

## A Word, a Declaration, and a Prayer for 2019

**Thesis:** God is speaking and moving, and we want to stay in step with the Lord. For 2019, I believe that the Lord has given us a word, a declaration, and a prayer.

**Text:** Ephesians 1:17-23; Isaiah 61:1-7; Zechariah 9:11-12

I am excited about the start of this new year. I believe that the Lord is speaking to us. I have confidence in the Lord's ability to lead, guide, and direct us. Jesus is a great leader.

1. **We are seeking to live into what it means to be a prophetic and apostolic church** (Ephesians 2:21-22).
  - a. The Lord is currently moving in restoring and maturing the apostolic and prophetic leadership and ministry to his church. We want to respond to this move by hosting two conferences this year-- one focusing on the apostolic and one on the prophetic.
  - b. On the weekend of March 29 – 31, Apostle Mosy Madugba will teach us about the apostolic and minister to us out of his anointed gifting and calling. You will remember that Apostle Mosy gave us the word this past summer that led to our *Seven Days of Worship, Prayer, and Warfare*. On Friday night, March 29, the focus of the meeting will be on youth, young adults, and those who work with youth. Again, we want to create opportunities for them to encounter God. The conference on Saturday, March 30, is open to everyone. On Sunday morning, March 31, Apostle Mosy will minister in our worship service and then to our ministry leaders on Sunday evening.
  - c. In the fall, Pastor Steve and other prophetic people will share at a conference on the prophetic.
2. **We are seeking to get into action around some prophetic words the Lord has given to us through Pastor Steve.** On January 20, you will hear about one way that we are responding to the Lord (*The More of God*).
3. **This morning, you are experiencing a change that we have made to align with what the Lord is saying.**
  - a. **We are meeting in the Prayer Room for our 10:00am Sunday Worship Services.**
  - b. We believe that the Lord wants us to bring the coals of our lives together in a more intimate setting. As with a fire, when you bring the coals together, the heat grows hotter and the fire increases. Gathering in the Prayer Room for our Worship Services will create more synergy,

connectivity, and energy. We believe that meeting in the Prayer Room will give us a chance to connect with the Lord and each other more deeply.

God is speaking and moving, and we want to stay in step with the Lord.

**For 2019, I believe that the Lord has given us:**

1. A word.
2. A declaration.
3. A prayer.

**Point 1. The Word for the year: more**

The Lord is speaking to us about responding more intentionally to the prophetic words which he has given to us. One word that is stirring involves *The More of God* revelation which Pastor Steve shared with us in 2017. In the fall of 2017, Pastor Steve preached a series of messages rooted in Ephesian's teaching on the Spirit and God's promises. Those messages stressed that Paul wanted the church to have more than doctrine; he wanted the people to move into personal experience.

If God is such a powerful promise maker, is not the mature response for us to be promise takers? Have we been promise takers?

There is more of God for us to experience—our Triune God is the Infinite, Eternal One. And, God wants more of our lives— all of us (heart, mind, soul, and strength; Matthew 22:37-39).

*I pray that the Father of glory, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, would impart to you the riches of the Spirit of wisdom and the Spirit of revelation **to know him through your deepening intimacy with him.** 18 I pray that the light of God will illuminate the eyes of your imagination, flooding you with light, until you experience the full revelation of the hope of his calling —that is, the wealth of God's glorious inheritances that he finds in us, his holy ones! 19 I pray that you will continually experience the immeasurable greatness of God's power made available to you through faith. **Then your lives will be an advertisement of this immense power as it works through you!** This is the mighty power 20 that was released when God raised Christ from the dead and exalted him to the place of highest honor and supreme authority in the heavenly realm! 21 And now he is exalted as first above every ruler, authority, government, and realm of power in existence! He is gloriously enthroned over every name that is ever praised, not only in this age, but in the age that is*

*coming! 22 And he alone is the leader and source of everything needed in the church. God has put everything beneath the authority of Jesus Christ and has given him the highest rank above all others. 23 And now we, his church, are his body on the earth and that which fills him who is being filled by it! (Ephesians 1:17-23 Passion Translation).*

1. *The More of God* revelation is a current word for us, and we want to respond accordingly.
2. Our first response to this revelation is to increase our capacity for connecting with the Lord and for living in the awareness of his presence.
3. On Sunday, January 20, Pastor Steve and I will lay out some actions to help us create space for encounter with our Living God.
4. We want to experience more of God, and we especially want our children, youth, and young adults to encounter God more deeply.

## **Point 2. Declaration: we are declaring that this is the year of the Lord**

Back in June 2018, in light of Calvary's current reality and preferred future, Apostle Mosy and Gloria Madugba, who are the Apostolic Leaders with the Ministers Prayer Network, and his team, joined us in praying and fasting for the Global Bridegroom Fast. Apostle Mosy and his team received a prophetic word for us during that time of prayer and fasting.

### **Revelation (prophetic word)**

Heavy witchcraft activities were stirred up against the church. They shut the gates of the church spiritually. There are 7 of them. But I Jehovah have opened the gates again.

I want them (Calvary) to raise 7 altars for me in the church: 3 at the entrance, 3 at the altar, and 1 in the center of the church. Declare 7 nights of praise, high praise and blow the shofar 7 times each of those nights.

I will disgrace my enemies. I will slaughter them like I slaughtered the Amalakites. All that they have stolen shall be returned 7-fold. There will be a mighty restoration.

When we prayed about this word, it seemed right to us. So, we got in action around the prophetic word. You will remember that we engaged in ***Seven Days of Worship, Prayer, and Warfare***, from July 29 – August 4. We carried out the prophetic action of the Lord during that time.

There were two other parts to the prophetic word about which I have kept praying.

1. Host a Ministers Prayer Conference [at Calvary] next year (2019).
2. Declare (2019) the year of the Lord.

As we followed the Lord, he opened the door for Apostle Mosy Madugba to come to Calvary in March 2019. So, we have scheduled a conference at Calvary dealing with the apostolic on March 29-30. Pastor Steve and Apostle Mosy will share at that conference.

And, I have felt in agreement with the other application. So, I want to make a declaration. **We declare that 2019 is the Year of the Lord.**

What does that mean?

*The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, 2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, 3 and provide for those who grieve in Zion-- to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair. They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the LORD for the display of his splendor. 4 They will rebuild the ancient ruins and restore the places long devastated; they will renew the ruined cities that have been devastated for generations. 5 Aliens will shepherd your flocks; foreigners will work your fields and vineyards. 6 And you will be called priests of the LORD, you will be named ministers of our God. You will feed on the wealth of nations, and in their riches you will boast. 7 Instead of their shame my people will receive a double portion, and instead of disgrace they will rejoice in their inheritance; and so they will inherit a double portion in their land, and everlasting joy will be theirs (Isaiah 61:1-7).*

According to one commentator:

This prophet's task is to bring news, declare that their release is imminent, that God's year of favor and day of redress is here. These are two sides of a coin. God's action will mean that redress against Israel is replaced by favor and that God's using the superpower's instinct for destruction is replaced by bringing judgment on its destructiveness. It's by bringing this message that the prophet will bind up the people, bring them comfort, make it possible for them to give up the clothes of mourning and put on celebration garments. God's purpose for

them will be fulfilled. Instead of being humiliated they will be able to take on their proper role as priests looking after the worship of Yahweh. Other peoples will support their work by looking after the shepherding and farming and otherwise providing for them, as within Israel the clan of Levi look after the worship and the other clans support their work. The other peoples will thus come to be astonished at God's blessing of Israel instead of being astonished at their shame (Old Testament for Everyone - Isaiah for Everyone).

In Luke 4:18-19, Jesus shares from Isaiah 61 as a description of his ministry. He comes to bring good news to the lowly Jewish and Gentile people of his day, who were living under the oppressive rule of Rome.

### **What is the Lord saying to us through this declaration?**

We have experienced oppression and opposition by spiritual enemies. The Lord is declaring to us that "this is the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:19).

Both the passage in Isaiah and in Luke have as their background the year of Jubilee (Leviticus 25:10).

*"Count off seven Sabbaths of years—seven times seven years: Seven Sabbaths of years adds up to forty-nine years. 9 Then sound loud blasts on the ram's horn on the tenth day of the seventh month, the Day of Atonement. Sound the ram's horn all over the land. 10 Sanctify the fiftieth year; make it a holy year. Proclaim freedom all over the land to everyone who lives in it—a Jubilee for you: Each person will go back to his family's property and reunite with his extended family" (Leviticus 25:8-10 MSG).*

The year of Jubilee is a Sabbath principle. The Lord commanded the Jewish people to declare Jubilee every 50 years. Everyone goes back and gets their land back. Jubilee is a reset. It is about reclaiming what God has given. It involves restoration-- restoring ourselves to the inheritance that God has proclaimed in us. And, it includes renewing our hope in God and celebrating the goodness of God (Steve Meeks, *Year of Jubilee*, sermon, 8'30'15).

Here is what I wrote about my own year of Jubilee in 2011 based on research from the Scriptures. "The year of Jubilee is a season of freedom, a season of restoration, a season of breakthrough, and a season of renewal."

**So, in declaring that this is *the year of the Lord*, we declare 2019 to be a season of freedom, a season of restoration, a season of breakthrough, and a season of renewal.**

### **Point 3. Prayer: we are praying for double restoration and for harvest**

We had a significant experience in the Prayer Room on Monday, November 12, 2018. Prior to that evening, I was praying about 2019 and the theme for the year. During the prayer meeting, Jay Kelley, one of our elders and prayer leaders, prayed from Zechariah 9:11-12 and prophesied 2019 as the year of double restoration.

During the Generations Set at 6:00pm, Jay had an encounter with the Lord. He had an experience where he thought he was in the first Monday of January 2019.

The Lord gave Jay the passage from Zechariah 9:11-12.

Then, the Lord gave Jay a prophetic word and prayer: **We prophecy and pray for 2019 to be the year of double restoration of all that God has done and all that God has promised, in Jesus' name. This is the word of grace.**

*As for you, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will free your prisoners from the waterless pit. 12 Return to your fortress, O prisoners of hope; even now I announce that I will restore twice as much to you (Zechariah 9:11-12).*

Jay also prayed:

1. Return O Prisoner of hope. Awaken your people, Lord, to this season of grace, this window of opportunity.
2. We speak over every member of Calvary— grace.
3. Father, awaken your people to hope. Restore double portions to your people.
4. This is our prayer: we are praying for double restoration and harvest.

From this passage, we are praying for the Lord to free our prisoners from hopeless cells of financial brokenness, joblessness, and sickness. We are asking the Lord for greater anointing, healing, and provision. We ask the Lord to restore twice as much as we have lost and what has been stolen from us.

**Conclusion: We have high expectations for this year.**

1. Because of the word “more,” we are believing for increased encounters and experiences with the Lord.

2. Because of the declaration that “this is the year of the Lord,” we believe 2019 to be a season of freedom, a season of restoration, a season of breakthrough, and a season of renewal.
3. Because of the prophetic revelation, we are praying and expecting that 2019 will be the year of double restoration of all that God has done and all that God has promised.

### **Prayers for the new year**

1. Pray that we would go deeper with the Lord and encounter more of the Lord in 2019.
2. Pray for the Lord to restore double to us what has been lost or stolen.
3. Pray for the harvest and abundant blessing.
4. Pray for the 60/60 Experiment and the More of God, especially for children, youth, and young adults
5. Pray for encounters with the Lord, especially for our children, youth, and young adults
  - a. Intimacy
  - b. Revelation
  - c. Encounters
  - d. Experiences
  - e. Luke 11:9-13

### **Ministry Time**