchers tend to filter out intercessors by tracking only church planters. Yet it should never be forgotten that it was the prayers of the 120 intercessors in the upper room that birthed the first church and got the unstoppable church-planting movement going. Research is not merely the gathering of cold, hard data about our numerical strength, but a means to understand the mindset and the strategic moves of the enemy, then to take appropriate, corrective action.

“The whole world lies under the control of the wicked one” (1 John 5:19) , while the church wallows in ignorance or cowers in a state of denial until an event like 9/11 takes place. Of all the things the enemy steals, if he can steal our imagination then the rest is easy. Information sharing remains a key to getting a coordinated action against a common enemy. Spiritual mapping helps us locate and destroy strongholds through intercession and prayer walking. All talk and no walk makes the church a dull place.

Once again the Lord is shaking up his church by restoring the original shape, size, function and purpose of the Body. The New Testament model functions on a completely different paradigm (Joel 3:1).

Apostolic Gardens

God commanded humankind to “be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue it and have dominion over it” (Gen. 1:28). This is not only a biological command, but implied in it is God’s mandate to replicate the Garden of Eden by filling the barren earth, until the whole earth becomes a God’s Garden. God’s will is to restore the balance and harmony between God, man and nature, such that God can come for a walk during the cool of the day and have fellowship with his creation.

This commandment has never been abrogated. If anything, it was reinforced with Noah in the precise words of Genesis 9:1-2. We still have to subdue the earth and impose God's Kingdom (King + dominion).

God has commanded us to possess the good land. (Deut. 6:18) Everything, work, labor, manufacturing, food production, requires land. The whole economy finally depends on the fertility of the land. There is much food in the land. Money, however, steers everything, and, since money is always on the move, we Christians ought to know where it is going. (Pro. 13:23; Ecc. 10:19)

War is about possessing more land. It is not only the man that God cursed but also the land. The land will not produce in full strength unless the curses made on it are broken. God speaks directly to the earth, "Oh land, land, land, hear the word of God" (Jer. 22:29). Salvation is not just redeeming the soul but also redeeming the soil as our inheritance. Land and liberty go together.

Even the land was commanded to observe Sabbath (Lev. 25:2). Every Sabbath year, all debts were to be cancelled, slaves set free and land restored. The year of the Jubilee and justice, encumbered land had to be restored to its original owner, regardless of how poor he was (Lev. 25:28). The entire romance between Ruth and Boaz, the progenitors of David and Yeshua, was orchestrated around land inheritance. Boaz, a grandfather of David, was a mighty man of wealth (Ruth 2:1).

An overarching theme of the Old and the New Testaments concerns inheriting the earth (Matt. 5:5). An inheritance is not earned; it is given freely by parents to their children. They may choose not to leave it to an undeserving son. The history of the present earth ends and that of the new earth begins with the righteous inheriting the land and dwelling in it forever with peace and prosperity (Isa. 60:21).

The righteous are those with right relationship with the Father. That relationship must prove fervent, visible, tangible and fruitful throughout the week, not just on Sundays. It is an eternal inheritance with eternal consequences (Psa. 37:11, 29; Matt. 6:33).

The architecture of the church of our Lord is not the earth getting filled with unauthorized, cement concrete church buildings. The

architecture is that of an apostolic garden that multiplies from place to place and fills the earth. Yahweh poured out his Spirit for breaking land curses and transforming wilderness into fruitful gardens, reconciling the whole creation dripping with milk and sweet wine, resulting in justice, peace and security (Isa. 32:15-20; Amos 9:13).

It is not just the lost but the whole creation that anxiously awaits the manifestation of the sons of God to heal and restore her. As sons of God, we should be attacking the green monster head on and collecting carbon credits. Just switch off that unnecessary electric light; cut off the idling car engine, and water that kitchen garden with waste water. Then you will collect enough carbon credits (Rom. 8:19).

Yeshua is not only the Lord of hearts but also the Lord of the land. The healing of the land has much larger connotation than the mere breaking of curses. It involves healing of the whole creation, beginning with its inhabitants. It means greatly increased productivity and an equitable distribution of fruit and food grains for all, which will solve the entire economic crisis. It implies an ample supply of crystal-clear water. It brings healing to the nations so no more wars or violence (2 Chron. 7:14; Rev. 22:1-3).

The church must ramp up “green faith” with organic farming, water harvesting, biodiversity, food security, market linkages for local produce, freeing villages of hunger, indebtedness, illiteracy and exploitation. All this must be done with locally-available, affordable, acceptable resources and community participation, ensuring an abundant life for everyone.

When you plant all those exotic flower plants, do not forget fruit plants like the tomato, eggplant, pepper, beans, etc. You can plant them even in your micro-garden on the window sill. God planted grass, herbs and fruit trees but there is no mention of flowers in the Garden of Eden. It is not the chemical multi-national agri-business but the organic micro-gardens that have the potential to provide food security to the people.

Sharing fresh fruits and vegetables from your garden with the neighbors is not mentioned as a fivefold ministry gift but there is no doubt this particular gift will greatly improve your relationships as well as

discipling skills. To save the planet, your house church should look and smell green.

The most enduring signs of peace, security and abundant life, are those of a wolf and a lamb dwelling together while a man sits with his neighbor in the shade of his vine, drinking herbal tea made from healing leaves of the tree of life (Isa. 11:6-9; Zech. 3:10; Rev. 22:3).

The ugly image of brick-and-mortar, concrete church is slowly but surely meandering into that of a green, clean Apostolic Garden having a picnic. The best place for disciple-making is a public or private garden where two or three gather for a picnic (breaking bread) until the whole garden becomes a church that glorifies God.

Persecution

We believe in a suffering Christ but for ourselves we choose safety, security and comfort. If evangelism is scary then like the apostles we are to pray for boldness. Of the seven churches in the Book of Revelation, only the persecuted one at Smyrna came out well. Though the rest had many good things going, they had veered off course, qualifying as “synagogues of Satan” (Rev.2:9). Persecution is assured for those who want to reign with him, but if we deny Him, he will also deny us (2 Tim. 2:12; 3:12). “They will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues” (Matt. 10:17).

Persecution comes in many forms, sometimes as a threat of expulsion from one's family or as loss of job, often as ridicule from friends, colleagues and even church folk which is painful. Other times persecution entails damage to property, physical assault, even death. Victims often have no legal recourse. Sadly, many missions victimize the victims of persecution by disowning them when they need their help most.

Going to church for a weekly puff of oxygen is a cakewalk. Reading the Bible and praying to ‘feel good’ is a cinch. Living it out and practicing our faith outside the boundaries proves challenge. Although Yeshua has not given us a spirit of fear but a Spirit of power, most churches remain synagogues of spineless cowards who, in practice, choose soft options

and will not take a stand for their belief and be counted. In doing so, they walk themselves out of the Kingdom.

It is like going and buying a bottle of fake medicine. It has all the right promises printed on the label, but inside it is all spurious. Sadly, most Christians carrying the label turn out that way. When questions are asked of us about our faith, most Christians deftly dodge them which is not meekness, but plain and simple funk. We should rather try and fail than fold up our tent and fade away.

We must make an attempt to find answers from those who know until we are able to handle them ourselves. God is looking for those who are willing to walk out of the crowd in search of truth and authenticity. Of what use is a faith that is kept under wraps for six days a week?

This is because the interactive, dialogical Body of Christ, has been high-jacked by well-meaning monologuers, so the members do not have the capacity to defend their faith and convict non-believers with sound doctrine, in the market place. Persecution is an indicator of fruitfulness that elevates you to the Throne, and lack of it can gravitate you into the bottomless pit. Scripture commands us to “preach the word; be instant in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long suffering and doctrine” (2 Tim. 4:2).

Treading upon Serpents and Scorpions

This is not to encourage you to behave foolishly or confrontationally but to act as cleverly as a serpent and as innocently as a dove and yet be effective fruit gatherer. Treading upon serpents and scorpions (demons) in the business or work place is initially a scary business which has more to do with one’s mindset. But once you tough it out with the help of the Dove (Holy Spirit), it soon becomes an addiction, ensuring your name a place in the Book of the Lamb. All our heroes of faith, past and present, demonstrated a profile of intense courage.

The Book of Esther does not mention the name of God even once. Yet Mordecai was always referred to as “the Jew, ” for he feared no man however high but God alone. He instilled the same courage in Esther, an orphan girl in a foreign land. Their profile of courage displayed in a strange, hostile land led to a Gentile Emperor passing an edict

establishing a Jewish Kingdom in 127 countries extending from India to Ethiopia.

Zeresh, the wife of Haman, a man who was aspiring to rise politically, told her husband prophetically, "If Mordecai is a Jew, then you will not prevail against him" (Est. 6:13). Let it be a lesson for all of us that, even though you may not be able to speak the name of God directly at your work place, people must recognize that you are a follower of Yeshua Messiah, and your enemies, the snakes and scorpions, will not prosper against you.

The son of man came to destroy the works of the Devil (1 John 3:8). He touched untouchables and wiped away their tears. All you have to do is to obey, get unglued from the pew and take a walk, not by sight but by faith, the size of a mustard seed. Go destroy the works of the Devil in your workplace by touching the untouchables, wiping away their tears, changing their and your world forever.

Demon Demolition alone is not enough; you must go to the next levels of Deliverance, then Disciple-making, followed by Dunking (baptism) and finally Dispatching them to Do the same (Mark 16:17, 18; Luke 10:19, 20; Matt. 12:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:7; Matt. 17:20).

Sadly, the traditional church remains the persecutor-in-chief, though not the kind that used to burn heretics at the city square who disagreed with her. She is worse, subtly murdering every creative way in which believers seek to function as the Body of Christ outside her box. Persecution is often the result of unbiblical methods. The noisy, exuberant and expressive churches wake up the sleeping wolf, thereby inflicting herself with persecution. They should not cry, "Foul," when indulging in such tactics in Muslim, Hindu or Buddhist- dominated communities. Most such churches have not read, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psa. 46:10). The biblical methods followed by the Apostles resulted in droves of new believers coming in rejoicing (Acts 2:46-47).

Persecution is often precipitated by mission agencies trumpeting conversion statistics of those transferring from the realm of darkness into Kingdom of light. It is inevitable, for the Dragon does not like to lose his captives. Persecution is going to increase, both in severity and frequency.

Consequently true Christianity will leap frog in the predatory (persecution) environment. Like the New Testament church, Christians will learn to move below the radar, meeting in micro and mini-groups, multiplying rapidly, as it happened in China and is now happening in many other countries (Matt. 18:18-20).

Non-persecuting, non-predatory environments produce come-sit-soak-and-sour churches. The best and simplest way to go to heaven is to bring back a sinner from his wanderings, save his soul and cover a multitude of your own sins (Jam. 5:20).

Pressuring new believers to attend Sunday services and other Christian meetings can precipitate untold misery for them. Ostracism by their family, friends and community, and divorce are common and sometimes result in suicides. Donald McGavran, the father of modern missions, said that all obstacles to religious conversion are social and not spiritual. Hence, it is very important to remain sensitive to community and cultural issues, to protect new believers from unnecessary harassment, and to make them an effective witness in their own community.

In any case, a structured church kills creativity, spontaneity and celebration, which are the hallmarks of a vibrant, growing, multiplying church. Now, all of us can speak prophetically (1 Cor. 14:29-32). Elijah ran a school of prophets. They all knew when he was about to leave them, but only Elisha followed him doggedly and so got a double portion of the Spirit. House church is not about being led on a leash by a know-it-all dominant male going nowhere, but getting infected with a double dose of the high-potency disciple-making bug. Anyone who has tasted of the liberty of an interactive house church will never want to go back to a physical sanctuary that tries to limit a limitless God and His people.

The mushrooming house church movement in the global South, though mired in dehumanizing poverty under brutal persecution, is increasingly unleashing Christ everywhere following a holistic and integrated paradigm, creating jobs, improving local economy, changing agricultural practices, providing education and health care, combating climate change, standing up to violent extremists and changing paradigms.

Every Christian needs to be profiled, getting his genetic history decoded and his core gifts dissected, documented and tagged with an “L” plate (learner’s license) until he is competent to sit on the driver’s seat and steer his own course. There is no point to sitting on the driver’s seat while careening down the middle of road, only to take a back seat in church. They need to be unglued from their deceptive doctrines and catalyzed into doers of the Word rather than remain exploited, manipulated, deluded hearers (Jam. 1:22).

This is the way forward for a multi-gifted Body that wants to function in a coordinated way, accomplishing the purpose for which she was designed, namely, to edify and rapidly replicate herself. There is no room for tepid Christians. A church must make every one of her member count by taking on the responsibility of helping him to possess his inheritance among the saints. Every home and every work place is a fit place for works of deliverance and disciple-making. However, to do so requires that a church become more organic and less institutional.

Have you ever wondered what we Christians would do, if we did not have this villain waiting at the door, ever ready to pounce and rule over us (Gen. 4:7-9). Even after being warned by God Himself, Cain went and murdered his brother Abel in broad daylight, then has the audacity to ask, “Am I my brother’s keeper?” How is that different from the attitude we have for our neighbors and colleagues, piling up their blood on our head by not warning them of the impending judgment (Eze. 3:18-21). Such blindness to the exploitative dimension of the church poses a lethal danger. The Cain syndrome remains rampant throughout Christendom.

It is estimated that some 97% of church goers remain Christian workplace agnostics that is they believe in God but do not have the courage to proclaim Him. Sure, they want to keep out of hell and perhaps to get a ticket to heaven by going to church, reading the Bible, praying and giving a tithe. We have reduced the Bible as a book for teaching dogmas instead of teaching action.

External religiosity without inner reality results in a compromised life, especially outside the four chapel walls, whereas we are called to honor God with our work and witness. It is not how impressive you try to look from the outside, it is what you are inside that counts. We believe in God,

but so do the demons who tremble though do not obey God. However Christian atheists do not tremble while doing their own thing. Pseudo Christians pursue a good life and prosperity, even with borrowed money, rather than pursuing obedience. By distortion and manipulation, we have tried to contain a limitless God whom the heaven of heavens cannot contain, limiting him within our own brand of traditional Christianity (2 Chron. 2:6).

As the moral universe shrinks and graft and greed and the lust for money and power overtakes the modern church, it is time to break out of her, to take a stand and be counted.

God had to dismantle the Jerusalem temple because it had become a glorified abattoir where Kosher meat, leather, salt, wool and other articles had become a profitable source of income, necessitating the cleansing of the temple, so it could become a house of prayer for all nations. Needless to say that our churches also need to undergo similar spring cleaning to become a house of redemption for all nations.

Hospitality versus Entertainment

Have you ever given a thought to why explosive growth is not taking place in your neighborhood and workplace? Is it the fear of persecution? Or, more likely, Cain's attitude: "Am I my brother's keeper?" Or maybe you are not inviting your difficult neighbors and workmates for a meal.

Have you ever pondered how a characterless Samaritan woman could transform her whole village within an hour of her conversion, what we knowledgeable Christians cannot do, even after a life time of quality sermons in a traditional church?

Yeshua then spent two days with them, eating their food and enjoying their hospitality while transforming their lives (John 4:8; 42- 43). Sadly, the church promises salvation for all while camouflaging, consolidating and reinforcing salvation for them who are "Me" focussed.

How did the transformation of Zacchaeus, a despised tax collector and his company of scoundrels, happen during just one dinner appointment with Yeshua, whereas the most we get after a good church dinner is heartburn and indigestion? Can you imagine good old Zach

trudging along with sack full of money, knocking on doors and having irate house wives slam it in his face? It must have taken some persuasion to convince them of his good intentions which probably ended in his sharing a meal with his former victims. One supper appointment with Yeshua multiplied into hundreds of transforming suppers from house to house. Our Lord is even now preparing a global banquet for equals where there will be no class, caste or gender discrimination.

Entertainment is trying to impress others with your culinary expertise, cholesterol-laden sweet dishes, exotic cutlery and dandy decor. Entertainment wins you no divine merit points, as its clout does not stretch beyond the dinner table. On the other hand, hospitality is all about taking care of the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the needy, the singles, the sinners and the strangers.

Eating together obliterates societal barriers of race, gender, economics and citizenship status. It cures hurts, repairs damaged dignity and heals dehumanization. Its potential is way beyond the dinner table as it happened in the lives of so many people who had a meal with Yeshua. The Last Supper changed the world forever.

Hospitality is not the entertaining of well-to-do Christians. The Greek *philoxenia* means the entertaining of strangers just as philanthropy means private benevolence for public good. Christian giving is entirely different. Like the widow of Zarephath who gave her last morsel to Elijah the prophet, it means giving out of your need and not out of your surplus (Tit. 1:8; Rom. 12:13; 1 Pet. 4:9; 1 Kings 17:9-12).

Whether you end of standing on the right side as sheep or the left side as a goat who says, “me me me”; on Lord’s return, depends very much on whether you took care of the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick and the prisoner. Not only are we encouraged to be hospitable but to actually love hospitality to the point of addiction (Matt. 25:32-34).

Entertaining people who can invite you back to their parties may not get you there but running a kitchen ministry for the saints can get a reserved seat for you at the heavenly banquet at the wedding feast of the Lamb (Deut. 10:19; 1 Cor. 16:15).

We need to demythologize the sanitized wafer-and-sip Holy Communion and shift to simple agape meals (love feasts). Our Lord served roasted lamb, bitter herbs, flat bread and wine at his last Passover meal, in a house.

God our Father ate lunch with Abraham, a stranger in Canaan, in the shade of a tree, discussing Sarah's pregnancy, Sodom's annihilation and Lot's rescue plan. Abraham was a model of hospitality. He 'ran' to meet the three strangers. He 'rushed' to his wife Sarah and asked her to 'quickly' prepare food. He again 'rushed' to the barn and asked a young man to dress a calf. He washed the feet of the guests. This is how the richest man in the east provided hospitality to complete strangers while he himself was ninety nine years old and in pain from recent circumcision. A humble and hospitable Abraham thus became a blessing to all the nations of the earth (Gen 18:1-8).

We, too, must shift from entertaining and obey Yeshua by sharing meals with the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, with rogues, rascals and strangers, becoming a blessing to the nations.

There is an urgent need to take Eucharist out of the sacred hands of the clergy who celebrate death, and hand it over to common folk to celebrate victory over death at Golgotha (Luke 14:13).

Divine Marriage or Frosty Relationship

The scripture says that five will chase a hundred and a hundred will put ten thousand of your enemies to flight (Lev. 26:8). According to correct math, hundred should chase only 2000. Obviously, in divine arithmetic, multiplication takes place when the church gets united. There a monster of a territorial spirit that operates in most churches and missions. God is not satisfied with your ninety-nine; he wants you to leave them and go look for the lost one (Luke 15:7, 10).

Serial persecutions can unite Christians of all hues and shades, to fight a common villain. What would we Christians do if we had no Devil to blame for all our shortcomings and failures? Seriously. It is time to stop cozying up with the Devil and his agenda for corralling the church within four walls, and start a truth ministry wherever you are. The agenda is to

dislodge the Jebusites (demonic giants) from your city and turn her into a Jerusalem, a City of Peace.

Persecution from within and without should provide a robust stimulus for opening the eyes of the spiritually blind, turning them from darkness to light, from the power of Satan into the kingdom of God, bringing them to repentance, resulting in their acquiring an inheritance among the saints (Acts 26:17-18).

Remember, God will never take you where His grace is not sufficient to protect you (2 Cor. 12:9). He is our Father and no father will give his children a stone for bread or a snake if he asked for a fish (Luke 11:11). Beware! He, who succeeds in provoking you, controls you. The Great Commission has lain in the church freezer for too long and needs to be defrosted in the heat of the market place. Opening of homes and workplaces as the original sanctuary of the Bride is the way forward for the rapid expansion.

Remember your real marriage is to the Lord; the husband and wife relationship is just a model to see how you make it work (2 Cor. 11:2). If you can't make this one work then there is not much chance of your getting invited to the wedding banquet in heaven. Yeshua did not give anything to his Bride, except himself to fulfill his Creation Mandate, to go and be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, subdue it and have rule over it. Frosty relationship with your spouse can seriously mar your spiritual marriage and hinder your prayers (1 Pet. 3:7). Gentilization of the Church

The Book of Acts recounts the historic shift from a predominantly Judaic church to her Gentilization which was the top priority of Paul and Peter, a process which must continue until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled. An earlier generation's attempt to "speak" in unknown tongues is shifting to the next level by her "listening" to what the Spirit is saying. The Spirit is revealing to the church that the Gentiles must become part of the Body and partakers of their eternal inheritance (Eph. 3:5-6). The church must do whatever it takes to inherit the blessings of Abraham, which requires becoming a blessing to all the nations of the earth. Possessing our inheritance has two dimensions:

The Land and

The People.

God says, "Ask of me and I will give you nations for an inheritance and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession" (Psalm 2:8). He gave Abraham the land between the rivers Euphrates and the Nile and ten different people groups to possess as his inheritance (Gen. 15:18).

In the New Testament church, the lost people, who are real stakeholders, must have greater say in resolving their concerns and in finding solutions to their problems, if they are to enter the Kingdom. Since Sunday church services cannot do that, the church must shift from its regular model to a Great Commission model. To do so, she must stop romancing with pastor-led performances to all Body members ministering openly. The Hebrew word Yasha for salvation or savior means 'open, free.' This is already taking place, as many devotees become disciple-makers (Luke 12:32; Gal. 3:27-29).

Yeshua's Training Schedule

Yeshua did not enjoy a leisurely morning cup of coffee in bed accompanied by devotional music, followed by a breakfast of un-kosher bacon or sausage, poached eggs, cornflakes and buttered toast, washed down with orange juice, before heading for a comfortable armchair to worship the all-knowing Lord Google. Yeshua and his disciples started ministering early to the crowds, even before they had time to brush their teeth.

Yeshua came from a working class background. He rejected the parasitic, consumer-class, religious priests, choosing in their stead self-employed, working-class folk, fishers and farmers, from the "food and commodity producing" background to be his disciples. Such folk do not start their day with early morning devotion but by cleaning up the dirty mess made by their milk cows, or by hauling up smelly fish and heading for the market. These interact creatively with land, water, animals, seed and nature, every day, expressing their gratitude to God all day long.

Yeshua choose no one from the service sector, either. Of course, in the church, there are good, bad, corrupt and indifferent members, and all cannot be painted with the same brush. Even so, most of them are afflicted with the timidity virus and, at the slightest threat to their

security by Goliaths of the secular society, they are easily intimidated, ready to submit to the Philistines. These need a hefty dose of Joshua's prescription: "Be strong and courageous" (Josh. 1:6-9) and to get trained to use slingshots (apt verses from the Bible) to hit the bull's eye, and skills to use the enemy's own sword (sacred texts of other faith communities) to slay them.

Servants and entrepreneurs live by two different paradigms. Entrepreneurs take ownership of their domain and employ professionals and therefore rank higher. Servants work for wages and depend on others to make decisions for them. Entrepreneurs take risks, make mistakes and acquire problem-solving skills. Facing insecurity and threats is common for them who are also free to shut shop at the drop of a hat and go for ministry wherever needed.

While the consumer class consumes without regenerating anything, and the servant class is job seeker, the entrepreneurs not only produce food and commodities but also create jobs. John and James had servants working in their Zebedee Fishers Company. We are called to be risk takers and not undertakers who take care of a dying church (Mark 1:19-20).

History of the House Church

The Scripture enshrines as the fundamental right of every believer freely to profess, practice and propagate his faith, while the modern church thrives on the theology of inequality. Calling a person a layman degrades him that creates role conflict and role ambiguity that destroys all his potential as a robust Kingdom expander. A layman is like a deactivated bomb, that is just a dummy that contains no gun powder.

That is why, through centuries of the history of the church written by traditional church fathers, the history of the house church was relegated to oblivion. The house churches represent a spiritual democracy which remains diametrically antithetical to the hierarchical, institutional church model. Hierarchical structures suppress freedom of expression, revelations, powerful testimonies, dreams, visions and prophetic voices within the church, phenomena so necessary for the growth and maturity of the Bride.

From the time of Constantine, the history of the house church has been swept under the carpet. Even though the authentic church survived mainly in the house churches, the history of house church is no history at all, as if it never existed. Even today, it finds very little space in either Christian literature or in tele-evangelism, whereas in truth, the meteoric resurgence of simple, organic, house churches should be dominating the pages of Christian books, magazines and the media.

The soul-destroying, historical divide between clergy-ism and laymen-ism must be razed and both be handed scythes and sickles to go and reap the harvest.

Only a decade ago the concept of house church was being laughed off as absurd. A little later they began to grudgingly accept that there might be some substance in it. Interestingly, its former adversaries are now vehemently claiming that they invented it. However the house church is not a new kid in the neighborhood, being at least 2000 years old.

House churches are now successfully competing with mega churches and they are winning. Praise God that organic house churches are now firmly in focus and increasingly recognized as an authentic, biblical church that has the capacity to finish the unfinished commission, reaching to the ends of the earth.

THE NUMBER OF HOUSE CHURCHES IS GROWING		
NATION	YEAR 2000	YEAR 2009
AUSTRALIA	50	2000
AUSTRIA	10	200
BANGLADESH	3,000	80,000
EGYPT	400	6000
GERMANY	100	3000
INDONESIA	1000	70,000
PAKISTAN	1000	10,000

PHILIPPINES	500	5000
INDIA	75,000+	200,000+
Source: Wolfgang Simson, <i>The House Church Book</i> (2009).		

With 100,000 salaried pastors suffering from burnout and some 1, 500 quitting every month in the USA alone, for various reasons, in the next decade we will see many more bi-vocational, self-employed leaders who earn their own living while invest their time and re- sources in kingdom-planting movements:

”If any one does not provide for his own and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever” (1 Tim. 5:8).

Paul, a theologian turned tent maker, never separated his business from his ministry. In fact, Paul planted his business before he planted a church. Yeshua is looking for businessmen for the harvest field, not for religious scholars. You do not need a lot of resources to start your ministry.

Let’s stop shouting, “Give us a king” and start functioning as royal priests, shifting from a “led” model to a “sent” one, more relational than organizational. Before professional missionaries took over, the gospel reached Persia, China by the Silk Road, Africa and India through traders and craftsmen.

Even early missionaries like William Carey were self-supported conduits of the gospel. Mother Teresa started her, “Sisters of Charity” with just ten cents in her pocket. This is also happening in the house church movement, and most of the future church movement will be driven by entrepreneurs and rarely by those with a service mentality (1 Sam. 8:6; 1 Pet. 2:9).

Armageddon

The white races have reduced the procreative act to acrobatics, a mere act of lust, and are no longer fruitful and multiplying. Their birthrate has come down alarmingly to 1 .6 live births per couple, which

cannot sustain their numbers, for the absolute minimum to sustain a population remains 2.5 live births per couple.

Meanwhile, Muslim's have made big families a religious requirement. Now with 38 million Muslims in Europe and 2.8 million in the USA, the terrorists will not come from outside, for they are being bred within. Yasser Arafat said that the Arab womb is their strongest weapon against the Jews.

European and American societies, based on Judeo-Christian principles, worked hard and achieved unparalleled prosperity. Unfortunately, like Jeshurun, a symbolic name of upright Israel, Europe has "waxed fat and kicked" (Deut. 32:15), having developed amnesia about the God who prospered her and has gone the way of the world.

At this rate, very soon Europe will soon become Eurabia. In the same way, if the Americans do not take a stand and fight back the dark evil forces it will, in another twenty years, quietly go down the European way and the Muslims will be able to elect their own President of the United States of Arabia. World War III, the mother of all wars, is not in the future; it has already begun.

To defuse this demographic time bomb, the white races must not only obey God by becoming fruitful and multiplying, but they also must urgently learn ways of turning the sword of Islam into plowshares by making the sons of Ishmael the followers of Isa al-Masih. This is not difficult once you "know how." All you have to do is to get off your high octane horse and learn to ride a camel in a desert situation. Christianity is a counter culture in which loving and praying for Bin Laden must be the norm. All this is only possible in the context of house churches, for orthodox Muslims will not be caught dead or alive in a traditional church. They must take "gusl" (baptisms) secretly in bath tubs, not only to keep pace with their birthrate, but to catch up with the back log of 1.6 billion Muslims.

God is not shifting the 20th century church forwards but backwards to a first century New Testament model, by reversing her engines. She needs to stop being spectator in a war of attrition, and proactively demolish the wall of separation between her and the Muslims. Without

this, there can be no peace on earth. Our loving God sends rain and sunshine on both sinners and the righteous. There is no earthly reason why we must not love and lead our neighbors, including terrorists, into the Kingdom, which is the only solution for the return of the prodigal sons.

God gave Ishmael his name before he was born. It means, "God hears me." His father Abraham sent him out with a few loaves of bread and a bottle of water while his brother, Isaac, took all their inheritance. When Ishmael's mother, Hagar, left him to die of thirst, he was reduced from being a son of the richest man on earth into the son of a mere maid servant. Later, there came Jacob who cheated Esau out of his inheritance in exchange for a bowl of lentils.

Islam means, "submitted" to Allah, like a servant. In Islam, there is no father-son relationship between Allah and believers. Ishmaelites have lived in a wilderness of rejection and hurt for the past 4000 years. However, God was with Ishmael and when he heard the voice of the lad, he opened the eyes of his mother to see a fountain of water. Had Ishmaelites not taken Joseph to Egypt, there would be no nation of Israel, today. Without Moses finding shelter and a wife amongst the Midianites (Ishmaelites) in modern Saudi Arabia, the nation of Israel would still be slaves in Egypt (Gen. 21:17-20).

The historical (mother) church cursed the Ishmaelites, leaving them to die in the wilderness for the last 2000 years, but the 9th of September, 2001, changed everything. The focus of prayer has now shifted towards the sons of Ishmael as never before, and now the Bible lands are on the boil as Arab Muslims in the lands of Abraham (Iraq) and Esther (Iran), of Joseph (Egypt) and Daniel (Babylon) are seeing dreams and visions, the man in the white or the bright light, and coming to Christ in numbers unprecedented.

Paul thought he was doing a great service to God by persecuting Christians. Although Ananias and the rest of the Jerusalem church looked at Paul as a jihadi (religious terrorist), Yeshua told Ananias that Paul was a chosen vessel to bear his name before kings and Gentiles (Acts 9:11).

It matters little whether a Muslim be a hard core fanatic or moderate, Islam teaches that all non-Muslims are *kafir* (infidels) and therefore can be killed with impunity. Although Islamophobia should be real, there is no point to wallowing in ignorance, but chart out, in love, a corrective course of action.

Every time a suicide bomber blows himself up, killing as many infidels as he can, he is deluded into believing that, when he opens his eyes again, he will be in *jannat*, the paradise of God. The victim has now turned to violence. The church must look at Muslims with Yeshua Messiah's eyes, standing in the gap for Ishmael and Esau to take up and bear Isa al-Masih's name before the Jews and the Gentiles, thus fulfilling his eternal purposes.

The Biblical Israel extends from the river Euphrates to the Nile and includes Iraq, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Kuwait, Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and the Gaza Strip. Since 9/11 a large number of Muslims in these countries have become secret believers in Isa, while some 1.6 billion other, thirsty, hurt, rejected Muslims are waiting for the loving Father to open the eyes of the mother (church) and for her to provide rivers of living waters (Gen. 15:18; John 7:37-38).

For the present, Muslim followers of Isa can be made disciples and mentored only in secret, underground, below the radar, in house churches, by culture-specific equippers. The noisy Pentecostal model has to be deconstructed, for it can prove downright suicidal. This does not mean that they cannot rejoice, for we are called to "rejoice in the Lord always by making melody in our hearts" (Eph. 5:19; Phil. 4:4)

In the meanwhile, God is anxiously waiting for the children of Nebaioth and Kedar, the sons of Ishmael, to come on dromedaries (fast camels) and glorify his holy altar. Mohammed, the prophet of Islam, is a direct descendent of Kedar, the second son of Ishmael. According to the Holy Scriptures, notwithstanding all the violence and bravado, Kedar will fail and so will Esau (Edom, Idumea) (Isa. 21:16-17; 60:6-7; 34:5-6; Amos 1:11).

Of the four billion Gentiles of the world, 42% are Muslims. The time of the Gentiles (Hebrew goyim) will not be over until all those whom the

Lord has chosen are brought into the fold. In other words, the Lord will not come back until the sons of Ishmael become the followers of Isa al-Masih who will then provoke the sons of Jacob to jealousy and remove their cataracts causing partial blindness. The bad news is that due to our ignorance, inaction and lack of courage, they are now the net exporters of violent Islam. Conversion in these countries is punishable by execution. The good news is that the church is finally putting her act together, especially since the past decade, as never before (Gen. 25:13; Rom. 11:11, 14, 25-26; Isa. 45:22-24).

When Isaac blessed his son Esau, he predicted that he would one day break his yoke and have dominion (Gen. 27:40). Today, Muslims are sitting on half the oil wells of the world. They are funneling this black gold into oiling the war machines of the jihadis both for violence and for building mosques.

For centuries, Christians just sat on their backsides, watching Jews and Muslims fight a war of attrition, instead of learning how to exchange ashes for beauty or to turn black oil into oil of gladness and joy (Isaiah 61:3). We must learn to turn their swords into plowshares and the spears into pruning hooks and learn war no more (Mic. 4:3).

God has stored up all those billions and trillions of dollars' worth of treasure to catapult his church into exponential growth and multiplication for reaping the great end-time harvest. It is the sons of Ishmael and Esau, who will come first into the Kingdom, then provoke Israel, their brother, and usher him into the Kingdom. After all, all of them carry Abraham's DNA.

If Christians can invest their lifetime studying Hebrew history and literature, where is the problem in their studying the history and literature of Ishmael and of Esau who are biblical people dwelling in the Bible lands? Surely, their history and destiny are intertwined and inseparable.

“Allah has revealed ninety nine names to the sons of men, so that they may worship Him, but the one name, the one hundredth name, he has revealed only to the camel; and the camel, he is not talking” (Muslim Proverb).

Muslims already believe in the virgin birth of Isa, that he is the anointed one (al-Masih), Kalaamutullah (the word of Allah), and Ruhullah (the Spirit of Allah); that he performed many supernatural acts and that he is coming again to judge. Praise God that some Christians (the camels) are already telling them that the name of Isa al-Masih occurs in their holy book, Qur'an, 96 times in various forms.

God is waiting to bring universal restoration of all things. "In that day there will be highway from Egypt to Assyria. The Assyrians will go down to Egypt and the Egyptians to Assyria. The Egyptians and Assyrians will worship together. In that day Israel will be the third, along with Egypt and Assyria, a blessing to the earth. The Lord Almighty will bless them, saying, 'Blessed be Egypt my people, Assyria my handiwork, and Israel my inheritance.'" It is sobering to know that before Yeshua Messiah can return to earth, he has to incarnate into the hearts of Egyptians, Assyrians and the Jews alike (Acts 3:21; Isa. 19:23-25).

The Jews

These sons of Abraham have always been the most persecuted people on earth. Ever since they said, "Let his (Messiah's) blood be upon us and our children," things simply got worse. The Romans, various governments, the Catholic Church, the Crusaders, even Martin Luther, and the British, Germans, French, Spaniards, Russians and just about every other European nation, has murdered them by the millions (Matt. 27:22-25).

The struggle between Jacob and Esau is not of recent origin, having started in the womb of their mother Rebecca (Gen. 25:23). No amount of peace negotiations by politicians will change anything until, "saviors (intercessors) stand in the gap for both, Jacob and Esau, to break the middle wall of separation; and then shall the Kingdom be the Lord's" (Oba. 1:21).

Every time the Americans pressured Israel to give some of its land to the Arabs, the USA was hit by a severe storm. Large numbers of disillusioned young Jews come to India, following their military service, for cheap drugs and sex with Buddhism and Hinduism as a bonus. Figures vary between 20,000 and 60,000 abortions among Jews every year, a

crime worse than the child sacrifice to god Moloch by apostate Jews in the valley of Hinnon (2 Chron. 28:3). Liberal abortion policies in Israel have destroyed more lives than the six million Jews destroyed in the Holocaust.

Things will get worse and God will not give the Jews their inheritance from the river of Euphrates to the river of Nile, and Yeshua will not return, until the Jews say, “Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord” (Gen. 15:18; Math. 23:29) and Muslim’s receive the Spirit of adoption and cry out, “Abba Father” (Rom. 8:15). The destiny of Islam and Judaism lies squarely on bent knees, folded hands and liquid eyes of the intercessors.

There are already about 15,000 Messianic Jews in Israel with some 50 gatherings in regular churches, 50 in houses, and about 200 born-again Christians in the Israeli army with an additional 200 gatherings outside of Israel. These are alarm bells for us, as the times of Gentiles will soon be over and the second coming of Christ will become imminent. We must complete the task before the ingathering of the Messianic Jews is complete and the fallen tabernacle of the Jewish nation is rebuilt (Matt. 21:24, 28).

Catholics

In the last decade, the Catholic Church has seen a greater exodus than the Protestant, even as it remains the largest church with over a billion adherents worldwide. The last decade witnessed cataclysmic changes in the church. Mary worship, idolatry, authority of priests and nuns, celibacy, ritualized sacraments, have all been in decline. Many are reading the Bible more often, which is opening their eyes as never before and now there are many charismatic Catholics attending interactive house churches. They call these gatherings Basic Ecclesial Communities.

The present Pope Benedict proclaimed that house churches are authentic churches, as Saint Paul sent greetings to them (1 Cor. 16:19). All the functions of the church, including baptisms and the Eucharist, can now be served by local leaders without the presence of a priest. Benedict further added that this is the way forward for the Catholic Church in the

third millennium. Their biggest problem is that they are not trained in how to share their faith with others.

There is no biblical justification for the traditional Protestant condemnation of the Catholics, and there is much we can learn from them. Your church must develop an organic relationship with them, repent and stand in the gap for them.

High Caste Brahmin Hindus

Some consider Brahmins to be the descendants of Abraham (A-Braham), born to Keturah and other concubines, whom he sent to the East (Gen. 25:5-7). They practice many traditions of the Levites such as untouchability, ritual purity, incestuous marriage, reciting and interpreting scriptures, and being priests in the temples. However, unlike the Levites, they worship a plurality of gods.

Abraham's name can mean "father of nations." "In thy seed all the nations of the earth will be blessed." This promise includes Hindus (Gen. 22:18).

Brahmins constitute only three percent of the billion strong population of India, yet dominate administration, politics, police, economics, banks, education, medicine, media, Silicon valley and, of course, religion. It was they who instituted the evil caste system, a form of slavery and apartheid, thereby creating a dehumanizing space between the haves and the have-nots, reducing them to Dalits (the crushed). Brahmins have been the most resistant to Christianity, recognizing it to be a threat to their hegemony. It is they who orchestrate the nationalistic and ideological, fundamentalist movements that hate Muslims and persecute Christians.

However, as recently as in the latter half of this decade, Brahmins have started responding in significant numbers. Since they are great influencers, their becoming Followers of Christ is of great significance. God has sent out some twenty million Indians into Diaspora to almost every part of the globe, not only to earn a living but to be transformed. A significant number who went to the West are high caste Brahmins who dominate medicine, education, business, the digital world and now politics. The global church must intercede for Brahmins who also bear the

seed of Abraham, because they have the potential, not only to change India, but all the way to Silicon Valley.

Europe

Europeans who, for centuries, contributed so significantly, in terms of men, money and materials, for expansion of the Kingdom, have become a chosen and a frozen generation. To be a practicing Christian in this post-modern era is tantamount to becoming a second-class citizen and an object of ridicule. The Bible is being criminalized, while the Dragon's claws daily tighten. At current rates Christianity will soon be relegated to the back pages of history books.

Something has to be done and be done urgently; house church planting can be the only answer. But first, we must pray for "men of peace" who will take country-wise ownership of post-Christian Europe. If we cannot find men of peace, then we might have to invent or manufacture them on a big scale. For this to happen, all we have to do is to bathe Europe with an avalanche of prayer, and the "men and women of peace" will start popping up everywhere.

A good sign is that, according to reliable sources, the chosen and frozen generation is slowly defrosting. There are now around 12,000 house churches scattered throughout Europe.

Literature, Tools and Transport

A decade ago, there were hardly any books on the House Church, but today there exists a plethora of well-researched books and training materials. However, all these books on disciple-making are useful only after blindness has been removed and doors have been opened. There is hardly any material available on how to remove blindness, to demolish the gates of hell or to open closed doors.

Appropriate tools, technology and literature are essential for Maintaining the 7-Ms: Motivating, Mobilizing, Mentoring and Managing Momentum for a Mass Movement. Picture books, radio, VCD and other media produced in their heart language, are being developed for a largely non-literate clientele.

Although many donor agencies are shy of providing transport facilities, gone are the days of barefoot evangelists sporting a shoulder bag. Today, bicycles and Hero Honda motor cycles are putting the gospel on the fast track to remote villages. Multiplication of mature disciple-makers depends very much on multiplication of necessary tools and transport.

Cross-Cultural Mission

Missionary role is now restricted to being a rocket that launches the satellite into space and must quickly disengage. If he does not, then their satellite will disintegrate with him. The global south needs to dismantle outdated colonial traditions and structures, that has belittled the church to buildings, bodies and budgets. God does not live in the past, present or the future but in eternity.

First the church has to abandon its colonial evangelistic mindset and get into an apostolic mode, setting its sights not only on preaching the gospel but focusing on reaping the harvest. The Word of God has been misused for too long for Sunday sermons; it is time to put it into practice. The present church structure has created a diabolical space between the saved and the unsaved, thus creating a huge logjam of the unsaved for whom she is accountable. If she is not equipping her saints to be all weather fishers of men, then she is not doing her job and liable to be judged.

The very first thing God himself preached and practiced was delegation: "Let them subdue the earth and have dominion over it." Even though it does not matter whether the cat is white or black as long as it catches mice, hyper-parenting in the traditional church will nearly always produce dysfunctional saints of the soil. The sooner we recognize that God can hear anyone without the intervention of a professional priest, and that He understands all languages and not just the church speak, the faster the unfinished task will be finished.

The greatest sin of the traditional church is over-mothering. Her messages, songs and even prayers come pre-cooked and have, overtime, grown stale. Liturgical churches are the worst. Nothing in them is even

remotely spontaneous. If this is not a controlling spirit, then what is? Fortunately, in God the Father, we enjoy hope and freedom.

The church must learn to harness the fervor and synergy that is already in the pews, releasing believers to turn their nations to Christ, so that all nations, tongues and tribes can eat, meet and gossip the gospel in their own heart language, take possession of their eternal inheritance, and be made worthy to stand before His throne and worship God. Remember, our workplace is our inheritance (Rev. 7:9-10).

Most churches are living on fossil fuel that is 2000 years old. Transiting from the church building to the market place can prove simple or complex, depending on your world view. All it need is to shed the territorial, myopic vision confining you to man-made boundaries. You need to remove the clergy-laymen cleavage, ordain market and work place ministers by tens of thousands, tear down strongholds, and colonize the market place. Then declare the Kingdoms of this world as the Kingdom of our Lord and his Messiah, and reign with Him on earth for an eternity.

Standing at the crossroads will not get you anywhere. Well, that is not exactly true, for procrastination can land you and those in your domain where the worm dieth not, nor is the fire quenched (Isa. 66:24).

Most people raised in the church never get the big picture. Even if someone Shows it to them, they do not buy into it. They think that the engagement with the marketplace is both wrong and repugnant, whereas the truth is that Christians should be major players in daily commerce. Since God does not want the heathen to rule over us, capturing the market place must be our priority. The choice is yours, whether to join the spectators in their pew and holler, or to enter the action packed arena of the market place and cause a ruckus in the spiritual world. God is looking for productivity- linked shepherds to bring his Kingdom on earth (Joel 2:17; Dan. 2:44).

There are more than 500 million Pentecostals and Charismatics worldwide who only receive enough of the Spirit to get activated on Sundays and remain deactivated during the week. Fivefold, ministry gifts that can change the present case scenario is lying dormant and untapped

within many saints in the pews and needs activating. Sadly most apostles and prophets, who are the Lord's primary equippers of his flock, remain at the lunatic fringe (Eph. 4:11-12).

While most leaders belong to the status quo, category, it is the Apostles and Prophets that tear down strongholds and open up new territories. They blossom, wherever they are placed, even on rocky ground (1 Cor. 7: 17, 20, 24). Blossoms attract all kinds of birds, bees, beetles and butterflies which results in the cross-pollination that ensures fruitfulness. Fish, seed, harvest, fruit, vine and sheep reproduce wherever they are, for they all have multiplication connotations and not just status quo. Even the Father begat a Son.

Witnessing is not just an optional extra; it is the mandate, the method, the message and the lifestyle of any disciple of Messiah, worth his salt. It can obliterate the present zero chemistry that exists between the church and the lost. It is rather presumptuous to stand behind one's pulpit, preaching from the Word of God to the many prophets and apostles Seated in their pews, to whom God is already speaking directly. What you hear in church is only a script, the action takes place out on location.

You cannot bring revival in the church through healing crusades or revival meetings because the audience consists of Christians that do not show the signs of believers and the healer is only a believer and not a disciple maker (Mark 16:17-18).

The church is a soul repair shop that does a complete overhaul job. She is neither a cosmetic beauty salon nor a museum for perfect saints. Her work is to fix up the hurting and to make them perfect. It is not a place for perfect people but for fixing up hurting people and making them perfect. House churches start so humble and remain fragile, providing no ego-bolstering glory or money-churning possibilities. The authentic biblical method of making disciples of the nations is to share the whole counsel of God while breaking bread from house to house. All the preaching, teaching, even prayers and all spiritual gifts remain worthless unless the saints are fruiting on site. Yeshua himself cursed a fruitless fig tree.

Even though most of the active apostles and prophets, especially at the grassroots, are not ordained in a public ceremony, many have a clear calling and commissioning. You will know them by their fruit (Matt. 7:20). It is time everyone got daily booster doses of the Spirit to demonstrate their faith throughout the week by going and becoming worksite apostles and prophets, laying the foundation of new gatherings that have Messiah as their chief corner stone (Eph. 2:20).

The market place influences every facet of our life, whether it be politics, administration, economics, media, education, health, culture or our daily life. Subduing and having dominion over demonic market forces, redeeming the work place for glorifying God, is the shortest way to redeem the whole creation.

The task before us remains Herculean. Many of those seated in their pews are just church members who are not even believers, for they show no signs of faith: "In my name they shall cast out demons... and pray for the sick and they will be healed" (Mark 16:17-18). First, they have to be upgraded to empowered believer status, though that alone will not take them to heaven (Matt. 7:21-23). Yeshua did not ask us to make believers or even to start believers' churches; rather He instructed us to make disciples who make many more disciples. "They that turn many to righteousness will shine like bright stars forever in the firmament" (Dan. 12:3).

It will require more than good intentions to get there. Your greatness and indeed your eternal destiny depend on your ability to walk away from your own cherished dreams without a shred of remorse and emotion, to embrace the greater purposes of God. This requires a consuming passion, an insatiable hunger to finish the task and bring Christ back to planet earth in your own generation, before 'death do us part'. Most of all, it will require that you shift from being a decorative potted plant in the pew to being a rugged fruit bearing Tree of Life in your workplace, neighborhood and your city, which is your inheritance.

We praise God that the come-sit-soak-and-stagnate, colonial church, Made in Rome by Constantine, is slowly but surely getting out of Alice in Blunderland and imploding, like Humpty Dumpty, into innumerable clusters and shifting into motivating, mobilizing, managing, mentoring

and maturing disciples in Metachurches for a global mass movement (M7).

The Devil knows that his time is short. The church must also realize that her time is short and act to see that the Kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our Lord and his Messiah (Rev. 12:12; 1 Pet. 4:7).

Shalom and shalom again,

greettheeklesia@gmail.com