

Trust the Process: Creating Spiritual Cisterns

Part two of the series, "Discerning These Times"

Sunday, August 14, 2022 | Mark Younge

"Then Jesus spoke to me again, and said: 'Tell My Church to create cisterns (spiritual water storage systems) to trap the first drops of revival rain.' These words left me with an unusual sense of urgency. I realized we had to create fresh space in our churches for the Holy Spirit to move and touch lives. The Holy Spirit impressed upon me that without these 'first' drops, our people would not have the spiritual strength they needed in order to 'press in' for the fullness of the outpouring which would come soon. As this vision was coming to an end, the Holy Spirit spoke these words to me repeatedly: 'It's not business as usual; it's not business as usual; it's not business as usual.'" - Pastor Jim Laffoon

'Cisterns' are formed as we WAIT on God and PRAY corporately.

"And while staying with them, he [Jesus] ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, 'you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.' ⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.'" (Acts 1:4-8 ESV)

"Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him." (Isaiah 30:18 ESV)

"...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray..." (2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV)

God POURS OUT His SPIRIT so that we can be FILLED.

"Then they returned to Jerusalem... ¹³And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying... ¹⁴All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers... ¹When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 1:12-14, 2:1-4 ESV)

God EMPOWERS us to GO and bring revival.

"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.' ³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' ³⁸And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:36-41 ESV)

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