

A PROPHETIC WORD FOR 2009

This is the 9th time since 2000 that the Lord has given me a Word to release concerning the Year to come. It is not by coincidence that as I do so this year, we are on the threshold of 2009. 9th has always been a completion, of a conclusion, of fulfillment. I believe God is saying something to us even through this.

Since the closing days of November, I have been seeking the Lord for a Prophetic Word for 2009. The words of Isaiah 43: 18, 19 kept coming to my mind. The words that commands us to *“Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old”* and the assurance that *“Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”* I had no understanding and could not understand the relevance of these words to what I have been seeking the Lord for.

It was the early days of December and I still had no understanding. A sense of urgency began in my spirit as I continued to seek the Lord for revelation. There were moments of intensity that I had not experienced before. There was like a niggling fear that I could not put my finger on. It was 3 am and for some reason for the past few days, the Lord has been waking me up precisely at this time. Each of these mornings I have been trying to meditate on these words from Isaiah 43:18, 19, trying to understand of what God was trying to say? What has it to do with what I was seeking God for? For past days, I have also been trying to free my mind of all the busyness and distractions from the work of the Ministry, with the realization that I needed to focus on God.

It was on one of these mornings at 3 am, I was on my knees. Suddenly a vision just sprang into my mind. I saw it in my spirit a big black Bull running towards me. As it drew closer, I could see that it was a strong Bull. I could see the rippling muscles as it ran. It was snorting, huffing and puffing as it ran. Suddenly I noticed that there was a crowd of people running with the Bull. Suddenly, out of nowhere, a big black Bear came out to join the Bull and they started running together, side by side. I could see that the Bear was also a very strong animal and although it looked a bit clumsy, but it also had the ability to run at great speed. They both appeared to have tremendous energy.

Neither was giving quarter to the other as they jostled for position, picking up speed as they did so. The Bull was ahead, then the Bear caught up and overtook the Bull. Then the Bull caught up and was ahead. This was to happen 9 times. Yet the amazing thing was that despite all the shoving, pushing and jostling for position, they were keeping pace with one another. The ground was level as they continued to run towards me, but as they came alongside me, I realised that they were no longer running on level ground. There was a change in the scenery, they were beginning to run up a slope and the word that was screaming in my spirit, from deep within me was “Escalation!”

Suddenly, it became an open vision. It was like happening right there in the room I was in, like there was an acceleration of what was happening. I could not see the room anymore. I saw a whole landscape before me. I saw such beautiful scenery comprising of rolling hills, undulating up and down. The whole scenery had green grass and trees; it looked very deceptively calm, peaceful and tranquil. Yet this was a complete contradiction with the intensity of the race between the Bull and the Bear that was still going on. I could smell the grass and the trees. On the other hand I could also smell the Bull, the Bear and also hear the sounds they were making as the intensity of the race seemed to increase. There was to be such apparent peace and yet there was the conflict that was going on. There was so much pandemonium and confusion amidst all the tranquility.

It was then that I realised that I was no longer a spectator; I had joined the crowd of people running with the Bull and the Bear. I felt a strength I could not understand and there was acceleration and I experienced the anointing of the Spirit that I have never experienced before. It was fantastic, a real supernatural boost and I was running so fast that my feet were barely touching the ground, just my toes.

In all this, I realised that there were people wearing white robes, who were running with me. I could see the hooves of the Bull and the claws of the Bear as they ran and they seemed to tear up the ground as they ran on. Then I saw it, great treasures were being revealed as the ground was churned up behind them. Some of the people, who were running with such a supernatural dexterity, slowed down and started to gather the treasures. They were scooping up the diamonds, precious stones and the treasures that were being uncovered, even as they also seem to be keeping pace with the Bull and the Bear. I wanted to join them, but I heard the voice of the Spirit within me tell me, "No, concentrate on what you are doing, and let the gatherers who are gathering gather!"

Then I saw it, ahead of us, a group of picnickers. They were laughing, feasting and enjoying themselves. They were in the path of the run, but were completely oblivious to the Bull and the Bear. There was so much noise, as the race closed up on them. But yet they were deaf to the thunderous sounds, the chaos that was fast coming upon them. I tried to shout, but I was just mouthing the words and no sounds came out of my mouth.

Then it happened, the Bull and the Bear ploughed through the crowd. Bodies were being broken, trampled and tossed aside. There was people lying all over the ground, badly injured, in pain, blood all over the place and some were already dead as I passed them, but I could not stop to help. It was as if the velocity of the race was just carrying me on. There were shouts, screams and absolute chaos. But the Bull and the Bear and the people who were running did not stop or even slow down? We just continued running.

I was feeling absolutely devastated by all the carnage I was witnessing and then I heard the gentle voice of the Holy Spirit, "Why would they not listen? They who have ears let them hear! Know that the fullness of the God head,

three in one will be revealed and in this revelation, all that has been prophesized will be fulfilled.” Completion, that is what the number “9” is all about!

Then abruptly I realised that we were no longer running. We had entered a beautiful garden, such beauty that words cannot describe. There was also such a sense of peace, tranquility and calm. I could feel love all around me as well as great joy was just flooding through my very whole being. I looked around and was shocked to realize that there was so few of us in that garden. Apparently, many had fallen off along the way and had not entered into the garden.

As I continued to seek the Lord, He began to bring understanding. The year 2009 will be a year of new things as old things are brought to a completion. People need to stop looking at the former things, the things of old, the past, at history and to stop in trying to understand as well to formulate a course of action on how to respond to what will be happening around them. For the year 2009, human wisdom and knowledge as well as their past experiences will not bring any solutions. 2009 will be a year of contradictions, of conflicts, of confusion that human wisdom, experience and history will provide no answer to.

Yet it will also be a year of laying foundations for things to come, a time for consolidation, concentration, comfort and completion. The beginning of completion of the things that have been prophetically spoken as the things to happen in the final days of the End Times will soon come to pass.

A Bull Run signifies a market that is on an upward trend and a Bearish market signifies a downward trend. But in 2009, the Bull and the Bear will be both running at the same time, jockeying for position. Human wisdom will gather knowledge, to try and analyze circumstances as well as situations so as to arrive at conclusions that will then be the basis of as well as to galvanize how people are to respond. But for 2009 when they say it is a Bull Run, they will be confounded by opposite trends. Similarly when they think the Bear has set in, they will be confounded as there seems to be no consistency.

The only consistency that we can trust on is in God, who from time eternal is the same God yesterday and will be today as well as forever. As he had put highways in the wilderness and rivers in the desert, so will He continue in that consistency. However, without holiness, one cannot ascend on those highways or even be partakers of those rivers. The cry I hear is for people to come back to His ways, to understand His thoughts and to be an overcomer, to be conquerors, more than conquerors in these times and seasons.

Great fortunes will continue to tumble as the corruptible is revealed and corrupts. But in all this, there will be also a great transfer of wealth to the hands of the good man. Some will be gatherers; others have other work set for them to do. We must understand what we are called to do and focus on doing them. In all the confusion, chaos and carnage, there will be tremendous opportunities, blessings, provision for those who have their eyes focused on

the author and finisher of their faith. They will experience the fullness of the promises that God has hidden to be revealed in His name. Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Shammar, Jehovah Makkadesh, Jehovah Tsidkhenu and all His names will be revealed in experiential Glory!

However, I also hear the cry, "Come out of Babylon and do not be partakers of its sins!" Truly many have been called, yet few are chosen! If we are wise to the sign of the times, we will not be deceived. We will understand that we are now crossing from the period spoken about by our Lord Jesus in Matthew 24:8 as the Beginning of Sorrows and we are now entering into an Escalation of Sorrows. In this season, there is going to be great affliction, offence, betrayal, hatred and lawlessness is going to arise into an even greater dimension as the love of many will grow cold.

In this season there will be great contradictions, things pulling against one another. Yes, there will be many who will come into the saving knowledge of Jesus, but yet we will also see a great falling away.

In the second half of 2009, blind guides, religious spirits and hypocrites will be revealed and there will be great offence which will arise in the body of Christ. There will be disappointments, frustrations, disillusionment and people who will fall away instead because they have kept their eyes on the Pharisees and Scribes. They have been led by hirelings and false Shepherds. Great carnage is coming. Even as we end 2009, there will be a revelation of hidden sins; accountability will be the order of the day. Many who have cleaned only the outside will see an uncovering of what is inside. We need not only to observe, but to observe and do! The key word is "Repent! Turn from your wicked ways!"

Judgment is coming soon and it will begin at the House of God! The worldliness of the present day Church will be called into account. I hear the words that Jesus spoke about in Matthew 23: 2 – 36 resonating in the air. 2009 will be a year that will challenge us to lay and set foundations of what is to come. Will we see a "future and a hope" or will we know only "doom and gloom"? The outcome is in our hands. Choices need to be courageously made. 2009 will be a pivotal year to establish this for you and for I. This is the time of Endings, time of Completion!

There is a rest of God that has been prepared for this Chosen End-Time Generation of God. We have to labour to enter into that rest and not be found wanting in that final day.

(This word was released on December 31st 2008 at The New Year's Eve Watch Night Service held at Covenant Vision Centre.)