Not The Famous

7-23-23

Amos 7:14-15 (ESV)

¹⁴Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman (cattle tender) and a dresser of sycamore figs. ¹⁵ But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

Over the years, I have known some powerful men of God. Three of those men sincerely believed that there would be a great move of God before Jesus returned. They believed this latter day move of God would "not" start with the well-known and famous but would be a grass roots Holy Spirit empowered move of God. Amos is an example of this. God chose Amos to carry HIS message to the nation. Yet he was not famous, nor did he claim to be. He wasn't a prophet or the son of a prophet. He was a farmer who took care of the cattle, sheep, and trees. Amos was one of the Least in society in a rural area, yet God chose him. Even in the NT we see that Jesus didn't choose the famous to proclaim HIS message.

Acts 4:13 (ESV)

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished. And they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

The Jewish leaders were astonished at Peter and John's boldness and immediately saw that they were uneducated and common men. But at the same time, they also recognized that Peter and John had been with Jesus.

In the OT, through Amos, and in the NT, through Peter and John, we see examples of how God often did not choose the famous. The Apostle Paul likewise reveals that God often choses the least and unknow in the world's view to build HIS church.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29 (ESV) NO/OH

²⁶ For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no human being might boast in the presence of God.

God chooses the least in the world to shame the wise; to shame the strong; to bring to nothing things that are, "so that" no human being might boast in the presence of God. This not only gives insight why God chose us but also these verses describe how the Holy Spirit will move in this dark in which we currently live. We need to be ready. Of course, there will be some like the intellectual giant Paul, but they like Paul will be the ones who will count all their earthly achievements as dung to gain Christ; Philippians 3:8. We need to understand our times. As we look around the world today, we see the "overt" dishonoring of God and denying the Word of God. The world denying of God's Word is a sign of God's coming judgement.

Amos 8:11 (ESV)

Behold, the days are coming," declares the Lord God, when I will send a famine on the land—not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD.

No-one person or nation can survive without the power and guidance of the Word of God any more than they survive without bread and water. Rejection of the Word will result in the withdrawal of the Word from the unbelieving. However, in times like these God touches a remnant. This remnant like Amos and the early church will not be made up of the famous, but the faithful who have received the power of the Holy Spirit. The turmoil of the world does not concern us because it is only a sign that God is about to move.

Habakkuk 2:13 (NIV)
Has not the LORD Almighty determined
that the people's labor is only <u>fuel for the fire</u>,
that the nations exhaust themselves for nothing?

Therefore, we see the worldwide anti-Christian movement for what it really is, "Fuel for the Fire!"

Commentary: "I believe" that the next great move of God will not be by the famous, but it will be a grass roots movement of the least, the weakest, and unknown. I believe the coming move of the Holy Spirit will be the same as what happened to Gideon in the book of Judges. Gideon identified himself as the least and weakest among his people. Yet like Amos and those of the NT church, God choses him. Like in Acts Chapter 2 of the NT, Gideon only succeeds because The Holy Spirit comes upon him.

Judges 6:34 (ESV)

The Spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon.

The Holy Spirit put Gideon on like a suit of clothes.

Therefore, we say, "Holy Spirit Fill us, or Holy Spirit activated, or like Gideon, Holy Spirit put us on like a suit of clothes."

This is how a grass roots move of God takes place.

This is not something unusual. This is normal Christianity. We don't have to travel someplace to find it. The Holy Spirit fills us where we are; Directly and Immediately! However, we must stand firmly on our faith in Jesus and the Word of God.

Acts 4:12 (ESV)

There is salvation in no one else but Jesus, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

{Come Holy Spirit come; we are ready!}