

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

**Be Alert Be Present Run With God's New
February 25, 2025
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Change is happening. Old structures and ways are being examined. New ideas, new ways, and out-of-the-box thinking are bubbling up. Last week I, along with multiple leaders in the region, attended the Detroit Summit. This was a meeting hosted by Christina Ilitch and her father, Mike Ilitch Jr. They hosted this meeting out of obedience to the Lord with a vision and heart for sustainable revival and city transformation through the glory of God. This meeting was to bring together groups of people who support this vision for the purpose of unity and forward advancement. It was not an ordinary meeting. It was easy to discern that this was God's meeting and not man's agenda. There was a keen awareness that this was a supernatural meeting. Something extraordinary is taking place in Detroit.

Yesterday I learned of an international organization called Alliance for Responsible Citizenship. It is an organization of international thought leaders and change makers committed to shaping a hope-filled vision for the future. This group just had their yearly convention in England. I listened to several of the talks given. This is what I heard them say – human secularism has failed, that Christianity and Judaism are needed in culture because they bring a level of morality that is essential for a thriving culture, that the American constitution being founded upon the belief that all men are created equal is a critical cornerstone for culture. What these speakers were talking about was principles of God's Kingdom. One speaker said it is now of paramount importance to have faith, and that people were open to faith in a new way. You no longer needed to keep your Christian faith hidden but you can speak about it openly.

I watched the Sunday service at Glory of Zion and I heard Chuck Pierce note that Michigan was there. He did not call out other states, just Michigan. The message was that your season has changed, and it was time to shift into your new identity. I say to Detroit and to Michigan – your season has changed. Step into your new identity. Take your place. Let the Lord impart His vision for a hope-filled future in your heart. Look for the doors God is opening for you. Allow your thinking and your mind to be transformed. Let go of the old and press into the new.

God is doing something new. In the new, we as individuals, culture, the church, and nations are being redefined. We need to know our identity for this time. This is a time of doing, of being active in what you are called and gifted to do. It is a time to bring the influence of God's Kingdom. You are an influencer, an ambassador of God's Kingdom.

Isaiah 43.18 The Message

¹⁸ **Forget about what's happened; don't keep going over old history. Be alert, be present. I'm about to do something brand-new. It's bursting out! Don't you see it? There it is!** I'm making a road through the desert, rivers in the badlands.

- Be alert, be present – perceive what God is doing.
- Ask for discernment and wisdom for this time.

Zechariah 8.13 The Message

¹³ From now on, you're the good-news people. **Don't be afraid. Keep a firm grip on what I'm doing."**

Psalms 27.13-14 The Message

¹³⁻¹⁴ **I'm sure now I'll see God's goodness in the exuberant earth. Stay with God! Take heart. Don't quit. I'll say it again: Stay with God.**

Psalm 96.10 The Message

¹⁰ **Get out the message—God Rules! He put the world on a firm foundation; He treats everyone fair and square.**

Proverbs 4.20-22 The Message

²⁰⁻²² Dear friend, listen well to my words; tune your ears to my voice.

Keep my message in plain view at all times. Concentrate! Learn it by heart!
Those who discover these words live, really live; body and soul, they're bursting with health.

Jeremiah 1.9-10 The Message

⁹⁻¹⁰ God reached out, touched my mouth, and said, "Look! I've just put my words in your mouth—hand-delivered!

See what I've done? **I've given you a job to do among nations and governments**—a red-letter day! Your job is to pull up and tear down, take apart and demolish, and then start over, building and planting."

Romans 12.1-2, 3b The Message

¹⁻² So here's what I want you to do, God helping you: **Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.** Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. **Don't become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it.** Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

^{3b} **The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is** and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

- Present yourself to God and allow your mind to be renewed by the power of Holy Spirit.
- Let the Lord impart new wisdom, new understanding, new strategies, new vision.

Ephesians 2.7-10 The Message

⁷⁻¹⁰ **Now God has us where he wants us,** with all the time in this world and the next to shower grace and kindness upon us in Christ Jesus. Saving is all his idea, and all his work. **All we do is trust him** enough to let him do it. It's God's gift from start to finish! We don't play the major role. If we did, we'd probably go around bragging that we'd done the whole thing! No, we neither make nor save ourselves. God does both the making and saving. **He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work he does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.**

- God has put the Greater One on the inside of us – *born again of the incorruptible seed of Jesus.*
 - **Transformation comes through the incorruptible seed, through Christ.**
 - **A significant part of the shift is we are not believing FOR things to happen, but WE BELIEVE OUT OF THE REALITY THAT THEY ALREADY EXIST. We are partnering with God to birth them forth, to bring the manifestation and fullness of the promise!**
 - **Reality already exists. Christ is reality. All things were made for Him, by Him and through Him. God sustains all things by the power of His word!**

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

We declare to Detroit the blessing of God is on you; it is on the land and on the people. The loving-kindness of God is flowing throughout our City. Transformation and breakthrough and sustainable revival are in the land. Detroit is a city whose strength comes from the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and earth. The Lord is a strong tower. Detroit bows low and humbles herself before the Lord, the King of Glory.

To Detroit we say, "Be strong in the Lord and the power of His might. Detroit, fix your eyes on the Lord and do not turn to the left or to the right. Today when you hear the voice of the Lord do not harden your heart, Detroit, but follow after Him. Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness and release His sound – the sound of hope and the sound of life – into the earth."