

The Creation of a Mystical Community

Conclusion to the Mini-Series

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INTRODUCTION

This morning, we conclude our mini-series within our larger theme: From the Outpouring to the Overturning ... Over the past few weeks, we've been examining Acts 2:40–47 – unpacking the spiritual DNA of this first Spirit-filled community – this first Ekklesia ... Let me remind you once again – the goal has not been – to seek to replicate this early church's design ... We're not here to imitate their behaviors as some religious exercise ... The goal has been to receive revelational truth – about the deep spiritual principles – that formed this community – so that we may begin to reflect this same spiritual essence in our time.

Because here's a truth that we often overlook ... You can't manifest something – that you have not become ... Remember - - As a man thinks, so is he ... So, nothing in your life will ever change – until you change the way you think about the matter ... And while that is true for us individually – a community is typically formed when likeminded people – unify around the same revelation ... But today – the church has typically formed around a community or social need ... We can find churches formed – with like-minded people – around kid's ministries – youth ministries – elderly ministries – etc. ... In fact – I have been told – one of the ways to plant a church is to – go into a community – identify a need within that community – then build a church with the expressed purpose to meet that need.

But notice – this first ekklesia wasn't formed around that concept of meeting a need ... Nor was it formed after some religious tradition ... Nor was it created as a targeted region by some denomination ... It was birthed out of a shared Pentecostal experience – a group of like-minded people – ignited by the Spirit – unified around the final command of Jesus: “Go into all the world, make disciples, and teach them everything I taught you.”

TRANSITION

Today, we turn our attention to the final two verses of this powerful passage ... And as we do, I want us to direct our attention towards a word – that quietly carries enormous weight – the word “THEY”

Acts 2:46–47 (Easy English Bible)

The whole group of believers (*They*) met together every day in the yard of the temple. ... *They* shared their food and *They* ate meals together in each other's homes ... *They* were very happy and *They* were honest with each other. ... 47 All the time, *They* praised God ... All the other people - thought that the believers - were good people ... Every day, - the Lord saved more people - so that the group of believers grew bigger.

The Power of “They”

What jumped out at me when I read this text – was the rhythm of one simple word - - They ... Notice - - They met together ... They ate together ... They were happy ... They were honest ... They praised God ... The word “THEY” impresses upon us right away – that there wasn’t one superstar ... Not one spiritual celebrity ... Just simply - - They ... This tiny word carries a powerful truth: God’s Spirit doesn’t just move through “me” – but as we have already seen - HE moves through “THEY” ... Let me give you two core thoughts that emerge from this concept of “They”.

“They” - - Did Life Together

The character of the early community wasn’t centered around individual excellence – but communal unity ... Every person had a gift ... Every believer had a destiny ... But what made this ekklesia mystical and magnetic – was the way they flowed together – in harmony ... Each believer was manifesting the indwelling Spirit of Christ – but it wasn’t about one voice – it was about a harmonized frequency ... The Spirit didn’t just rebirth individuals – He rebirthed a new

creation ... The power wasn't just in the individual believers – but in their collective unity ... This wasn't uniformity to a doctrinal teaching – nor community need ... It was divine diversity to a collective mission – flowing in spiritual harmony.

Thought

We often – cry out to the Lord, - - “Use me” ... But what if He is actually looking for a “they”? ... We know there is power in numbers ... So, what if those whose heart's cry is – Lord, use me – actually assembled together under that united cry ... What if those believers then followed and implemented the revelational truths we have already discovered ... What do you think the Lord could do – through a group of believers like that?

“They” - - Became a Testimony the World Couldn't Ignore

“All the other people thought that the believers were good people.” v.47

Here is a spiritual reality we sometimes forget ... People are always watching ... Especially when they know you are a believer ... They are not just listening to your words – they are watching your every move ... Let me take this thought a step further ... They're not just watching you – they are watching us ... The local community in their area – didn't just hear sermons or see miracles – they were watching the actions of the “They” ... A people who shared their resources ... Who praised God ... Who smiled and were always happy ... Who lived simply and generously ... They observed a people who became so mystical – yet so human – that they disarmed suspicion – and evoked admiration ... You've heard it said: “Actions speak louder than words.” ... That's not just a proverb – it is probably the legacy of this group of believers.

THE LORD ADDED TO THE CHURCH DAILY

“Every day, the Lord saved more people so that the group of believers grew bigger.”

Let's remember how this all started ... Peter preaches, 3000 souls are saved ... From that sermon comes a community – a mystical ekklesia ... But now notice: the growth continues – daily – supernaturally – and organically ... Not because of a slick marketing campaign ... Not

because of the latest and greatest church growth seminar ... Not because an evangelist came to town and did weeks of meetings ... Catch this – It was because of God Himself got involved with the activities of this Ekklesia.

Spiritual Nugget: Organic Kingdom Growth

What this verse clearly states is - - The Kingdom of God – does not grow through human invention – but through divine resonance ... The early church didn't grow because of strategy – it grew because of spiritual harmony with the laws of the spirit ... When people resonate with the indwelling Christ – they become a mystical magnetic – to those who are being drawn by the Spirit unto salvation

Mystical Magnetism

I recently bought a bug zapper light ... Every night I plug it in, and I just watch ... The light gives off a faint blue glow – but more than that – it gives off a frequency ... It hums ... It vibrates ... And without fail, insects fly toward it ... They were drawn to it instinctively – as if they can't resist it

This is what occurs in the spirit realm ... When you are truly lit up by the Spirit of Christ ... When you vibrate with heaven's frequency ... When these two manifestations are in sync. – flowing freely from your being – people will be drawn to you ... Not to your personality nor charisma ... Not to your theology nor doctrinal insights ... But they will be instinctively drawn to the very Christ – that you carry ... This is mystical magnetism ... This is why the Lord adds to His ekklesia ... His kids – were flowing in harmony with the light and sound – drawing them unto salvation ... Let me briefly address a misconception many have been told ... When people are attracted to us because we are flowing in harmony with the Spirit ... We are not to invite them to church – we are to invite them to meet the Savior

Daily Devotion Equated to Daily Expansion

“They met together daily ... The Lord added to the church daily”

Notice the spiritual rhythm and mystical harmony in this concept... Their daily devotion didn't just sustain the community – it created a spiritual atmosphere where daily expansion became inevitable ... They weren't passive believers – they were radiant ones ... Each person carried the light and frequency of the Spirit – and they let that divine presence manifest freely in their everyday lives ... And here's the mystery ... The “they” – that collective devotion – became the womb for daily increase – until God turned “they” into a growing “them.” ... This wasn't addition through strategy ... It was expansion through spiritual resonance.

TAKE AWAY

This final sentence in the text has been a real eye-opener for me ... Especially after years of teaching, training, and exposure to various church growth models and methods ... And yet here, in the simplest of terms, we witness something far more profound ... The Lord Himself was adding to the church – daily ... Not by strategy ... Not by systems ... But as the Scripture says: “Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit,” says the Lord ... This was no human program ... This was what a true Pentecostal experience produced ... A community so saturated and in sync with the Spirit – that growth became natural, even inevitable.

Now catch this: The “THEY” of this mystical community didn't just live together ... They became a spiritual ecosystem ... They created – if I can say it this way – an outpost of the Kingdom of God on earth ... Just as Jesus taught His disciples to pray: “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.” ... They became the visible expression of the invisible Kingdom ... A community that breathed in the Spirit – and breathed out His love ... A people so unified in the light and sound of Christ that the world couldn't look away ... This is the mystical community God still desires to form today ... Not created by programs ... Not managed by metrics ... But formed by the Spirit – forged in love and humility – fueled by praise and daily devotion.

So, in light of everything we've discovered in this mini-series - - let me ask you: Have you grown comfortable with the modern model of church life? ... Are you settling for a “me-

centered” Christianity? ... What does your faith walk look like – isolated, or interconnected? ... You’ve heard me say this many times - - “You do you” ... But I don’t mean go off and do your own thing ... What I mean is - - Stay in your lane - - Grow in your giftings - - Mature in your faith ... Become everything God designed you to be – within the body He’s called you to ... Because now – God is putting a “new thing” in front of us ... He’s calling us to something far greater than just our personal walk with Him ... He’s calling us to discover the power of “They.” ... An authentic, Spirit-born, mystical community – right here in Concord ... A local ekklesia ... His governing body ... A people so aligned with the Kingdom – that the “THEY” begins to turn this city upside down – for His honor and glory.

Closing Prayer

Father – we have done a deep dive into the mysteries – of this first ekklesia – this mystical community ... And unfortunately – we have discovered how far the present-day church has drifted away from these spiritual principles ... Father – I ask that your Spirit would do an internal examine of each of our hearts ... Firstly – so that we may know where we stand in our relationship with the indwelling Christ ... Secondly – so that we may know if we have had a true Pentecostal experience ... And lastly – so that we may know if we have a true desire to be part of the – THEY.

Lord – it is clear that the only way – Your kingdom can manifest upon this earth – is through a people that function in the They ... A people so unified ... So joyful ... So radiant with Your presence – that You could add to us daily those being saved ... May we walk in the simplicity, sincerity, and power of the early church ... Let us become the mystical community that carries Your glory – together ... In the mighty name of Jesus – and they all said - - Amen