

Living as The Light

By Rich Harris

God does not equip us just in the area of our gifting and we are about to see His heart revealed before He releases His power to the body. The Lord continues to equip us although at times some think we have arrived because we are activated in a level of the prophetic or healing ministries. Many ministers today are able to equip us only because they have experienced the Lord as friend in a close intimacy of love and trust. In that realm of loving and trusting God comes a maturity in which the Lord can trust us to minister in His name. It is in that place of living with Him that we see Him as Light.

I remember as a young believer seeing a different likeness in those new friends I had received as a kingdom child. They were different they actually appeared to have a light about their countenance. One evening I went to a nearby city with some new friends where we attended a multi-church meeting. A young man walked into the room with a bottle of wine in which we were to partake of in communion. His countenance shined like no other I had ever seen. This experience was new and fresh for me because he carried the light and likeness of the Lord. I was truly overwhelmed. It was at that point in my walk that I knew we were to live a life of Christ likeness!

There are several areas God wants to deal with us in our lives in order to become more effective for His Kingdom purposes. One area is to know Him as The Light then living in that character of His image. It is important for prophetic people to know His light so that we can bear witness to the Light. John the Baptist came bearing witness to the Light. This means he was sent by God to give an honorable testimony of the Light that God had sent into the world. Prophets will always give testimony of the Light as they are sent to bear witness to it! John the revelator wrote in Revelation 19:10b, "the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." Testimony gives sure evidence that something or someone is true.

In our prophetic equipping we must now help build that character into every person called to this gift and ministry. Whether we are called to simple prophecy, prophetic ministry, or the office we must come to a place of being a living testimony of Jesus as Light! He himself said that we are, "the light of the world". The prophet Isaiah spoke in Isaiah 42:6 that Israel was to be "a light to the gentiles". In the context of that scripture it may literally speak of Yahveh (God) as Light. The apostle John later writes in his

first letter that, "God is Light and in Him is no darkness at all" (1 John 1:5). It can be said that God is the essence of all that is light for in the brilliance of His light darkness cannot comprehend it. Darkness cannot take hold of, seize upon or take possession of God's light! So if John the Baptist bore witness of the Light coming into the world how much more the New Covenant prophet bearing witnesses as that Light in the world. This is the very essence of a kingdom oriented prophetic church. Moshe declared in the Old Covenant writings, "*Oh that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them*" (Numbers 11:29b). We must remember that we were created in the image of God - Jesus redeemed that promise and a part of our salvation is the regeneration of the spiritual man in the likeness of God. God is Light - prophetic people are called to bear witness to His Light and to be carriers and bearers of His Light. Light reveals mysteries, things hidden, things deep, colors, brilliance, and brightness. The brilliance of God's light caused Saul to fall from His horse and His first words were, "Who are you Lord?" In his darkness he could not comprehend the Light of God's presence.

Ezekiel saw in the firmament over God's throne, "*in appearance like a sapphire stone (clear deep blue corundum), on the likeness of the throne was a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it. Also from the appearance of His waist and upward I saw, as it were, the color of amber (yellow, brownish yellow) with the appearance of fire (bright giving off light) with brightness all around. Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord*" (Ezekiel 1:26-28 emphasis mine). Interestingly, God gives us reference we can comprehend about His presence and His being Light. However, if we are looking at it through the eyes and heart of darkness we are unable to comprehend it and fall prostrate before Him!

The word of God further declares that we are children of light. Paul writes to the Ephesian church, "*For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness and truth) finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness but rather expose them*" (Ephesians 5:8-11). If we are children of light then we are in the light and can live as that light in Christ. We as prophetic people must point to the Light and presence of God therefore exposing the works of darkness. In doing this we become a witness to and bearers of the very

Light of God in us.

Prophets and prophetic ministers are carriers of God's light, love and will expose the works of darkness. We expose these works by being co-laborers with the Light as children of light. This must become a part of the prophetic life style. We become partakers of the Light by living in the Light. We enter the Light by drawing close to Him as we soak in His presence and love we become like Him. We must find the intimacy in the mirror of the Lord, "*But we all with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror, the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory just as by the Spirit of the Lord*" (2 Corinthians 3:18). When we see His glory from a face unveiled such as Ezekiel may have experienced we will know that, "*This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord*" (Ezekiel 1:28b).

Being fervent in our passion and desire to draw close to Him can only come from our acknowledging the presence of His Spirit in us. We do that by unveiling ourselves that is being a complete transparent being with desire to draw close. Giving up our will to be as the world would have us be. As we draw close to the presence of God in our personal and corporate times we are to behold Him as looking in a mirror. When we look into a mirror we see our own image which is now being changed every time we draw close to His presence.

The reality is we are not changed unless our face (life and light is unveiled-fully transparent) to look into and be in the presence of the Lord. When two lovers gaze into each others eyes something takes place in the heart. They desire to become as one in an ecstasy of delight in each others presence! As we learn to draw close to God as our Father, friend, and lover of our souls - two lights are ignited. One is the very Light of Life taking pleasure in His son or daughter coming to Him with a heart of intimacy. The other is the Light of Christ in us being regenerated from an ember into a roaring flame. This experience can be a literal transformation in our Spirit. Every time we approach God in the heart of His glorious presence we are changed into the same image. Every time! When we see Messiah Jesus as looking in a mirror in the carriers of God's Light and glory we will be changed into that same image.

Because of a new move of God literally drawing us to the reality of His Light the equipping of saints will be transformed into a new dynamic of love, power and God's glory. The closer we draw to Him the more light will reveal what is hidden in the darkness of mankind. This is nothing less than another dimension of the times of restoration of all things which God has spoken by

the mouth of all His Holy prophets since the world began. The new prophetic ministry must now begin to live and equip in that arena to expose the works of darkness by living and being in the Light. In that prophetic lifestyle will come forth the word of restoration!