

# BHOP Forerunner Gathering – JENNIFER LAWRENCE APRIL 26, 2009

## Intimacy With God: *Understanding of Jesus returning to the last generation as Bridegroom, Judge, and King*

### I. BHOP BASIC PRINCIPLE #1 : INTIMACY WITH GOD

#### A. Understanding of Jesus returning as Bridegroom, Judge, and King to the last generation

The revelation of His heart, power, holiness, and leadership as He accomplishes His eternal purpose of taking over the leadership of the whole earth. There will be no contradiction in Jesus' end-time ministry as He displays His glory as Bridegroom, Judge, and King. He does not suspend one attribute in order to exercise another.

1. Bridegroom - *Rev. 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult and give Him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come...*
2. Judge - *Psalm 9:7,8 But the LORD sits enthroned forever; He has established His throne for justice, and He judges the world with righteousness; He judges the peoples with uprightness.*
3. King - *Psalm 2:6,8,11 "As for Me, I have set my King on Zion, My holy hill... Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession"... Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling...*

### II. WHO IS THIS JESUS AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO EMPHASIZE THESE THREE FACETS?

"What we have is a knowledge of God problem..." - Allen Hood

#### A. Agreement and embracing WHO Jesus is in His fullness.

In the season of His return, it is critical that the Church embrace these three expressions of Jesus. Today, Jesus invites us to know His whole character, the plans that are in His heart, and how He will carry them out so that we will be in agreement rather than in offense on that Day. Eschatological understanding of Jesus' judgments steeped in His jealous love and desire for a pure Bride with whom to reign when He returns in victory, will help us overcome offense, anger, fear, and confusion so that people trust Jesus' leadership and mature in love.

1. Agreement with His love and mercy - Jesus the Passionate Bridegroom

The One who laid down His life for love has great tenderness and deep desire for His people *...as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you (Is. 62:5)*. It is vital that we be rooted deeply in the understanding of the affectionate and jealous love of the Bridegroom in order to be kept steady in persecution and to rightly view His purposes for opposing wickedness as the Judge.

Intimacy With God: *Understanding of Jesus returning as Bridegroom, Judge, and King*

## 2. Agreement with His judgments - Jesus the Righteous Judge

Jesus is zealous for our holiness and will uphold the standards of conduct given by God. Jesus releases His fire of judgment against immorality to deliver us from that which harms us. His judgments both expose the darkness in the human heart and reveal the holiness of God. ***"Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was, for you brought these judgments. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and you have given them blood to drink. It is what they deserve!" (Rev. 16:5-6)***

The least familiar and most unpopular face of Jesus is the one that is most emphasized in the songs and prayers of Revelation. The book of Revelation depicts the Church in full agreement with God's plan to release judgment on the earth, resulting in war, famine, plague, and widespread death. The songs of Revelation include cries for justice and judgment as well as thanksgiving and praise for God's righteous judgment of the earth. The Day when love finally triumphs over sin and light vanquishes darkness.

## 3. Agreement with His sovereignty and power - Jesus the Powerful Coming King

Jesus releases power in confronting evil and winning the lost. ***"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever... Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God!" (Rev 11:15; 19:1)***

***"Jesus Christ is not my security against the storms of life, but He is my perfect security in the storms. He has never promised me an easy passage, only a safe landing."***

***- L.B. Cowman, Streams in the Desert***

In the midst of shaking, knowing that Jesus is King and will be victorious will keep us steady in the darkest hour of human history. Jesus' victory will usher in His reign and Kingdom as He rules every sphere of society worldwide in justice and righteousness from His throne in Jerusalem. Confidence in the guaranteed victory of the King and His Bride prepares her to take courage, declaring and participating rather than drawing back in defeat, fear, or panic. God is in control and His plan will prevail.

## B. Protection from offense and falling away

1. Will I respond rightly? ***Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake. And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. Than many false prophets will rise up and deceive many. And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. But he who endures to the end will be saved... For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be (Matt. 24:9-13,21). Blessed is he who takes no offense at Me... (Matt. 11:6)***

Intimacy With God: *Understanding of Jesus returning as Bridegroom, Judge, and King*

“So find me here waiting when You return, my heart unoffended, alive in Your love.  
With garments of pure white I will stand on that day because I know You”  
- Rebekah Andrews, “Longing” (song lyrics)

2. There will be a battle for the truth about Jesus, leading to deception. *The Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons... having their conscience seared... (1 Tim. 4:1-2)*

## III. DIVING DEEPER INTO THE HEART OF THE JUDGE

- A. This face of Jesus is so different than what many people picture when they think of Jesus.
  1. I am beginning to come to grips with my own distaste for this face of my Lord... I don't want to be ashamed, but rather, I want to be interested, to love this expression of who Jesus is, to be willing to gaze at this reality, to be His friend, devoted and loyal to Him, interested in His plan...
  2. Remember: Jesus always and only works to establish love, bringing shaking to remove all that hinders love, that we would be fully redeemed and holy *Heb. 12:26-29*

Principle of God's love in judgment: God uses the least severe means to reach the greatest number of people at the deepest level of love without violating our free will.  
- Mike Bickle

- B. The severity of His judgments show His zeal to cleanse the earth and restore righteousness
  1. The Bowl Judgments of *Rev. 16* judgment demanded by the beauty of His holiness
    - a. Loathsome boils - for those who worship Antichrist - human flesh becoming foul with a terrible/loathsome odor like rotten meat
    - b. Sea and fresh water become like the congealed blood of a dead body with an unimaginable stench - complete destruction of marine life
    - c. *Rev. 16:5,6* Justice demands that Jesus causes the blood of people in the Antichrist empire to be spilled (*Gen, 9:5-6*)
    - d. *Rev. 16:7* *And I heard another from the altar saying, "Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments."* Men are offended by Jesus' judgments that bring bloodshed but heaven understands and affirms Jesus' end-time judgments as being true and righteous...
    - e. Humanity still stubbornly refuses to submit to God's laws and leadership (*Rev. 16:8-21*)

**Intimacy With God: Understanding of Jesus returning as Bridegroom, Judge, and King**

## C. Trembling at His Word

1. *Worship the LORD in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth. Psalm 96:9*
2. *This is the one I esteem: he who is humble and contrite in spirit, and trembles at my word. Isaiah 66:2*
3. Meditation and study on the throne room of God help bring an appropriate response of trembling at His Word, holy fear and reverence

## IV. HOW DOES BHOP PLAY A ROLE IN BRINGING THIS REVELATION?

## A. Singing seminary

1. Exploring these truths and themes in song and prayer in the prayer room  
*The oracle of one who hears the words of God, who has knowledge from the Most High, who sees a vision from the Almighty, who falls prostrate, and whose eyes are opened... (Numbers 24:16)*
2. Raising up and sending out messengers to declare it
  - a. The spirit of prophecy and prayer are given by God to equip the Church to make known the testimony of Jesus and what is on His heart **Rev. 19:10b,11**
  - b. We desire to raise up those who will declare with understanding the coming activities of God **Is. 62:10**
  - c. They will expose the iniquity latent in the human heart **2 Cor. 2:14-16**
  - d. They will give the proper interpretation of the moment and call others to come into communion with God **Dan. 12:3**

## V. GOING DEEPER ON YOUR OWN

- A. Ask regularly for the Holy Spirit to give you revelation (living understanding) as you study the Word and pray; contend for this; make it a goal to set your heart to seek it
  1. The Holy Spirit was sent to glorify and exalt Jesus by guiding us into all truth about Him (**Jn. 16:13-15**). We need His help for this truth to unfold within us

“The most neglected subject in the Kingdom of God is God. The knowledge of God is the Mt. Everest of the Kingdom... we must have a steady resolve in our spirit to press on... it takes a lifetime to climb and the Holy Spirit is our escort...” - Mike Bickle

**Intimacy With God: Understanding of Jesus returning as Bridegroom, Judge, and King**

2. Go beyond “reading the menu” and just getting the information, feast on this reality; take it in; encounter Him in the Word
3. *And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (2 Cor. 3:18)*
4. A-R-K  
  
A= Affectionate Agreement - “Jesus, You are the Righteous Judge”  
  
R= Revelation “Jesus, reveal Yourself to me as the Righteous Judge”  
  
K= Keep/Apply - personal application “Jesus/Holy Spirit, help me, I will stand for the truth, help me, show me, touch me, I am Yours...”
5. Verses for further meditation on these faces of Jesus:
  - a. Bridegroom - *SOS 8:6-7; Hos. 1:2; 2:6,16,19,20; 2 Cor. 11:2; Rev. 19:7-9; 22:17*
  - b. Judge - *1 Chron. 16:14-34; Ps. 9:7-10,16; 82:8; 94:1-17; 96:10-13; 110:5,6; Prov. 6:34,35; Is. 11:4; 13:1-19; 16:5; 42:2-4,13; 59:15-19; 61:1-3; 63:1-6; 66:16; Jer. 9:24; Ezk. 38:18-23; Joel 3:12-17; Nah. 1:5-7; Zeph. 3:8; Mal. 2:17-4:6; Rom. 2:8; 11:33; 2 Thes. 1:5-12; 2 Pet. 3:12-18; Rev. 2:18-23; 6:10; 19:1-4*
  - c. King - *Is. 9:6,7; 40:9-10; Jer. 10:10; Heb 1:8; Rev. 1:5-7; 5:12-14; 11:15-18; 15:3-4; 19:6,11-16*