

THE EKKLESIA

When the 5000 years' totality of events between God and Man are distilled, there is a certain awareness of the progressive nature of such. Adam was made into the tri-realm image of the "Let **us**"¹, with an outer body, an inner soul, and an innermost spirit. Other than this forming of Adam, the Garden episode does not seem to be a part of this progressive revelation at all, nor does the one with Noah and the flood. The groundwork is laid with Abram being *called out* from Ur, a significant term later to be applied to the N.T. *ekklesia*, the ones called out by God. Those whom He *calls out* are always destined for His purposes of progressively revealing Himself.

But of late there has been a sea change, a shift in focus towards this group of believers not yet complete. It is to these whom this paper is written, to the ones who *will be called*, to be among *those who will escape*. In large measure the corporate door for repentance has been closed, except on a singular personal basis, *most emphatically for the laity. The majority of apostate religious leaders, both large and small, strongly appear to have crossed the line where there is no remedy*. Thus I feel there is now little to be gained in warning these leaders, nor to illuminate what is wrong, nor to present what might be construed as possible solutions for same. I believe there is a need for information and encouragement for the ones *who shall escape*.

Those subjects are:

Part I: The character and essence of the *ekklesia*, the ones truly called out.

Part II: The dominance and significance of the pattern of threes.

Part III: The significance, type and reasons for the imbalance in leaders within the Body.

Part IV: The pattern of O.T. events in the physical, coming to pass in the spiritual today.

Part I: The True *Ekklesia*. The Greek word *ekklesia* means *those called out*. This term was applied to those believers immediately after Christ rose from the dead, and Pentecost had come. But called out of what? –it either had to have been out of the Roman government (which does not agree with Scripture), or out of the institutionalized religion at the time, which was the religion of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

These believers met daily in their homes, eating together and talking about the **LORD**. Since the Gospels and Paul's writings were yet to be written, they studied the Old Testament, quoted by Jesus. Some still attended the temple, that is, until 66 A. D. when the Romans laid siege against Jerusalem. After that there was no temple. So they then became totally *ekklesia*, completely separate from anything institutionalized.

¹ Gen. 1:26.

To be the true *ekklesia* today, the same is true, and that is to be separate and apart from the institutionalized religion of the day. For the most part, these were and are laity, common folk, from all walks of life, social and economic strata, education, etc. There are a few who formally were leaders, but these are rare. If one were to ask one of these what caused them to leave the institution, they would most likely say they did not know, there was just an inward beckoning, a deep inexplicable calling. Thus you have the name *ekklesia*. (It is more than curious the departing laity have a better handle on truth than the leaders.)

The conglomeration of glitzy trappings and superficiality extant in nearly all modern-day gatherings has about played out its string. What escapes most is the awareness of it; it seems there is a crevice of the mind reserved for placebos, pleasure and deception. It is a crevice which bypasses analysis and common sense. So all the Enemy has to do is bang the pots and pans a little louder at any given gathering, howsoever proper and pleasing to the eyes, ears and stupefying pride of the attendees.

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