



Friday January 01, 2021
Word of the Lord 2021 : Step Into 'The More Glorious'

Brief

Word of the Lord 2021
Step into the 'more glorious' (2 Corinthians 3:5-12)

IN 2021, STEP INTO A MORE GLORIOUS COVENANT, A MORE GLORIOUS LIFE IN THE SPIRIT, AND A MORE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT.

God has given us A MORE GLORIOUS COVENANT with great covenant provisions and blessings. We must step into these and walk as covenant people.
We have A MORE GLORIOUS LIFE IN THE SPIRIT, a life that manifests Jesus in His fulness.
We have A MORE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT, a ministry that represents Jesus in all His fulness.

God calls us to step into this more glorious covenant, more glorious life in the Spirit and more glorious ministry of the Spirit.

[Please be seated]

Message

2 Corinthians 3:5-12

5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

6 who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

7 But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away,

8 how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious?

9 For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory.

10 For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels.

11 For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious.

12 Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—

We see that what we have as New Testament believers is 'more glorious' than what was given under the Old.



We see:

A MORE GLORIOUS COVENANT (vs 6)

A MORE GLORIOUS LIFE IN THE SPIRIT (vs 6)

A MORE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT (vs 8)

God calls us to step into this more glorious covenant, more glorious life in the Spirit and more glorious ministry of the Spirit.

Glory (Greek 'doxa') when used with reference to God, is the display of who God is and what He does. A display, a manifestation, an expression of His nature and His works.

God has ordained 'the more glorious' for us through His covenant, through the life in the Spirit and through the ministry of the Spirit. This means we are to display greater expressions of God's glory.

IF WHAT YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED HAS BEEN 'GLORIOUS', GET READY FOR THE 'MORE GLORIOUS'.

Let's talk about each briefly:

A MORE GLORIOUS COVENANT

God has given us A MORE GLORIOUS COVENANT with great covenant provisions and blessings.

In this covenant, you are a son, a daughter of the Most High. You are a heir of God and a joint-heir with Jesus Christ. You have abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness. You reign in life. You are an overcomer. And so much more.

All who God is, He has made available to us through this Covenant.

We must step into these and walk as covenant people.

A MORE GLORIOUS LIFE IN THE SPIRIT

We have A MORE GLORIOUS LIFE IN THE SPIRIT, a life that manifests Jesus in His fulness.

Under the Law, people were instructed what to do, but did not have the power to do it. Under grace, as New Testament believers we are empowered by the Spirit to do what is right, to walk in righteousness, to walk victorious over the flesh, the world, and the devil.

We are to walk in the Spirit, live by the Spirit and be led by the Spirit (Galatians 5).



A MORE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT

We have A MORE GLORIOUS MINISTRY OF THE SPIRIT, a ministry that represents Jesus in all His fulness.

The ministry of the Spirit brings life, righteousness, transforms the heart and reveals greater glory to people. He said we will do the works He did and even greater works than those.

Our sufficiency comes from God (2 Corinthians 3:5)

We are able ministers of the new covenant (2 Corinthians 3:6)

We are very bold – have great boldness of speech (2 Corinthians 3:12).

VESSELS OF MERCY TO DISPLAY HIS GLORY

Romans 9:23-24

23 and that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy, which He had prepared beforehand for glory,

24 even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?

We are vessels of mercy to display His glory.

God planned this to be so, ahead of time.

Vessel = implement, instrument, equipment

We are vessels of God's mercy. Whoever we are, whatever we are, it is because of the mercy of God.

We are objects of His mercy.

We are people who have received His mercy.

We are vessels of mercy to display His glory.

Receive My glory – we receive revelation of His glory.

Share in My glory – we receive sonship glory.

Display My glory – we reveal, display and dispense God's glory.

This was God's plan from before time.

STEP IN, TO TAKE POSSESSION

Stepping in to 'the more glorious' is like stepping into our land of promise, because God has ordained this for us. This is our land to possess.

As God told Joshua in Joshua 1:3, WE MUST WALK INTO IT, TO POSSESS IT.



Walking into requires a deliberate, determined, continuous action.

It is similar to what Jesus said in Matthew 11:12.

God has made all that is in His Kingdom available to us. We must press in to possess.

AVOID SINS THAT DESTROY DESTINY

In 1 Corinthians 10:5-12 we read about the five sins that kept the people of Israel out of their land of Promise.

We must be careful of these same five sins:

Lusting after evil things (vs 6) – anything that holds our affections captive

Idolatry (vs 7) – anything that takes the place of God in our lives

Sexual immorality (vs 8) – violating God's standards in our sexual appetites

Tempting Christ (vs 9) – challenging God to see if He and His Word are true (Example Matthew 4:5-7)

Murmuring/Complaining (vs 10) – speaking ill of God, His work, His ways, His people.

WHERE THERE IS GREAT GRACE, THERE IS GREAT GLORY, BUT THERE IS LOW TOLERANCE FOR SIN.

Have low tolerance for sin.

PREPARE TO SUFFER FOR THE NAME OF CHRIST

1 Peter 4:14

If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

Stepping into 'the more glorious' may bring more suffering for the name of Christ.

You may be reproached, mocked at, scoffed at for the name of Christ.

GOD'S TWO-FOLD PURPOSE

1, The Church is being brought to its state of being glorious, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing (Ephesians 5:27). This will be more glorious or of greater glory than the Early Church (Haggai 2:9).

2, God will fill the earth with the knowledge of His glory (Habakkuk 2:14, Isaiah 11:9).

2021-2030 : A decade of greater glory (Haggai 2:9; Ephesians 5:27)

The Church brought into its place of greater glory

GROW IN FAITH, POWER, COMPASSION, AND INTERCESSION



So what should we do as a Church to see greater glory:

- Grow in faith – believe to see the glory (John 11:40).
- Grow in power – faith and power releases mighty signs and wonders (Acts 6:8).
- Grow in compassion – love causes faith and power to be effective (Galatians 5:6).
- Grow in prayer and intercession – intercession cause the birth of new things (Isaiah 66:8).

REVIEW

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APPLICATION

Continue to pray for these 4 things for APC

- A) Maturity - That every person at APC will grow into Christ-likeness in all things.
- B) Miracles - That we will see increased miracles of healings, deliverances, provision, needs met to bless individuals, families and businesses at APC.
- C) Multiplication – The congregation at each APC location in Bangalore will grow and increase in numbers reaching many people in our city.
- D) Ministries - That as a church we will have great impact on our city, nation and the nations through the various ministries God has assigned to us.

Let the spontaneous move of the Spirit fill us as a church - in our daily lives and in our gatherings.

In Closing

MINISTRY TIME
SALVATION CALL



LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

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The is a simple guide for use in Life Group discussions. Our objective is to focus on the application of the Sunday sermon - how each one is becoming a doer of the Word and building their life on God's Holy Word. The Life Group meeting would normally last for 2 hours. Each Life Group would have up to 12-15 people.

Preparation

To prepare for the Life Group meeting, you can listen to the Sermon Key Points (sermon summary in five minutes) or the full length Sunday sermon. You can also review the Sunday Sermon notes. All these are available in the "All Peoples Church Bangalore" mobile App or online at apcwo.org/sermons . Pray for the Life Group meeting and invite the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome

The Life Group meeting may commence with a time of prayer, worship and a fun activity.

LISTEN to God's Word

Read the following Scripture passages: *2 Corinthians 3:5-12, Romans 9:23-24, Joshua 1:3, 1 Corinthians 10:5-12*

INVESTIGATE God's Word Together

Please discuss a few of these together, giving time for people to share their insights. We encourage each one individually to make notes of their personal learning during the Group discussion.

1, We have a more glorious covenant

We studied the Blood Covenant in the early part of 2020. What is covenant? Discuss briefly the provisions and blessings we have as part of this 'more glorious' covenant.

2, We have a more glorious life in the Spirit

We are to walk in the Spirit, live by the Spirit and be led by the Spirit (Galatians 5).



Discuss what it means to live empowered by the Spirit of God and why is this 'more glorious' that people under the Law?

3, We have a more glorious ministry of the Spirit

The ministry of the Spirit brings life, righteousness, transforms the heart and reveals greater glory to people.

Based on 2 Corinthians 3:5,6,12 how do we go about ministering to people, since we know we are engaged in a more glorious ministry of the Spirit?

4, Review the 5 sins mentioned in 1 Corinthians 10:5-12 that could keep us from experiencing what God has prepared for us..

If time permits, each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share one or two key learning and how they see themselves applying it into their specific life situations. Encourage each one to participate and share.

FELLOWSHIP by sharing your life and spiritual journey

Each one takes a few (3 minutes max) to share anything from their walk with God, something God has been teaching them, a testimony of answered prayer or a specific challenge that they would like prayer for. Encourage each one to participate and share.

ENCOURAGE each other by praying and ministering to one another

Get into small groups of two or three and take turns to thank God and pray for each other in the light of what was learnt today. Listen to the Holy Spirit. Expect the gifts of the Holy Spirit to flow bringing healing, releasing miracles, prophecy, etc.

Regroup and pray together for:

1, families to be protected and strengthened

2, a mighty outpouring of God's Holy Spirit on us as a church and through us to bless many others in our city and nation. Nothing but a mighty work of God's Spirit can change our city and nation.

3, for the BUILD TO IMPACT project - for God's hand to guide us through the land search and acquisition process, and for finances to be more than enough to get this project done.

Close by thanking God together.