

## ***Session 1: The Early Days, Cairo and the 1983 Solemn Assembly***

### **I. WHY SHARE OUR PROPHETIC HISTORY**

- A. Scripture exhorts us to remember what God said and did in the past and to teach it to our children. Remembering what God did in our midst helps us to obey and set our hope in Him.
- <sup>2</sup> I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, <sup>3</sup> which...our fathers told us...<sup>4</sup> telling to the generation to come...His wonderful works. <sup>5</sup> He established a testimony in Jacob...He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children; <sup>6</sup> that the generation to come...may declare them to their children, <sup>7</sup> that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments. (Ps. 78:2-7)*
- B. Some of God's ways are given to us as parables that unfold in a way that enables us, as the years go by, to see more and more significance in what He did in the past. Jesus spoke many things in parables to make truth more clear to those who were humble and hungry for more and to make truth more obscure for those who were proud and spiritually self-satisfied (Mt. 13:3, 13-17).
- <sup>3</sup> He spoke many things to them in parables...<sup>13</sup> I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand. (Mt. 13:3, 13)*
- C. Personal prophecy is given to strengthen our resolve to obey God, to be faithful in prayer and to help us keep focused on the specific ministry assignment that God gives us. Prophecy is not a guarantee, but an invitation from God to participate with Him in prayer, faith, and obedience.
- <sup>18</sup> This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare... (1 Tim. 1:18)*
- D. The Father has a vast and glorious storyline for the whole Body of Christ in this generation. He has a specific assignment for each ministry. We all have a small yet significant part to play in His plans. God wants His people to honor and love the whole Church. There is a part of my inheritance in God that I can only receive as I receive from others in the larger Body of Christ. I have been deeply helped through the years by what God has done through other ministries.
- E. The Holy Spirit is orchestrating ***one great move of God*** in this generation. It is comprised of ***many smaller ministry movements*** that each have a specific ministry assignment. In other words, the end-time prayer movement is made up of many smaller prayer movements. IHOP-KC is one small movement in the midst of the global end-time move of God.
- F. IHOP-KC's "prophetic history" represents a very small part of God's story in this generation. In telling this prophetic history, our prayer is that the IHOP-KC community be strengthened in our resolve to obey our specific ministry assignment. We also share this story, hoping that part of our story will encourage others to believe God for His fullness in their ministry assignment. As each ministry does their small part, others see the big picture of God's puzzle a little more clearly.

- G. The most significant and formative prophetic years were 1982–1984.

## **II. BEFORE MOVING BACK TO KANSAS CITY IN NOVEMBER 1982**

- A. I was born again on June 9, 1971 and then became deeply involved in a Presbyterian church for the next five years. I was strongly anti-charismatic during these days and boldly taught against what I called “charismatic heresies.” I was involved with Campus Crusade for Christ, the Navigators, and Fellowship of Christian Athletes during my high school and college years.
- B. Martyn Lloyd-Jones is my favorite Bible teacher (I had the privilege of speaking four times at his church, Westminster Chapel, in London in the early 1990s). My other favorite teachers are A. W. Tozer, John Stott, J. I. Packer, Stuart Briscoe, Chuck Smith, and Leonard Ravenhill. I read many biographies in my early years. My heroes from history are Hudson Taylor, David Brainerd, Jonathan Edwards, Wesley, Whitefield, Finney, John G. Lake and Bernard of Clairvaux.
- C. In June 1982, I was called to leave St. Louis to go to Kansas City. Augustine Alcala, a man with a proven prophetic ministry, heard the audible voice of God about me while visiting St. Louis. In October 1982, Augustine gave me four words about the new work in Kansas City.
1. Thousands of young people will gather in Kansas City.
  2. The full manifestation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit will operate.
  3. A false prophet will arise in your midst in the early days (he was discovered).
  4. A controversy will arise against you; do not fight back, but trust the Lord.

## **III. PROPHETIC EXPERIENCE IN CAIRO, EGYPT IN SEPTEMBER 1982**

- A. The Lord’s invitation in Cairo, Egypt, September 1982 (first indication of a coming movement):
- I will change the understanding and expression of Christianity in the earth in one generation.***
1. ***Changing the understanding:*** speaks of the way unbelievers will perceive the Church. Today, many see the Church as boring, irrelevant, and non-threatening (Acts 5:11-13).
  2. ***Changing the expression:*** is the way the church expresses its life together as a prophetic people of prayer who walk out Sermon on the Mount lifestyles with a forerunner spirit.
- B. God spoke to me about ***four heart standards*** necessary for my future life and ministry. They are not the only values necessary in a New Testament church, but are the ***most neglected*** ones. In 1996, God corrected us as a local church, calling us back to these by using the acronym “IHOP.”
1. ***Intercession:*** night and day prayer and worship affects our ***time***
  2. ***Holiness:*** the Sermon on the Mount lifestyle (Mt. 5-7) affects our ***thoughts and attitudes***
  3. ***Offerings:*** extravagant giving by living simply to give more to the harvest affects our ***money***
  4. ***Prophetic:*** confidence in God’s intervention (provision, protection, direction) and standing boldly in faith for what the Spirit is saying affects our ***security and identity*** (most difficult)

- C. The Lord said to me, “I am inviting you to be a part of a work that will touch the ends of the earth. You have only said yes, but have not yet done it. Many have said yes, but did not do it (persevere for decades).” The Lord said, “Beware lest your brethren steal these from your heart.”

#### **IV. MOVING TO KANSAS CITY, MEETING BOB JONES, AND THE SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

- A. On November 28, 1982, fifty of us met in a home to talk and pray about the start of a new church. The Lord surprised us by speaking to us about being like ***Gideon’s army*** (Judg. 6–7). On December 5, 1982, our new church had its first service. I spoke from Lk. 18:7 and Isa. 62:6-7.
- B. Bob Jones’ first prophetic experience concerning a young adult movement was on August 8, 1975. In a near death experience he stood before Jesus. The Lord sent him back to help the initial leaders of a youth movement that would persist in prayer and be led by singers and musicians.
- C. I met Bob on March 7, 1983. He said, “You are an intercessor and youth pastor. You will lead a worldwide youth movement of singers and musicians that will be used in ***power evangelism*** that will mobilize ***prayer for Israel*** and receive abundant grace in the ***prophetic and intercession***.”
- D. Bob said, “On the first of spring when the snow melts they will accept me.” He explained that God gives prophetic signs in the heavens (including comets and weather patterns) and on the earth (earthquakes, etc.) to confirm and validate prophetic visions and dreams.

***17 I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams...19 I will show wonders in heaven and signs in the earth...20 before the coming of the...day of the LORD. (Acts 2:17-20)***

- E. Bob said, “***This movement will have an intercessory ministry like Harry Truman*** who was a ‘political intercessor’ for Israel. This movement will be spiritual intercessors for Israel. The Lord will place you next to Truman as a prophetic sign. He will set you in Grandview to give a grand view of the kingdom of God (through media). *Truman helped to establish the state of Israel in May 1948.* Many OT prophecies make it clear that Israel would once again dwell in their own land in the end times (after being out of it for 2,000 years). No nation has ever returned to their homeland after being out of it for one generation. Truman stood against much resistance in the USA government and the UN by insisting on a homeland for Israel. Bob told me our most significant impact would be in mobilizing intercessors for ***Israel***. We are praying to mobilize 100 million intercessors for Israel through many ministries working together.
- F. On January 27, 2008, IHOP–KC purchased the 125 acres that Harry S. Truman had sold to a Jewish family exactly fifty years earlier on January 27, 1958. This is a prophetic sign to IHOP–KC. As Bob left that day, he gave me the same four prophetic words that Augustine had told me in October 1982. God confirmed Bob Jones’ prophetic role on March 21, 1983. I met with Bob Jones and Art Katz together at my house from 9:00pm until 4:00am. The snow came as a prophetic sign.

- G. On April 13, the Lord spoke to me about Dan. 9-10 and calling a 21-day fast starting on May 7. On April 14, Bob said that Gabriel had visited him saying, “Give the young man Daniel 9 and he will understand,” and that the fast would be confirmed by a **comet unpredicted by scientists** on May 7.
- H. On May 7, local newspapers reported on a comet unpredicted by scientists. The article “[1983d: May’s Surprise Comet](#)” (Harvard Center for Astrophysics) said it was first seen on April 25.
- I. God spoke 2 main promises to us about the future youth movement during the solemn assembly.
1. The Lord said, “***I will establish 24-hour prayer in the spirit of the tabernacle of David.***” An angel told Bob that we would **grow from 500 to 5,000 intercessors** over night by the flood of the Spirit and that it would be confirmed as we watched “***Mississippi.***”
  2. God promised to release a healing anointing in our midst; He said: “***No disease known to man will stand before this people.***” This level of power will be seen in many ministries.
- J. At the end of May, Bob said the Lord had good news and bad news. The bad news: revival was not coming immediately; the spiritual drought over America would continue until God’s appointed time to send the rains of the Spirit. Bob prophesied of a natural drought in Kansas City lasting three months (July 1–October 1, 1983). Good news: rain was coming on exactly August 23 to show that God had an appointed day when the “spiritual drought” in the US would end.
- K. On August 23, it rained hard for about 30 minutes as we gathered at 7:00pm; it came in the midst of a 3-month drought in KC (Jul. 1–Oct. 1) that was the second worst drought on record. In 1983, five prophetic signs in the heavens were given in advance: **unusual snow** (March 21), **a comet** (May 7), **a flood** (Mississippi, May 23), **drought** (Jul. 1–Oct. 1) and **rain** (Aug 23).
- L. On November 7, Bob told me that God would give me a revelation directly from His throne on November 15 and that afterwards, I would never again doubt that God sovereignly called the solemn assembly on May 7, 1983, to birth a youth movement that would touch the ends of earth. In August 1979, Howard Pittman had a heavenly experience in which God told him that He was raising up a people like “Gideon’s army” who He would anoint with great miracles. God showed him that He would “***begin to recruit this army in earnest***” on May 7, 1983, accompanied by a heavenly sign. Howard wrote the story in his book *Placebo* published in May 1980.
- V. **SIXTEEN YEARS LATER: JANUARY 1999 AND MAY 1999**
- A. On Sunday, January 24, 1999, a prophetic person gave me Hag. 1:2. It did not seem right to me. That Wednesday (Jan. 27) in Colorado Springs, Kingsley Fletcher prophesied Hag. 1:2 to me.
- <sup>1</sup> ***This people says, “The time has not come...that the Lord’s house should be built.” (Hag. 1:2)***

- B. **Lasked for a 3-fold confirmation:** To provide a building without me telling anyone, to send a senior pastor to replace me with 100% unity among our leaders, and to tell Noel Alexander in a supernatural way. On February 20, 1999, Noel told me that after preaching in Sunderland, England, a man he did not know told him to tell Mike Bickle it was time to start the 24-hour house of prayer. The next day after preaching in Peterborough (80 miles away), another man he did not know prophesied that he was to tell Mike Bickle to start the house of prayer. **I made a 3-fold agreement** with the Lord that He has honored since May 7, 1999. I will not travel to recruit leaders, raise money, or be responsible for creative ideas in leading. I committed to work long hours, say unpopular things, and not quit under the pressure of growth or criticism.