

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Testimony of Jesus Creates a Portal September 24, 2019 Suzi Armstrong

Matthew 9.35 NIV

³⁵ Jesus went through **all the towns and villages**, teaching in their synagogues, **proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.**

- This resulted in awakening and revival in the land.
- This blesses the land, as well as the people.
- God does the work; we carry the message – He performs it.

Jesus would travel about to the towns and villages and preach the kingdom of God was at hand. He would minister to the people caring for their needs. As He preached the goodness of God, the heavens were open and the kingdom of God would manifest in their midst. The people were in awe of God, they had never experienced anything like this. This brought transformation to communities which threatened the government and the religious officials.



The testimony of Jesus creates a portal to receive and experience the kingdom of God. The people heard about the incredible works that Jesus did. They would follow Him everywhere He went. They would bring their sick to be healed and delivered. Heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out demons and cleanse the lepers is the work of the kingdom of God. The works Jesus did was evidence that God's kingdom had come – heaven had been connected to earth and the people were blessed beyond measure. The needs of the people were the context when Jesus spoke of the Lord of the Harvest, revealing that the Harvest was ripe.

Matthew 9.36-38 NIV

³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, **"The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."**

- Jesus ministered the compassion and love of God.
- He declared who was God over the harvest. The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.
- The harvest is ripe – meaning people are being ravaged by sickness and disease, oppression and madness. They are looking for deliverance and Jesus is the deliverer!
- The release of the kingdom of God brings radical change! This can cause an uproar in the city.

Matthew 10.1, 8 TPT

¹ Jesus gathered his twelve disciples and **imparted to them authority to cast out demons and to heal every sickness and every disease.**

⁸ **You must continually bring healing** to lepers and to those who are sick, and make it your habit to **break off the demonic presence** from people, and **raise the dead** back to life. **Freely you have received the power of the kingdom, so freely release it to others.**

- Jesus imparted authority into us to freely release the power of the kingdom.
- This is our mandate – to reap the harvest of the kingdom for God’s glory.

Acts 19.8-12 NIV

⁸ **Paul entered the synagogue and spoke boldly there for three months, arguing persuasively about the kingdom of God.** ⁹ But some of them became obstinate; they refused to believe and publicly maligned the Way. So Paul left them. He took the disciples with him and had discussions daily in the lecture hall of Tyrannus. ¹⁰ This went on for two years, so that **all the Jews and Greeks who lived in the province of Asia heard the word of the Lord.**

¹¹ **God did extraordinary miracles through Paul,** ¹² so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their **illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.**

- Paul followed the pattern of Jesus.

John 16.13-14 TPT

¹³ But when the truth-giving Spirit comes, he will unveil the reality of every truth within you. He won’t speak his own message, but only what he hears from the Father, and **he will reveal prophetically to you what is to come.** ¹⁴ He will glorify me on the earth, for he will receive from me what is mine and reveal it to you.

- The Greek word for “truth” is “reality”, not “doctrine”. It is the application of truth that matters, not just a superficial knowledge. We are doers of the word. Arise, shine for your light has come.
- Holy Spirit is revealing that we are entering a time of extraordinary harvest.
- Holy Spirit is leading us into the harvest field that is ripe.
- Do not be afraid or intimidated. Believe God and release His kingdom.
- The winds of revival and awakening are blowing and there is convergence.

We speak this truth into the city and say, “Receive!”

Romans 3.21-24 TPT

²¹⁻²² But now, independently of the law, the righteousness of God is tangible and brought to light through Jesus, the Anointed One. This is the righteousness that the Scriptures prophesied would come. It is God’s righteousness made visible through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. And now all who believe in him receive that gift. For there is really no difference between us, ²³ for we all have sinned and are in need of the glory of God. ²⁴ Yet through his powerful declaration of acquittal, God freely gives away his righteousness. His gift of love and favor now cascades over us, all because Jesus, the Anointed One, has liberated us from *the guilt, punishment, and power of sin!*



Ephesians 2.8-10 TPT

⁸ For it was only through this wonderful grace that we believed in him. Nothing we did could ever earn this salvation, for it was the gracious gift from God that brought us to Christ! ⁹ So no one will ever be able to boast, for salvation is never a reward for good works or human striving.

¹⁰ We have become his poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny he has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance *our destiny* and the good works we would do *to fulfill it!*

Colossians 1.12-14 TPT

¹² *Your hearts can soar with joyful gratitude* when you think of how God made you worthy to receive the glorious inheritance freely given to us by living in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us completely from the tyrannical rule of darkness and has translated us into the kingdom realm of his beloved Son. ¹⁴ For in the Son all our sins are canceled and we have the release of redemption *through his very blood.*

To Detroit we declare: **"Receive the Lord of the Harvest into your midst." The wells of revival from the past have been stirred up. We call forth the former and later rain to fall on the city.** God's kingdom has come and is being manifested in the city. We speak to the sick and infirm in Detroit and say, "Be healed!" To the insane and demonically oppressed, we cast out demons in the name of Jesus. We say to the lost, **"Jesus is the way, the truth and the life."** **Today is the day of salvation.** Worship the Lord in the splendor of His holiness and goodness.

Detroit is filled with the LIGHT of the gospel of the Kingdom of God. The sound of salvation and deliverance resounds from the city into the nations. To the nations we say, "Turn your face toward Jesus! He is the answer!"

