

The Azusa Street Papers – The Man-of-God Syndrome - Message 9
March 6th, 2022

The AZUSA PAPERS says;

“The news has spread far and wide that Los Angeles is being visited with a “rushing mighty wind from heaven.” The how and why of it is to be found in the very opposite of those conditions that are usually thought necessary for a big revival. No instruments of music are used, none are needed. No choir—but bands of angels have been heard by some in the spirit and there is a heavenly singing that is inspired by the Holy Ghost. No collections are taken. No bills have been posted to advertise the meetings. No church or organization is back of it. All who are in touch with God realize as soon as they enter the meetings that the Holy Ghost is the leader. One brother stated that even before his train entered the city, he felt the power of the revival.”

It seems like in most churches today, they will rely on a draw-card of some sort or another, to get people to attend, be it with the use of music, drama, lights, various social media outlets of various sorts and motivational speakers. It doesn't look like any of that happened at Azusa Street.

Grant it, at the turn of the century they didn't have the musical instruments and light shows as a part of their praise and worship, but they did have big-bands and choirs, and traditional hymn books that captivated the Church goers', saints and sinners alike to attend church. Not to mention the building programs that house these meetings, with amazing architectural designs that spared no expense to create a form of godliness that however, was void of the power of God. No expense was spared to create a form of godliness in their architectural designs with beautiful stain-glass windows, sandstone buildings, big crosses, the religious emblems inside and out, the big hardwood pews, floors and pulpits, the preachers in all of their pomp in what they wore. These turn of the century churches, with all their programs, music, and building programs, did not have the Holy Ghost power that was in operation at the Apostolic Faith Mission, where, according to the Azusa Papers it says; *“The meetings are held in an old Methodist church that had been converted in part into a tenement house, leaving a larger unplastered, barn-like room on the ground floor.”*

I doubt that they had a committee in charge for church décor who were grumbling about the carpet, because there was none, or what type of sawdust was needed to make it better – thick or thin, should sand be brought in to soften it up a bit, or should straw be brought in to make it look nicer, after all, it looks like a barn. I doubt they had a committee that was even thinking about it, after all, most of that is in the flesh. At that time, Los Angeles was full of big churches, big-bands and choirs, big hymn-books, lots of religious pomp with thousands in the churches. But not at Azusa Street. They had a simple dirt, sawdust floors.

For church-goers that were used to walking into big, beautiful buildings, to come down to the industrial area where the tombstones were made, where lumber was stored, bought and maybe manufactured to make the oak wood pews and pulpits, where the bricks were purchased, where stone masons cut stones for the elaborate sanctuaries, maybe the factory for the stain-glass windows was there too, where all the material was probably bought to make all of their big churches; there was the Azusa Street mission. Humbling for most who went there from their churches, I'm sure. But here, the Holy Ghost was being poured out, in what may be the very place that they ordered all of the materials from to construct their churches, here's the Holy Spirit being made manifest. How ironic is that, the very thing they left out of their church (the Holy Spirit), they had to go back to the industrial area to receive. They couldn't receive Him in their churches even though they had very elaborate buildings. Probably the best of materials that came in from around the world, unloaded at the ports and sent to the industrial area.

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But one thing they didn't order, that they left out, was the baptism in the Holy Spirit. It's like they had to go back to the drawing board, back to the architectural designs, back to the paperwork of the early church, to find out what they had missed. They thought they had received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit upon sanctification but it was obvious that they didn't because they didn't receive tongues. It was like God caused all to come back to the industrial place that supplied all of the material to build their churches, to receive what they had left out, and that was the Baptism in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. How ironic is that.

AZUSA PAPERS;

“Travelers from afar wend their way to the headquarters at Azusa Street. As they enquire their way to the Apostolic Faith Mission, perhaps they are asked, “O, you mean the Holy Rollers,” or “It is the Colored Church you mean?” In the vicinity of a tombstone shop, stables and lumber yard (a fortunate vicinity because no one complains of all-night meetings) you find a two-story, white-washed old building. You would hardly expect heavenly visitations there, unless you remember the stable at Bethlehem.”

Once again, God used the foolish things of the world to confound the wise, having the best of the best in churches, music, instruments, architectural design, hymn books etc., yet no Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 says; *“2 And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the [a]testimony of God. 2 For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 3 I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. 4 And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of [b]human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, 5 that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*

Most churches today are operating in what Paul called the wisdom of men. This wisdom is able to build churches that have latest and greatest music and media platforms, programs, coffee bars and motivational speakers with up-to-date fashion trends, that in their wisdom, enables them to become all things to all men that some would be saved. But what they don't have is the power of God being demonstrated in their meetings in the form of the operation of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

I'm convinced that you could take a non-Christian paid actor, and equip him with an evangelistic Bible based motivational speech that after the message is preached and the altar call is given, that many would be saved as a result of the word of God alone. But I also believe the stats that say that only 2 to 7 percent of all salvations that take place at the altar-calls remain Christians, and the rest backslide back into the world. I believe that this is a direct result of preachers operating in the wisdom of men and not the power of the Holy Spirit with demonstration of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These preachers are operating in what I would call the, 'Man of God' Syndrome, which all the congregation evolves around, and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are not allowed to operate in the corporate church body of believers as a whole.

At the Azusa Faith Mission, William Seymour was their leader, but he allowed the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to operate thru other church members and there was no room for the 'Man of God' syndrome to manifest in their meetings, but rather it was led by the Holy Spirit. This 'Man of God' syndrome, is the one who thinks the church revolves around themselves, they have total control and do not release or delegate authority, they have the body guards, stepping out of the newest vehicle with the latest in fashion, rolling into the state-of-the-art church, with choir, music, drama productions etc. But they are void of the Holy Spirit with His gifts in operation. If a pastor needs body guards, it sounds like an emasculation has been done by the spirit of Jezebel. They might argue that they need body guards to protect their reputation for when they go into hotels alone...if that's the case then they do have a problem with the Jezebel spirit.

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Be a man in the pulpit, man-up. It's time to kick the Jezebel spirit out of your church, the one that has emasculated you and convinced you that you don't need the power of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. Throw the Jezebel spirit out the window, and I'm speaking about it from the context in the Old Testament in [2 Kings 9:30-37](#), where, King Jehu spoke to the eunuchs, "³² He looked up at the window and called out, "Who is on my side? Who?" Two or three eunuchs looked down at him. ³³ "Throw her down!" Jehu said. So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered the wall and the horses as they trampled her underfoot." In the same way pastors, you need to kick the Jezebel spirit out of your churches, don't allow it to emasculate your men any longer. Do not let it take the power of the Holy Spirit out of the you.

AZUSA PAPERS:

"As soon as it is announced that the altar is open for seekers for pardon, sanctification, the baptism with the Holy Ghost and healing of the body, the people rise and flock to the altar. There is no urging. What kind of preaching is it that brings them? Why, the simple declaring of the Word of God. There is such power in the preaching of the Word in the Spirit that people are shaken on the benches. Coming to the altar, many fall prostrate under the power of God, and often come out speaking in tongues. Sometimes the power falls on people and they are wrought upon by the Spirit during testimony or preaching and receive Bible experiences."

When you look at what it says about, 'no urging', you can liken it to the right cords of the piano keys, the right pitch of voice by the motivational speaker or worship leader, the right word at the right time, etc., during an altar call. It can seem very contrived. It's time to preach the word of God again, leave the motivational speeches, and come back to the word, let the word of God do the work in people's hearts. Some may need to burn or shred a few books that are erroneous to the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, but the Spirit would honour that, and would come back and be poured out on your churches. Repentance is needed for rejecting the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and you may have to leave the denomination your presently in. It happened at Azusa Street and will still transpire today.

There is a huge difference between being born-again , and being a born-again believer that is baptized in the Holy Spirit just as the early church was in **Acts 2:1-4** where it says; "*2 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them [b]divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."*

Acts 1:4-8 says; "*4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

This is the power that took place at Azusa Street, it's also the power that the church building committee left out, and it's the same power that's being left out today. The very one – the Holy Spirit – is being left out of churches today and is being replaced by programs, good music and light shows and motivational speakers.

Could having rejected the last commands of Jesus, be the reason why there is such a great falling away taking place, where born-again Christians are backsliding because they don't have the power of the Holy Spirit and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit found in 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 operating in their lives? Could that be why only 2-7% stay in the church and the remainder backslide because they don't have the power of the Holy Spirit in their

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lives because they've been taught that it's of the devil, or that it ended with the disciples, or simply have never been taught they can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit? You can have the latest and greatest of mans wisdom available to build a church, but without the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, it's just another salvation message that is void of the power of the Holy Spirit which enables a new Christian to not backslide or lose his or her salvation.

Don't think, preacher or teacher, that you won't have to give an account for the souls that are backsliding as a result of you falsely teaching about the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Don't think that you won't have to give an account for those who were supposed to receive the power, to enable them to be a commandment keeper. Don't think that you won't have to stand before God and give an account for false teaching. That day is coming and you'll have to give an account for not having obeyed the commandment to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit that Jesus gave to the early church. Think of all the souls that have come to your altars and have now backslidden, simply because you taught them that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not for today, but that it was for then and not for now, and that signs, wonders and miracles only happen if 'it's the Lord's will', and 'if you don't get healed, delivered and set free, then it's not the Lord's will'. That's false teaching.

Why would someone even want to become a Christian if you're serving a God that wants to inflict sickness on you? Why would want to serve a God that says it might not be His will to heal you, just to teach you a lesson? I wouldn't want to serve that god. Could that be a reason why some aren't even becoming born again because they hear that kind of erroneous teaching? Could it be the reason why the secular doesn't want to have anything to do with you, Christian preachers? Could it be? Jesus says that it's better for you to have a millstone hung around your neck and be cast into the ocean than to cause a little one to stumble. Those little ones are the new Christians who got born again in your church, but you falsely taught them that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit was not available to them and that they don't need it. You'll have to give an account to those little ones that are no longer part of the flock, that are so backslidden that they've totally forgotten about your God, never mind the ones that have totally rejected your God already because you told them that it's God's will for you, your son or daughter to have this sickness. Or to teach that it was God's will for you to have that tragic accident – it was God's will for that to teach you a lesson. How do these false teachers end up in the pulpits teaching this? How do people even believe it? Even the secular ask how you could believe something like that.

Examine your life today and see where you have put stumbling blocks before non-Christians.

In **1 Corinthians 12:7-11** it says; *“7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by [a]the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.”*

These are the gifts that you'll have to give an account for one day pastor, because these gifts were and are to be in operation through many people in your church, but you just chose to be 'the man of God', and not allow these gifts to be in operation. These gifts are powerful and need to be in operation in every Christian, at all times. How many today could use supernatural wisdom by the Holy Spirit? Or to give someone a word of knowledge by the Holy Spirit that could spare them heartache? Or to see the gift of faith in operation in the midst of hopelessness? Or the gift of healing – healing of the body in the midst of war and pandemic? Or the gift of miracles – where something creative that happens that goes beyond the natural, like the multiplication of loaves and fishes, or crippled limbs growing out? Or how about the gift of prophecy, to give you insight into the present and the future? Or the discerning of spirits – to see clearly right from wrong in the people coming across

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your paths, discerning what's of God and what's of the devil? Or the diversity of tongues – to give messages in differing languages so that those hearing could understand? Or the interpretation of tongues?

But the devil has deceived many in the pulpits by kicking the Holy Spirit out by emasculating the pastors and taking the power right out, taking away everything that the body of Christ needs. How twisted it is to say that any of these gifts have ceased or are from the devil. I would say that the biggest obstacle for pastors is the gift of tongues, because if tongues were not included or given by the Holy Spirit, there wouldn't as much conflict. But because pastors refuse to give up the rational, reason and natural mind, and exchange it for the supernatural mind of Christ, they reject this precious baptism. Just like Paul said in **1 Corinthians 14:21**; *“It is written in the Law, By men of strange languages and by the lips of foreigners will I speak to this people, and not even then will they listen to Me, says the Lord”*, where he references **Isaiah 28:11-13**. The end result of their disobedience is not good according to what Isaiah prophecies.

AZUSA PAPERS:

“The testimony meetings which precede the preaching often continue for two hours or more and people are standing waiting to testify all the time. Those who have received the baptism with the Holy Ghost testify that they had clear evidence of sanctification first. Hundreds testify that they received the Bible evidence of speaking in a new tongue that they never knew before.”

There's a big difference between being filled with the Holy Spirit, using the ministry of music and various media platforms to preach the Gospel and promote the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, then it is to not be filled with the Holy Spirit and promote the Salvation message only. This is why the 'man of God' syndrome, is so prevalent in the body of Christ today. We have preachers who are highly educated motivational speakers, with the best of the best in Church building marketing skills, as well as the most advanced music and media platforms at their finger tips, but they have not obeyed the last commandment given by Jesus to His disciples found in Acts 2:1-4. So as a result, the Holy Spirit is grieved, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are not able to operate in the Church Body and the 'man of God' Syndrome, is inevitable to take place in the Pastor.

This is a form of religion, that does not allow freedom of speech and the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to operate in the Church Body of believers, and those who question the scriptures that support the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues found in Acts 1:4-8, Acts 2:1-4, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit found in 1 Cor 12:7-11, are shown the right foot of fellowship and are kicked out of the 'Man of God's' church. Why is this done? So they can continue with the 'man of God' image with the best of the best at their disposal, yet there is no power of the Holy Spirit in operation. They can't even see how emasculated they have been by the Jezebel spirit. Who would they have to become if they let the Jezebel spirit rule in their congregation? That would be Ahab. Pastors, are you the church of Ahab today? Emasculated by the Jezebel spirit? Are you emasculating your church today? It's something to think about, because if the gifts of the Holy Spirit are not in operation, it's evident the Jezebel spirit has been in operation and the church has believed a lie. Your justification may be that you're sacrificing your lives, that you preach great salvation messages. You're flailing yourselves with good, righteous works of sacrifice, boasting of the scars from the battlefield that you've endured, bragging of all you're doing with the social justice programs. But you've left out the Holy Spirit's baptism. We need men of God in the pulpit's today who will not compromise this word on the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. There needs to be a change of guard in the church, there needs to be repentance in the churches. A good question to ask yourself today is; are you of the church of Ahab or of the Book of Acts, baptized in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues and operating in the nine gifts of the Holy Spirit. If you're not operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we know who has emasculated and lied to you today. The devil kills, robs and destroys, but Jesus gives life to you by the power of the Holy Spirit and that life is in abundance through His gifts. Look at how far the devil has lied to the church about the baptism in the Holy Spirit – he doesn't want any of that

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power nor gifts in operation to bind him up and take authority over him. He ensures though that good programs, great architectural church designs – inside and out, great music, fantastic light shows, drama productions that are Hollywood and New York style, the best in latest fashion – the hair, clothing in shoes, the best in motivational speaking – trained how to make the right body motion at the right time – trained how to captivate the heart of the people. Yes, you’ve captivated them alright, but not by God but by the works of the devil because you’ve kicked the Holy Spirit out of the church and replaced it with the wisdom of man, which is foolishness to God.

AZUSA PAPERS:

“At a recent church trial, a brother made the remark that he little thought when he was seeking more of God it would mean for him to be turned out of the Holiness church. This brings to mind the old lady who was turned out of the church, and as she walked down the hill, she said: "Yonder is the meeting house, here goes the church." They may turn you out of church houses and organizations of men, but not out of the one church. Thank God, that church book is kept in heaven. Jesus said: "Rejoice that your names are written in heaven." One of the Holiness leaders said that the church had always taught sanctification as the baptism with the Holy Ghost, and they could not afford to give it up. Besides he would have to burn his books and sermons. Brother, on that great day of judgment, how much will those books and sermons weigh as compared to God's word?"

When the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are in operation and miracles are happening, it’s a continuous reminder to the Pastors that have the ‘Man of God’ Syndrome, that they have not obeyed Jesus’ last command and in order to maintain their highly religious educated reputation and man of God image they have to expel them from their Church.

BRO. SEYMOUR’S CALL. Bro. W. J. Seymour has the following to say in regard to his call to this city: "It was the divine call that brought me from Houston, Texas, to Los Angeles. The Lord put it in the heart of some of the saints in Los Angeles to write to me that she felt the Lord would have me come over here and do a work, and I came, for I felt it was the leading of the Lord. The Lord sent the means, and I came to take charge of a mission on Santa Fe Street, and one night they locked the door against me,"

We know why they locked him out, it’s because it was his belief of speaking in tongues as being the sign of being baptized in the Holy Spirit, and interestingly enough, he himself had still not received the gift of tongues but did later.

I’d like to share 10 Characteristics of the Jezebel Spirit:

1. It seeks to gain popularity and favor with people of influential and high positions of leadership.
2. It will seek out other individuals they feel are "weaker" to become followers of them.
3. It is never humble. Whenever this spirit receives praise, it always responds in false humility.
4. It is defensive and combative whenever confronted about anything.
5. It loves to teach and seeks to gain control in every situation.
6. It wants to be seen as the most spiritual and powerful one typically loves to pray elaborate long prayers
7. It will not submit to authority
8. It loves to pray and impart evil demonic spirits into others especially in the church
9. It hates the voice of the prophet and seeks to control and destroy those who operate in the prophetic.
10. It will never repent!

It sounds like many who are in the pulpits today, doesn’t it?

To read The Azusa Papers, [click on this link to read Vol.1, No.3](#)