

Preparation by the Holy Spirit

[The gathering started out with Yadon sharing about 1 Cor 3:13 — how our Father faithfully allows circumstances to come that seem like they are breaking us, but He is going to grind us down and test us with tribulations and suffering to see if we have a heart totally turned toward Him, to see if we are sincere, if we are living by feelings and emotions. If our house is built with hay and straw, it will burn. But if it is on the rock, it will stand. He said Yoneq had told him to read Isa 26:3. He is going to confirm and strengthen us because we run to and depend on Him.]

He wants to make sure that we do everything in communion with Him. If we walk by the strength that He provides and by His grace, we will give Him glory. But whatever we do in our own strength, in the flesh, it is our own glory, our own self — flesh — it is wood, hay and straw, and it is going to burn. Dan 12:10 — What we do in communion with Him is going to build up. We place the crowns at His feet because He gave us the grace to do it, remember? If we try to do it in our own strength, it all will burn — the flesh profits nothing. We have to do everything in communion with Him. Rev 3:20-21 — the Laodicean church was doing everything in the flesh. We have to be in communion with Him. We have to be supping with Him, connected to the vine, or it will all burn. We still will be saved, because our names are written in the Lamb's book of life, but only through fire will we be saved. We are saved for the eighth day by grace and faith, but we are saved for the next age by obedience. If we are not obedient and we are living by the flesh, we are not fit to rule with Him in the next age. Everything we do now in this age is to prepare us to rule with Him in the next age.

Nahaliel — You will groan at the end of your life — “Oh, I should have ... lived by the Spirit. Why did I hang onto that spirit. Why didn't I give myself totally. “ If you hang onto your life, you'll lose it. We can't hang onto condemnation when it says there is no more condemnation for those in Messiah who are repenting and seeking forgiveness for our sins. We can only reach what He has for us through repenting from those things. We live to repent. You might think you cannot, but He is going to give you grace to repent from those things. He is powerful. We are not living in vain. We have to go to the throne of grace and get that grace.

There is a fire of correction. Discipline is a fire of correction. It's like a fire, it burns away what is going to take us to death.

2 Ths 2:12 — These people never came to love, adore, and have affection for the delicious truth. They are turned over to a deluding influence because God judges their heart as arrogant. But verse 13 is talking about salvation. It is not talking about the work our Master did for us but about the work that the Spirit is doing in us. We are thankful that He died in our place — that is in the past. If we trust in that, then He gives us His Spirit. And then we are saved by the Spirit. Salvation by the Spirit through faith in the truth (Jn 8:31,51). We are sanctified, set apart to be used in the next age by the Spirit's work in us (verse 13). Verses 14 — We are saved. And the reason He called and saved us was for this salvation by the Spirit, so we can reach the glory when He sets up His kingdom here on earth, when we reach His glory, when we come to His glory — to His glorious reign here on earth.

It is like how Eleazar went and got Rivkah for Isaac. She left everything behind and Eleazar brought her back through the desert. He was talking to her the whole time, telling her all about Isaac, all about her king, and encouraging her, “Oh, you're going to love Isaac! He is such a wonderful man, so merciful and kind. You're going to love him so much when you see him. He wants you so much.” So when she got there, she knew him. She had already fallen in love with him because Eleazar had spoken to her heart. She put her veil on, jumped off her camel and ran to him. That was the Holy Spirit doing his work in her heart, preparing her for Isaac. That is like the Holy Spirit's work in our hearts. He is preparing us to meet our king.

[See story — 28 November 1992]