

The Coming Purge



David Wilkerson October 1, 1977

The mission of Jesus Christ was not only to redeem and baptize believers with the Holy Ghost, but to also separate, purge, and winnow the wheat from the chaff. What a terrible aspect of His mission — to separate and destroy the corrupt seed and prepare it for burning.

The church has experienced a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit. There has been a great ingathering of people from all religions and walks of life. God's holy floor is full and overflowing with a copious harvest. In fact, those whitened fields have been yielding a record harvest.

Now, the church of Jesus Christ is about to experience the second half of the Pentecostal promise. Jesus Himself is about to purge His people. If you believe in the promise of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost, you must also believe the rest of that promise. Right after the promised outpouring comes a cleansing of all impurities "on His floor." Jesus is going to separate the wheat from the chaff.

"Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire" (*Matthew 3:12*).

Our Lord is going to rid His true church of all that is false and sensuous. The proud, the corrupt, the lukewarm, the lovers of pleasure — all will be winnowed out of His place.

John Predicted A Purge In The Church

In one great prophetic verse, John foretells what Christ will do to His harvest after the Holy Ghost has been outpoured in the last days — just prior to His return. After the baptism, a fanning period. A time of putting into categories. The wind of the Holy Spirit is going to breathe in a new way — not just to baptize, but to blow all the chaff out of His house. Also, out of our lives.

The background of this powerful promise is found on the hillsides of the Holy Land. The harvesters approached those heaps of mingled wheat and chaff with a three-pronged wooden fork. Others used a wooden shovel with a handle about three feet long. The mingled harvest was thrown into the air, directly into the wind. The lighter chaff particles were wafted to the side, blown free from the heavier wheat which fell directly to the floor. The chaff was set on fire and destroyed, leaving nothing but a heap of charred ashes. The wheat was gathered in sacks and stored in barns.

In Bible times, if there was no wind available during this winnowing time, a fan was used to create a breeze. It was usually done late in the evening, and if it was not finished by midnight, it was the custom to sleep on the threshing floor and finish in the morning.

God's Word declares, "...His fan is in his hand." The fan Jesus holds in His nail-scarred hand is the Holy Spirit. He sent the Spirit as Comforter and Baptizer. He also will use the Spirit as the separating wind. Jesus, I believe, is even now compelling the Holy Spirit to blow mightily on the harvest. The church of Christ is beginning to feel the

first breezes of this final cleansing wind from Heaven. And, He will finish the work before midnight.

Jesus Is Going To Expose Sin In His House

Our Lord has been watching over His harvest with anxious love. He knows that not everyone who says "Lord, Lord" will be gathered in. He knows that in that harvest now heaped high are those who offend — those who must be exposed for what they really are — chaff! He has been so patient. To this time, He has allowed the wheat and the weeds to grow together. He has allowed the mingled harvest to accumulate on His sanctified floor. But, oh, my brother and sister — when He decides to purge His floor, there will be no more time for sermons on separation. No more books warning the corrupt to clean up. No more mingled half-bred harvest. His winnowing fork will be plunged into those heaps, including every little prayer group — every Catholic and Protestant church community — every congregation of believers, worldwide. We are all going to feel the impact of that hour when we are winnowed by His hand. To those who are separated and sanctified unto Christ, the purging and winnowing is nothing to fear. We will come out of that purging period still intact, and all about us will be left those of like precious faith.

The preachers, teachers, and evangelists are not going to do the winnowing or the fanning. Jesus is going to do it all, through His Holy Spirit. The church need not worry about the Nicolaitans, the swingers, the compromisers, the mixers with the world. Jesus is soon going to do something about it. We have been in an outpouring — now get ready for an uprooting!

There will be a final separation of sheep from goats on the Day of Judgment. But, I believe the winnowing process takes place here on earth, before the final judgment. The purging of the harvest comes before it is gathered unto the Master's barn.

"For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?" (*1 Peter 4:17*).

All That Offends Will Have To Go

In recent years, the call of God to all peoples has been, "Come together in Christ's name. Be gathered together in love." And, how they did come! Methodists hugged Baptists! Pentecostals began to love Catholics! Hippies, addicts, prostitutes, ex-cons — all came under that banner of love. The harvest seemed endless; the love was all encompassing; and those who had been yearning for the promise declared — "This is that!"

That harvest included reapings from Hollywood, Nashville, Washington — from show business, from politics, from the house of Israel. Can anyone deny the harvest is heaped? Lovers of Jesus everywhere have been bringing in the sheaves. There is rejoicing in the body of Christ. Never has the harvest been so ripe; never have the tools of threshing been so occupied. But, that harvest doesn't just "lay there" untouched, waiting to be stored. Never! Chaff is infused all through those heaps. It all looks like wheat, but it is not. Chaff cannot be permitted to remain with the harvest. The owner of that harvest must come and separate the real from the make-believe.

What will be blown away and what will remain? We know from the revealed Word of God that all fornication, all lying, all stealing, all adultery, all gossiping, all hatred will have to be purged from the church. But, He also said He would purge "all that offends."

"As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity" (*Matthew 13:40,41*).

Our Lord is going to go to great lengths to fan out of the harvest every scandal, every wrongdoer, and everything that is offensive to God. And, the very first to go will be those things that were highly esteemed among men but an abomination to God.

Abominable Music Is Going To Be Blown Away

What is so highly esteemed among men that could be such an abomination to God? For an example, take another look at the number-one sacred cow of most Christian young people today — hard rock! They have now renamed it

"Jesus Rock" — "Love Rock" — "Holy Ghost Rock." The music itself is not an abomination to God, because it is nothing more than an amplified sound. It can even be imitated by a hunk of machinery, like a Moog synthesizer. But, the cheap commercialism by so many Jesus rockers is one of the worst abominations the church has ever witnessed.

I can't hold it back any longer. Someone has to say it. The effect of the so-called Jesus rock on the church is scandalous. It is a stench in God's nostrils, and when Jesus begins to purge the harvest — all the Jesus rock money-changers will be the first to go. How long do you think God will put up with some of these corrupt singing groups who travel the country charging up to \$7,000 for a single "show for Jesus"? How long will Jesus allow a small army of agents, managers, and promoters to intimidate the churches by pushing music on young people that is nothing but a cheap echo from the halls of ungodly rock concerts? It's a throwback to the old "pot and acid" music of a decade ago.

I am 100% persuaded that Jesus is about to blow all the sensuous, world-like music right out of the sanctuary. We desperately need a cleansing of our music appreciation. Our Lord cannot be pleased when His children develop a taste for a sound that is so much identified with drugs, sex, and violence. And, what about the Christians who feed their minds on country western songs with lyrics featuring divorce, cheating, and barroom blues?

A Musical Revolution Is Coming

Mark my words, a new revolution in music is coming to the church. The Spirit is going to blow all those "Las Vegas" acts out of His floor — and in its place will come to birth a pure and glorious sound that will make all heaven rejoice. Those compromising groups who were once so popular won't find a handful of Christian young people willing to listen. Jesus is going to initiate His own "coming back" music. He is going to purge out all the phony, half-surrendered singers and players. He is going to sanctify the voices and instruments of those who pass the purge. Christ is going to bring His true children back to the music of worship.

Right now, Christian young people cannot get up off their knees — having really poured out their hearts to Jesus — and then turn on a hard rock sound. Prayer, a broken heart, tear-stained eyes, a vision of Jesus — none of these are part of Jesus rock. But, that's all about to change. Already, thousands of Christian young people are beginning to meditate and pray with the soothing, gentle music of praise and worship. Jesus rock is out! It may hang on a while longer, and its promoters will say it is here to stay. But, it is dead! In its place? A new sound. A total Jesus sound. A song of joyful praise and awesome worship. Jesus Himself is going to make the change. We are going to see new groups arise — so given to Jesus, so separated from the world and all its silly music — and they will sing an original song, nothing borrowed! Those singers and groups who now enjoy popularity will be left behind, unless they go back to the cross, humble themselves, and begin to focus on worship.

Every time these freshly anointed young people sing, Jesus will be exalted. We won't see the performers anymore. We are going to see Jesus! No more cheap psychedelic album covers. Jesus will be lifted up — instead of self. No more high-pressured agents asking outrageous prices. No more emotional gimmicks to turn on a crowd. No more innocuous ditties about peace and love. No! It is going to be a sanctified sound, delivered by sanctified performers, and heard by sanctified ears.

The Homosexual Church Will Be Cast Out

What else will Jesus purge from His floor? All the secret homosexuals and all those who excuse them in their sin; that is all chaff and must be swept away. Jesus hates homosexuality, but He loves homosexuals. He forgives those who repent and forsake their evil ways. But, now the church has within its ranks those who would have us believe Jesus no longer considers homosexuality a sin.

Homosexuals now claim more than 50,000 members in their "all homosexual" churches. The Metropolitan Community Church is one of many homosexual denominations springing up across the nation. I sent an observer to one of their annual "Holy Ghost" conventions in Dallas, Texas. What unbelievable blasphemy!

Each delegate, as they registered, was given a packet which included, among other things, two "boy" magazines of all nude men and a list of all the gay bars in Dallas — so that delegates could leave the evening service, go to their selected bar, and connect with a lover for the night. And, those delegates called themselves "ministers." How they did sing! They praised the Lord with enthusiasm; but their evangelist corrupted the gospel beyond comprehension.

He said, "Sure, Paul condemned men who changed the natural use and burned one toward another. But that's not us. We didn't change anything. We were born this way. So, come out of your closets. Be filled with the Holy Ghost, and enjoy your homosexuality."

How long will Jesus put up with this outrageous blasphemy? How long will our blessed Lord permit "ministers" of the church to excuse and encourage homosexuals in their perversion? And, that's what it is — a perversion! Try to take the sting out of that word, try to sugar-coat it, try to make it sound inoffensive, but it's still perversion. Nothing will ever change that! The church may excuse it. Liberal ministers may taunt those of us who still call it sin; comedians may mock and make jokes about those who resist it; but, in reality, Jesus hates homosexuality, and He is going to fan it right off His holy floor. Even now, the homosexual community is staggered by the way in which Jesus is raising up His standard against their sin. The wind of God is set against them.

Jesus will welcome with healing arms every homosexual who rejects his sin and cries out, "I'm in need, Master. Forgive and heal me." For the past 10 years, we have helped finance a home for homosexuals. We have provided beds, food, clothing, and counseling for homosexuals wanting help. It is a part of Christ's command to witness to them about salvation and deliverance. But, the church of Jesus Christ must never compromise and dialogue with the doctrine of devils. Satan's doctrine is one of proud and arrogant acceptance of homosexuality as a normal Christian experience. Never!

The unrepentant and secret homosexuals will be exposed and separated from the true body of Christ. Having rejected the love of Jesus and His offer to deliver them, they face the winnowing shovel of Jesus. Jesus is not coming back for a church that pampers and excuses sin. So, beware! Beware of ministers who excuse vile sin with the whitewash of what they call Christian "love." You cannot bring healing to homosexuals by sympathizing with their sin. Beware of those who come in the name of Jesus who refuse to see "the exceeding sinfulness" of this sin. The adulterers, the fornicators, and the practicing homosexuals will all be cast upon the same heap of rejection. Jesus will not allow it in His true church. A homosexual purge is coming, and the Lord Himself is going to take charge; He will end this invasion into the church by reprobated minds.

A Second Mighty Rushing Wind Is Coming

Get ready for a second mighty rushing wind. Isaiah pictured nations as rushing ahead like the "rushing of many waters," headed into the wind of God. He said the ungodly will be "chased as the chaff." They will drift about as particles caught up in a whirlwind.

"The nations shall rush like the rushing of many waters; but God shall rebuke them, and they shall flee far off, and shall be chased as the chaff of the mountains before the wind, and like a rolling thing before the whirlwind..." (*Isaiah 17:13*).

Are you ready to receive a prophecy — one from the very heart of God — as to what our Lord is about to do? Isaiah prophesied that "the seed of Abraham" would become as:

"...a sharp threshing instrument having teeth who shall thresh the mountains, and beat them small, and shall make the hills as chaff" (*Isaiah 41:15*).

Isaiah predicted God will not forget His people. He will open "new rivers in high places — the wilderness shall become a pool of water — dry land will yield springs...and He will open a new highway of holiness." And, how will the Lord accomplish His purpose and bring about separation and righteousness?

"Thou shalt fan them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them: and thou shalt rejoice in the Lord, and shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel" (*Isaiah 41:16*).

A Holiness Revival Is On The Way

What has Isaiah prophesied? What shall we expect when this purge is full blown? I believe the Lord has given us a small glimpse into what will happen. More than a purging of our music and our morals, I see coming a new kind of awakening. We have witnessed in past years an awakening of love and compassion. This love-awakening brought multitudes into the fold. We have witnessed an awakening from deadness to life — from a form of godliness to the power thereof. Now, we are about to witness an awakening to the holiness of Jesus. Hear Isaiah again.

"...and they shall glory in the Holy One of Israel."

Holiness will follow love! We will sing a song of rejoicing and be raptured with a new vision of the holiness of the Lord.

I see more and more teachers being moved upon to preach separation, godly sorrow, and holiness. The Holy Spirit is going to lift up a standard against the compromise and corruption. We will see a new kind of convert. Soon, we will hear of celebrities giving up show business completely to preach the gospel. Politicians will walk away from their smoke-filled rooms once and for all to spread the Word of God. Talk about separation; they are going to put all the Christian playboy celebrities to shame. These totally surrendered converts will be filled with a vision of Christ's holiness and purity. And, they will not be afraid to come out of the world.

A new generation of young converts will arise with holy boldness to renounce the corruption in the world and the church. Where sin abounds, grace does much more abound. Our children face an age when it will seem like every demon in hell has been set loose to deceive. They will face seductions no other generation has heard of. Satan will assault them with every device at his disposal. Evil men will wax worse and worse. Crime and violence will threaten their very lives. "Gay goons" will stalk the streets of cities, raping men and killing, as they did in the days of Lot. The stench of hell will be almost everywhere. But, Jesus has promised the last-day believer more grace than all other generations. Satan doesn't know it, but all his attacks will do nothing but help produce a kind of "super saint." I mean that in the right way. Jesus will raise up, in the midst of madness and despair, a holy seed. Strong, separated, unbending young men and women, all of them blood-washed survivors of the last day purge.

I don't worry at all about the future our Christian kids face. They are going to be stronger, purer, and deeper in Jesus than any generation in history. There will be less chaff and more wheat among them.

As for me, I've been opening up all the doors and windows of my being. My soul cries out, "Oh, Lord, send the wind — the cleansing, separating wind of Your Spirit — and blow all the chaff out of my life. Get rid of all the junk. Give me that 'continual sorrow' for sin Paul spoke of. Separate me to Yourself.

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