



WORD OF FAITH INT'L CHRISTIAN CENTER

TEACHING THE WORD. DOING THE WORK. TOUCHING THE WORLD.

2022 The Year of the Authority of the Righteous

by Bishop Keith Butler | Bible Study Notes | Friday, 12/31/2021

Opening Summary

The Lord gave us this Word to deliver New Year's Eve night. 2022 is the year of the authority of the believer, the righteous. In this message, you will see how we've come to this place, why we are in this season and what comes next. There is good news. Jesus delegated authority to His church. And though the past couple of years have been trying, those who would repent and take heed to God's Word, can take their authority over darkness, and be restored once again.

Text: Pro. 29:2: *Authority* (Heb.: rabah) means *to increase, grow up, to be full of, to be in charge.*

- I. Several years ago, our Heavenly Father had us go around the USA and warn the churches in the Faith Leaders Alliance that judgement was coming. For God always warns so things can be avoided. In 2020 it arrived, and many have paid a price.
- II. *That is not to say* that those who may have suffered did so because of some failure on their part personally. But know this, during times of high judgement, everything is more severe and happens quicker than in normal times. The fruit of long-standing disobedience comes about suddenly.
- III. We are in a season of high judgement.
 - A. A season has a beginning and an ending.
 - B. It can be a season of cursing or blessing.
- IV. 1 Pet. 4:17-18 tells us that judgement begins with the believers.
- V. Several years ago, God warned that the church must take heed to these five areas:
 - A. The church must remove itself from disobeying God's voice.
 - B. The church must put God's priorities ahead of its own priorities and comfort.
 - C. God's ministers/priest must preach the Word He tells them to preach and not what sounds good to the ear to gain followers.
 1. Hosea 4:4-10: Much of His church has become like Israel of old, they have "rejected knowledge," and therefore have been cut off from the flow of the blessing. It is our responsibility to learn from the Scripture. The Word of God offends them, even when one prays according to the scripture.

2. Recently a person sent us a scathing letter, chastising us for leading our church to pray that the “ungodly” be removed from their positions of authority, and the “godly” be placed there instead. We are not praying about democrats, republicans, or independents, but the righteous!!! That prayer is straight out of Proverbs 29:2. We don’t need any more mourning.

3. That’s someone whose light has diminished.

D. Much of the church has become “carnal” following after a man, rather than God (1 Cor. 3:1-9).

E. The church must understand God’s assignment for each individual. Christians have followed their own decisions, based on their thinking/feelings, rather than God’s assignments. When God assigns you to a place, task, or tasks, it should not matter how far it is, or where it is, or what time services are, or who the people are, or what the weather is like or what sacrifices are necessary.

VI. Judgment starts at the house of God.

A. Christians are the most powerful people in the earth. God moves based upon the prayers of His people.

B. Christians are more powerful than any weaponry because we can move the hand of God with prayer and faith. There is nothing stronger than God Almighty.

VII. Isa 6:8: Here, God asks the question, “Whom shall I send.” Notice this scripture says who will go for us! (Father, Son and Holy Ghost) not what works for them.

VIII. Because of the weakness of the church, these last several decades, the level of sin in the earth has risen to a level of overflow. Such a level of sin allows satan to bring about death, sickness, and poverty. That sin has allowed satan to declare that God’s church is irrelevant to the world, officials having declared it as “**non-essential**.” That’s unheard of. It’s a surprise that more Christians were not shocked.

A. In the USA, the writings of the founding fathers and subsequent presidents of this nation (until more modern times) repeatedly declared that the USA could not prosper without the **church being essential to our nation**.

B. This “non-essential” declaration is/was a sure sign of loss of authority. The Scripture warns that the curse comes as a result of disobedience!

C. Understand Christian, because of the life, death, resurrection and ascension of the Lord Jesus, **satan cannot kill you without your help**. Selah. Pause and think about that.

- IX. Isa 1:1-28: The Old Testament is given for our warning/admonition (1 Cor 10:11). The following will help you understand how we got to this place.
- A. Isa. 1:1: These things happened over decades, from one king's reign to the next.
 - 1. We are where we are because of decades of sin, from one administration to the next, and because of the church's actions over time (Gen. 6:11-13).
 - 2. When sin crests eventually it overflows, then negative judgment comes.
 - B. Isa 1:2: Israel is charged with ingratitude, a high crime with God. At one time God had not only made Israel grow, but He made them great; He not only maintained them, but preferred them; He not only trained them, but raised them high. *Rebelled* (Heb.: pasha) means *to break away from, quarrel, offend, transgress*.
 - C. Isa. 1:3: The ox has a sense of duty to know his master and serve him, to submit to his yoke. Even a donkey knows where home is and will return on its own.
 - D. Isa. 1:4: *Corrupters* (Heb. shachath) means *decay, ruin, cast off, lose*. *Backwards* (Heb. achowr) means *behind, without*.
 - E. Isa. 1:5-7: God is saying through the prophet Isaiah, 'Can't you see what is happening? Instead of returning to Me, you revolt more and more. Instead of this leading you to repentance, you're led to rebellion.' The result is that strangers tear up your land. Strangers don't care about your land because it's not theirs. It's like the difference between the renter and the owner of the house. Typically, the renter doesn't take good care of the house, but the owner takes special care of it.
 - F. Isa. 1:8: The "daughter of Zion" is the church.
 - a. A besieged city is one under attack and just trying to hang on.
 - b. Instead of owning the vineyard, all they have is a cottage in the vineyard.
 - G. Isa. 1:9: Many make the mistake thinking God is moving wherever the crowd is. However, the Scripture says God has a remnant, a fraction, of those who say they are His. Jesus said in the parable of the sower in the New Testament books of Matthew 13, Mark 4, and Luke 8, that only 25% (1 in 4) of people who hear the Word turn out to be good ground (Mat 7:13-14).
 - H. Isa. 1:10-21: There are those who lead people down the wrong path. Their religious practices are of no value to God. Even though they are away from God, they're having worship services as though they are with Him.
 - I. Isa. 1:17-18: *Learn* means *acquire knowledge*. They loved entertainment and hated knowledge.

- J. Verse 19-20: "If" indicates a change is coming. The land can be good again.
- K. Isa. 1:21: How did Jerusalem get like this?
- X. Isa 1:22, *Dross* (Heb.: *ciyg*) is *refuse or garbage*.
- A. Wine is mixed. Whatever was pure in you before, is now corrupt, though you have an outward show. But things can be changed.
 - B. Isa 1:23: Many of your leaders (political, medical, law enforcement, educational and more) are rebellious and corrupt. *Gift/rewards* means *donation, money, power, positions, and fame*. Those who suffer the most need the most help.
 - C. Isa 1:24: *Ease* (Heb.: *nacham*) means *breathe strongly*.
 - D. Isa 1:25: *Purge* means *get rid of*.
 - E. God is saying, during times of high judgment, His hand has been turned down because of sin. But He will take care of His adversaries, and His hand is turning back up again.
- XI. Isa. 1:25: There's good news for 2022!!
- A. They have suffered up to this point, but God is saying He will turn His hand up, indicating a move away from negative judgement.
 - B. *Purge away thy dross* means *melt away your garbage*.
 - C. *Take away your tin* means *make you pure again*.
 - D. Mal 3:3-4: God is saying that He will make it as though it never happened. He will make things normal again.
- XII. Isa 1:26: *Restore* (Heb.: *shuwb*) means to *turn back, recover, refresh, set again*.
- A. Judges are ones who bring forth verdicts of good and evil. They set the course for what is allowed in society.
 - B. Counsellors are the guides of society, those who give advice to those in authority.
 - C. Isa 1:27: When God turns His hand up, the church will be redeemed (rescued). Converts are those that return to her with righteousness.
 - D. Isa 1:28: Transgressors (Heb.: *pasha*) are *those who break away from just authority, rebel, and revolt*. His people who refuse to turn will get all the reward of the wicked.
- XIII. 2022 is the year of the return of the believer's authority!
- A. Authority is "beginning" to be restored for the obedient people of God.
 - B. The pandemic will end.
 - C. It's ending pace, whether gradual or sudden, is up to the church of the living God.
 - D. For the younger generation, it's like the Star Wars movie, *RETURN OF THE JEDI*, after the evil empire struck.
 - E. It means that God's people are the ones winning, restored, and respected again.

- F. It means that this satanic, multi-year pandemic is ending!
- G. What happens from now until the rapture will be determined in the spirit realm by the actions of God's church!!

XIV. In 2022, restoration is available for the church.

- A. Restoration is available for your body, money, job, mind.
- B. Whatever the enemy has brought against you has no power.
- C. When you take your authority and decide to walk with God, moving away from the ways of the flesh, you will see satan's curse find its way out of here.
- D. Then, there shall be a rising of the army of the Lord, the body of Christ.
- E. Believers are getting in their assignment and doing what is required to be effective.
- F. The anointing that destroys all yokes follows that believer.
 - 1. The bad news will come, but the anointing causes it to turn out for your good.
 - 2. Once again, what you set your hands to do will prosper when you walk with God. It can take long, or it can be suddenly.

XV. The pandemic of 1918 ended suddenly.

- A. The church where the 1906 Azusa Street Revival began had fallen away by 1914.
- B. God sent His Word to His people, and they listened.
- C. Satan's counterattack was WWI.
- D. Then God raised up men and women of God in the 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, 60s all the way to the men and women of God who trained us in the 70s.
- E. Praise God that the pandemic has ended.
- F. So, fear not!
- G. The Church of the living God has arisen and cannot be stopped.

Closing Summary

Get before God in prayer. If you need to repent, then repent. Get in your assigned place. Jesus gave you authority over the devil. Take your authority and command satan to flee. In the authority of Jesus, command your angels to work on your behalf as you speak God's Word. Then thank God for it. 2022 is the year of the return of the believer's authority! The body of Christ shall stand in its authority over the devil, and be restored, once again.