

The Vanishing EVANGELIST

"This woman said unto me, give me thy son, that we may eat him today, and we will eat my son tomorrow. So we boiled my son and did eat him; and I said unto her on the next day, GIVE ME THY SON 55 — 2 Kings 6:26-29

In these days when COMMUNISM and ROMANISM are making such fast inroads in "high places" in the government and in the church, it is time to awaken NOW, or wake up

too late!

Ministers and religious groups are being so ruthlessly attacked, right here in America, that some are asking, "IS THIS AMERICA, OR IS IT RUSSIA? WHAT HAS BECOME OF OUR CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES OF RELI-

GIOUS FREEDOM?"

Smear campaigns, against Evangelists especially, are being launched, and ministers are being ridiculed. Decisions behind closed doors, in high places by a prejudiced few, are bringing forth the edict, "YOUR CHURCH IS NOT A CHURCH!" "YOUR MINISTRY IS NOT A MINISTRY!" "YOUR RELIGION!"

At the same time, there is an awakening across the nation. Many are enlisting in what could be one of the most interesting and decisive battles ever fought for American Freedom!

Elsewhere, I have quoted from Kenneth Goff's book, "Brain Washing," showing Russia's plan to destroy the Church in America as a means of finally destroying all American freedoms. A part of the plan is "Ridicule and defame the preacher. Every healing they advertise must be called a hoax. The church must be destroyed, even if you must resort to PERSONAL DEFAMATION, WILD LIES, FALSE EVIDENCES, CONSTANT PROPAGANDA!"

Awakened, alert Americans today are not falling for all these lies. They are taking notice of the decided "pink" (or even red) tint! They are recognizing it for what it is, an

attempt to destroy.

Remember, to destroy the church, one must destroy its ministry.

GOD SET FIVE-FOLD MINISTRY

"He gave some apostles, and some prophets; and some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ; till we all come in the unity of the Faith." Eph. 4:11-12.

Whether or not all people in the churches recognize this,

the devil recognizes it.

All five of these ministry gifts must have been important,

or God would never have placed them in the church.

When Elijah prayed for rain, and sent his servant to look, the servant came back with the information, "I see a cloud about the size of a man's hand."

Out of that cloud came the rain that revived the land. This

typifies REVIVAL!

Students of the Bible will agree that there MUST be REVIVAL before Jesus can return. He is returning for a church without spot or blemish. To prepare that church, to perfect her, and make her ready for her bridegroom, that is the reason that He gave the EVANGELIST — and the pastor, apostle, prophet, and teacher. All are needed. As the foot cannot say to the hand, "I have no need for thee," neither can one finger that God put on the hand get along without the other fingers!

We may liken the five ministry gifts to the five fingers of

the hand.

For years, some, because of unbelief or lack of understanding, or for other reasons, have been whittling away at the apostle, the prophet, and the teacher, until in many religious

groups only the evangelist and the pastor remain.

Under the ministry of Luther, the teacher, the church was stirred to REVIVAL, and began its ascent from the dark ages. The great Evangelists, such as the Wesley's, Whitfield, Knox, Fletcher, led the church forward in Revival. The churches they helped to establish are cold and dead, because such ministries are no longer recognized.

In too many churches, the only ministry recognized today

is the ministry of the pastor.

I say, THANK GOD FOR THE PASTOR. GOD set him in the Church! The church will never be perfected without him!

But he cannot perfect the church alone! It might be well to observe that every church which no longer recognizes the ministry of the evangelist is already either completely lost to modernism, or fast headed in that direction. When the fingers of the hand are removed, holiness and perfection go with them.

Note the change that has come into the great Methodist Church since evangelism has died out among them to so great a degree. Why, today, are even the so-called Full Gospel Churches dying spiritually? Why do many of them no longer preach nor practice holiness? Jezebel and Ahab could feel perfectly at home in many so-called Pentecostal churches today! Why do so many say, "We don't believe in perfection"? Is this not the answer? God set some in the church, for the

perfecting of the saints. But the saints — or the competitive ministries — have CUT THEM OFF! No wonder there is so little striving toward perfection any more! The God-given instruments to perfection are nowhere to be found!

The pastor can, and will, and must do a great part toward the perfecting of the Church. But he needs help. God provided a rounded out, complete ministry, in five parts — like the five fingers of the hand. The pastor may try to do the work of the Evangelist. But the pastor is not an evangelist! Neither should he attempt to carry the burden of the teacher, the prophet, and the apostle!

No wonder we have heard so much about how overworked is the Protestant pastor in our day! God gave him four helpers. But how many churches maintain an evangelist, a prophet, an

inspired teacher, an apostle?

For years, in many groups, there have been only the pastor and the evangelist. These two fingers can still do some things, but not as well as when the fingers were on the hand, and working together.

What will happen when the evangelist is cut off? Only one

will be left!

There is a move on to cut off all the fingers, including the pastor! But the powers back of that move would like to first use the pastor to cut off the evangelist. Then they will only have to cut off the one remaining finger — the pastor!

Remember, pastor, it may be the evangelist who is on the grill now! But the plan is far advanced to put the PASTOR

IN THE POT NEXT!

Some who do not know the plan of Satan may wonder at the present ridicule, smear and persecution against the evangelist. Don't think the pastor will escape! He is on the list for extinction, too!

Remember the story in 2 Kings 6. Eating one child today

does not mean they will have no appetite tomorrow!

What has happened to all the evangelists that the magazines listed twenty years ago? Ten years ago?

Satan can use many methods to cut off the evangelist.

The church can fail to recognize him as part of the body, and fail to support him. They can fail to realize their need of him, and the great loss to the body if he is "cut off." Many an evangelist has given up his God-given calling, and taken a church, because he could not make it financially. He has felt that trying to act as a pastor was the nearest he could come to being an evangelist. But the evangelist can no more successfully be a pastor than the pastor can successfully replace the evangelist!

Fear on the part of some pastors that the Evangelist might

get part of the tithe or an offering which might come to him or to the local church, has led some pastors to undermine the influence of the evangelist, even in their own denominations.

Surely God, in His love and mercy, has provided enough for all the ministry gifts. Not only the pastor, and the evangelist, but the apostle, the teacher, and the prophet as well. If one claims ALL the support, then how will the rest of the fingers live? Did God put a blood supply to only one finger, or to all of them? If a tourniquet is tightened around four fingers, so that no blood gets to them, what will happen? Of course, those four fingers will die. You know the answer! But does that mean that any more blood will go to the one remaining finger? No!

At the present time, it appears that the last two remaining fingers are out to destroy each other. This shouldn't be. The evangelist must realize that his ministry is dependent upon the pastor. The pastor should recognize that his church needs the ministry of the evangelist. And both need the other three

ministries as well.

Pastor, if you join the fight against the evangelist, and cut off that one remaining finger, there will be only one left. You will then have "no competition."

At first thought, this may seem desirable. You won't have to

worry about the evangelist getting any of the tithe.

In fact, you won't have to worry about anything long, for as soon as the evangelist is out of the way, as soon as he has been eaten up, and is gone, then Satan's schedule will call for

removing the pastor next. He will be next in the pot!

Through jealousy, fear, misunderstanding, but most of all through a lack of brotherly love, Satan is employing the assistance of some pastors — even pentecostal and fundamentalist pastors — to help DE-FINGER THE HAND OF GOD. But remember, in the same pot where they boiled the evangelist, they will soon be boiling the pastor, too! Open your eyes NOW and discern the importance of every part of the Body of Christ!

Personally, I am an evangelist. But my heart is heavy for the pastor. God spoke to me recently, and revealed all this plan to me. In the spirit, and the love of God, I write these

lines as a solemn warning to all ministers.

Let us pray one for another, and heed the solemn warning of Paul the Apostle: "LEST YE BE CONSUMED ONE OF ANOTHER..."

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