**Prophetic Overview of Spiritual Mothers and Fathers**

Joel 2:28-29 “*And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions*.”

**I.** **Restoring the Kingdom:** Church Age >The Kingdom Age

1. **The Church Age --**The focus of the “Church Age” has been …

* Man-centered – focus on meeting the needs of man beginning with His salvation or redemption from sin. FOCUS ON EVANGELISM
* The gifts of the Spirit and 5 fold ministry gifts reintroduced into the body. Revivals for short periods of time!
* The platform ministry (anointing remains on individuals)
* Programs and structures of man.
* Bring people into church.
* Protection from those who are lost and living in sin. In politics this is called “Isolationism”. Another way to describe it is living defensively in regard to warfare and the demonic. It’s fear based …if you touch a leper you get leprosy; sin is the focus

Bill Johnson – “When we get introspective, we restrict the flow of the Holy Spirit. We become like the Dead Sea; water flows in, but nothing flows out, and nothing can live in its stagnant waters. The Holy Spirit is released through faith and compassion, and faith and compassion are never self-centered.”

1. **The Kingdom Age --** The focus of the "Kingdom Age" church is …

* Focus on the glory of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
* Includes focus on salvation and redemption because we must change our thinking and repent in order to see the real kingdom.
* Emphasis is on the government of God coming to earth and our lives.
* It is a church that takes the offense against the enemy. (It’s you pray for a leper and he is healed). Walk in love, not fear!
* The kingdom that Jesus preached and taught is **from heaven and for earth**.
* His kingdom, not from earth but **from heaven for earth**. (It is the Kingdom of heaven coming to earth).
* **Of God and from God;** it is **in and through man** by the Holy Spirit.
* The gifts and anointing is for every believer of every age. Focus away from the anointed one. The Kingdom age ushers in a universal empowerment in the body of Christ and advancement of God territory. Impartation and transfer of gifts
* A gospel that includes healing …
* Sonship/adoption – Spiritual fathers and mothers rising up.
* A demonstration of the Lordship of Jesus … in market place and outside church walls. Powerful preaching, signs and wonders, increased revelation, angels, dreams and visions.
* Focused on a spiritual family structure, age integration…sons and daughters

Bill Johnson- “The kingdom is the realm of the Spirit of God demonstrating the Lordship of Jesus. It is the Spirit empowered life that affects the leaven in a dark world.”

“*But when the grain ripens, immediately he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come*.” Mark 4:26-29

**II. The Lords Promise in Malachi 4:5-6**

Malachi 4:5, 6 “*Behold, I will send you* ***Elijah*** *the prophet  before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.**And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse*.”

1. In order to be spared from a curse, we must change our hearts and minds … the disposition and heart attitude we have between generations must be changed.
2. The bridge between the old and the new—between what God has said and done in the past and what He will say and do in the future.
3. 2 important elements in this prophetic promise and word to us …
4. Elijah is coming - The prophetic spirit of Elijah will be manifested upon the earth.

* 3 expressions of the Spirit of Elijah –

* Release of supernatural power miracles
* Revelatory – seeing angels, dreams and visions
* Powerful preaching that turns a nation back to God …rested upon John in part.

1. Reconciliation of generations – And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers.

* This speaks of a time when God will connect the generations in ministry in a way that has not been seen before.
* **Turn** (Hebrew=Shuv … turn back, turn ones self, turn around, return and restore)
* **Fathers** (Hebrew=Av … begotten, forefather, parent, ancestor, guardian, applied to kings, prophets and priests, any man who occupies a similar position, founder of a group) So includes spiritual parents!
* **Children** (Hebrew=Ben **…** son, child, young one, grandson, descendent, pupil or disciple.
* 2 areas where God is reconciling the generations today:
* In the Natural (families restored)
* In the Spiritual … Mothers and fathers coming forth to train and equip the next generation.

**Spiritual mothers and fathers to the 7 mountains (governmental, church, family, education, media, marketplace and arts) Lou Engle is a father to the unborn, Mike Bickel is a father to the world-wide prayer movement, James Dobson a father to the family…. there are those called to be fathers and mothers in government, church and market place etc.**

Spiritual Parents in scripture:

Miriam to the women coming out of Egypt

Ruth and Naomi

Esther and Mordecai

Elizabeth and Mary

David and Samuel

Joseph and Pharaoh (Genesis 45:8)-- God made him a father to Pharaoh (area of business)

Jethro and Moses (Exodus 18)—Jethro fathered Moses in the area of Gov’t

Moses and Joshua

Paul and Timothy

Paul’s Words: I Corinthians 4:14-16 says, vs. 15*“…though you have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the gospel*”

**III. Legacy of Spiritual Mothers & Fathers**

1. **Paradigm** **shift**~ A son/daughter pursuing the parent

**Ruth & Naomi** – counted the cost of leaving her country/family/culture (all she knew) and was willing to give it all up to follow Naomi (Ruth 1:16-18)

**Joshua & Moses** – Joshua is Moses’ aide; Wherever Moses went, Joshua goes (Exodus 17:9-15;24:13;32:17;33:7-11; Numbers 11:28; 13:16;14:6,30,38;26:65;27:31)

**Elisha & Elijah** – Elisha is Elijah’s aide; Elisha burned & destroyed his old way of life, leaving it all to follow Elijah (I Kings 19:19-21); Elisha was known around Israel as the one who poured water on Elijah’s hands (2 Kings 3:11)

As a leader, follow where Jesus is going & what He is saying & go after it together

1. **Reproducing yourself** – We reproduce what we see

* Paul & Timothy “imitate me”
* Sons & Daughters transition into fathers & mothers in our “house”; if revival is going to last beyond us, we need to have sons & daughters transition into fathers & mothers in our midst
* You have to be a son before you can be a father—what we experience as a son will help prepare us to be a father
* Life on life awakens sons & daughters (2 Kings 4:33-35); It’s not the gifts in us, but the life on life

1. **Inheritance**~ you can only mother or father a handful of people; inheritance goes to family

* Inheritance was given to the son before the death of the father, so the son could begin to build his business/established while his dad was alive (Luke 15~ when the son asked for his inheritance, he was forfeiting being able to carry on after his father died, because he squandered the fortune)
* Imparting spiritual blessing to sons and daughters; Paul laid his hands on his spiritual son Timothy and imparted gifts and blessings (2 Timothy 1:6, “*For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands*”.)
* Jacob saw the value of inheritance (future) and Essau saw the “now” (what can I get out of this right now?)
* Giving attitude will be multiplied in sons & daughters; givers are contagious
* Sons and daughters inherit testimonies just as members of the royal family inherit their family history -- Royals study and rehearse the record of their ancestors because it is their connection to the past that gives them their identity and purpose for their lifetime. It lays on them a responsibility of doing something during their reign in order to pass the legacy on to the next generation.

1. **Royal Culture**~ Revelation of royalty is married to servant hood

* When we live in a culture of honor, a royal culture; a culture that says “you can do anything”, it’s important to help the young leaders (sons/daughters) navigate the timing
* Brings out the best in others…calling out the greatness in others, because we are not threatened by another’s success.
* Moses & Joshua~ battle with the Amalekites (exodus 17:3); Moses built a platform for Joshua to stand on
* Saul & David ~ Saul’s jealousy was divisive for him and his generational line~ he lost the blessing because he did not celebrate David’s success and build a platform for him to stand on
* Sons & Daughters trusting the insight of fathers & mothers (decisions that are made among many counselors are safe—when we make decisions out on our own, it can be dangerous because of timing)
* Paul is an example of this~ he did not go out until the counsel (community) sent him, when they felt the time was right; he trusted the counsel of fathers

Fathers & Mothers are not threatened by the son/daughter’s success, but place him/her on their shoulders & encourage “our ceiling is your floor”

**IV. Spiritual Mothers and Fathers do 5 things well**

1. **Empowering to be Courageous** – Mordecai & Esther

* They don’t need to wait for approval to step out in ministry. We encourage them to run in their gifts now.God has placed us here on earth for a really important reason.
* Encourage means = give someone courage
* Empower means = give someone power

1. **Inspire Dreaming** – Fathers & mothers have to create an atmosphere for sons & daughters to dream. (Brett)

* “The capacity of dreaming creates the momentum for destiny” ~ Bill Johnson

1. **Challenge the Status Quo** – (the existing state of affairs…passion such as … sex trafficking and abortion, integrity over loyalty) from self-centered to servant

* Qualifications for being a leader: A son or daughter who is ready to learn = eager to serve well to give them a platform & resources & encouragement, to believe in them …
* We want to develop others & call out their greatness -- Brandon Hess (serving the media mountain)
* Model a Radical Lifestyle – Hunger and thirst for God and push the Spiritual envelope

1. **Release Identity** – Knowing who you are breaks off who you aren’t

* Mothers and fathers discover what is hidden in the sons & daughters and call out their destiny & identity
* Speak prophetically over them and look for gifts to pull out.

1. **Encourage the heart** (help them seek healing and forgiveness when necessary)

* Push back to real parents when possible and let Jesus be Jesus. (Don’t take the place of real parents)