

Our Calling to the Nations

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Isa 60:1-3, "Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. 2 For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth and deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. 3 The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."

This passage describes the time when the glory of the Lord comes upon the people of God, and at the same time how the earth and the people in it will be covered in deep darkness and wickedness. I believe that it is a prophecy about the end of time before the second coming of the Lord Jesus. God calls out to His people and says that His Glory is coming upon us, the Church. This glory is the Light of the world. It is the manifestation of Jesus Christ and the presence of God upon His people. God's promise is that as the dark gets darker the light will become lighter. We will always have enough grace to overcome any circumstance that we could face, for where sin abounds grace abounds much more. For the longest time I focused on the fact that there will be great light and great darkness and that is where my mind stopped until God opened verse three to me. It says that the gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. The gentiles and kings in this verse refer to the people that are in the deep darkness that covers the earth. It is the people as well as the governmental systems of the dark earth which are drawn by the glory of the Lord which is upon us. Verse three speaks of the conversion of the darkness into the light. Though the earth was darkened by unrighteousness and lawlessness this verse promises that even in the darkest hour of human history there will be multitudes of people and entire nations that will be coming to the brightness of our rising.

The Lord spoke to me through this and gave me vision for the "end-times," that time where the anti-Christ will gather the nations of the earth to join with him. The time where lawlessness is the normal and Satan's rulership over the hearts of people is at full control, but at that time there also is a glory that is coming upon the people of God. This glory is the Light and when Jesus is lifted up He will draw all me unto Himself. So even though the anti-Christ may rule over the hearts of the nations one day, the very next that nation will be running over to the light and Satan's control will be lost. The very kings of the earth that served the anti-Christ are the same ones who will repent and turn to the light. Can an entire nation turn to the Lord? God's answer is a resounding yes! The enemy cannot have any power over people without their agreement, so as the light becomes brighter the darkness will lose its grasp and power over the earth. God will not be out done by a false god who is trying to glorify himself, but He will raise up a standard in all the earth and that is the glory of God upon the people of God. This glory is not anything that the world has yet experienced. This glory is the glory which Jesus had with the

Father before time began and which He prayed would be upon us (Jn 17). This glory is timeless and limitless. It is the very radiance of the eternal God, the exceeding brilliance of the wisdom of the Ancient One and the beauty of the Desire of the Nation – Jesus Christ. It will come on a scale that is larger than a church body. It can only be seen with a global perspective and even the earth will tremble at the glory upon us. It is the mount of transfiguration, but upon every mountain on the earth, and it is the walking on the sea but upon every wave of the ocean. This glory is God's habitation of on earth. It is the fullness of Jesus dwelling in and upon His people.

The people of God are being prepared for this great release of God's glory right now. We are starting to see and hear the trickling of this rushing river of glory. Our hearts are being prepared by Love. Only those who love Jesus can carry His glory. Love and intimacy with the Creator of our hearts is the only training that can prepare us for this time of glory. Everything in us must fall in love with Jesus Christ. Love must be perfected in us. This love comes by seeing Him and this sight produces real faith. Faith should cause interaction and intimacy with God. As we come to know and see Him we will fall more and more in love with Him until perfection is complete in us (1Jn). The glory must be carried in vessels of love. Only those grounded in true love can be trusted with the full glory of God (Eph 3). Scripture declares that the glory of the Lord will cover the earth as the water covers the sea (Hab 2). That means the deep pressure that is on the bottom of the sea will be heaviness and fullness of the glory of God upon His people. This glory will be a force and pressure that will move the hearts of whole nations in a moment. The word used for glory in the Hebrew means a heavy weight, pressure. This is the deep waters covering the earth as the waters cover the sea.

We must not forget that we as the people of God were meant to disciple nations not people. Nations are comprised of political, social, and economic spheres all of which we are to disciple in the way of the Kingdom of God. We are to disciple and teach the hearts of people but then the reality of the kingdom needs to affect the spheres of the people's influence. The wisdom of God must be upon the people of God. We should be the ones with the cutting edge ideas and inventions that solve personal, as well as national problems. This is what the glory of God will bring upon us. We will no longer try to get people saved but will see the transformation of entire societies and nations because of the power of the gospel of Jesus Christ upon the individual heart.

We have been given a measure of glory right now and we must learn to be obedient with what we have been given, because faithful stewardship of what we already have is the very thing which qualifies us for greater measures of it. His presence and glory is upon us now, but not in fullness. This doesn't mean that we don't do anything until the fullness comes, but that we need to learn to faithfully steward the measure of glory that is already upon us and so doing qualify ourselves for the greater glory which is coming.

We all have been called to the nations. Whether that nation is here or there it doesn't matter. What matters is the vision that we have. Are we trying to save people and then leave them to their own salvation or are we working for complete transformation of the society and nation that we are serving? God's heart is that we would disciple nations. Transformation must come from the inside of the individual out into every sphere of society. Can an entire nation come to Jesus and its entire infrastructure represent His Kingdom? Yes, it can and we are the ones God has chosen to make sure it happens. His grace is sufficient in for every work He has called us too. Praise Jesus! Thank you Father. Let the kingdoms of the earth become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ!

