

The House That the Lord is Building

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Introduction

And father, we just thank you for your word. We thank you for bringing each one here together that we can celebrate your goodness. And we thank you for your grace to hear what you are saying that our minds be renewed, our heart transformed. We never be the same for your glory in Jesus name. Amen. Amen.

The house that the Lord is building I've been talking part of this house. At 9:00 a.m. we cut the ribbon and we dedicated kind of pray for this house. The real house is you and me. It's not the four walls of this place. So God wants to build you and me. So we have to cooperate with him.

Main Point 1: The Significance of 70 - A House of Rest and Leadership

Now there's an interesting um You know the word house actually it's community ecclesia called out community but it's generation in the sense of leadership and those under leadership. Every house like in heaven is called family or father's house. Two generations at least. But as I was thinking about this place I'm wondering how many seats can this place take? I hope at least 70. I just I don't know why I just thought of 17 New Testament and um and some of you may remember that Jesus sent out uh you can read this later in Luke where he sent out 70 disciples in Luke 10:1 it says he appointed 70 others others not his 12 others sent them out two by two for ministry look That's very interesting because thousands follow him. He could have sent 700. He could have sent 120. So what's significant about 70?

Well, in Exodus 15 verse 27, The Israelites had just come out of Egypt and and were had just left a difficult place called Mara where the waters were bitter. It says they came to Elim where there was 12 wells of water and 70 palm trees and they camped by those waters. 15:27 Exodus 15:27. So what do the 70 palm trees represent? place of rest and refreshing and in fact Joel was just telling me when she came in she felt she saw the word oasis and that's exactly what speaks of place of rest finally we don't have to move building to building super

early and bring carry all the take it all the way back week after week after month year after year We are now at best naturally spiritually. In other words, God is saying look it's not by might or power their own strength and flesh by my spirit. You know eagles can soar higher and further without lacking. because they just rest on the wind. Unlike other common birds, they have to use all their B and get nowhere as far.

So there were 70 palm trees and 12 wells. In the New Testament, Jesus had 70 disciples two by two, but he also had his 12 disciples, his leaders. So it's not only a place of of rest and refreshing, but it's a place of leadership and discipleship. And they wonder why am I so interested in because somebody may not be aware but I was actually my dad and I were in the church in the United Kingdom. The Bindu is he was the superintendent of the denomination. in the faith always wonder wells. Okay. So putting the two together 70 + 12 is you take 70 disciples plus 12 leaders. How long is that? 82.

And as if to confirm that what wants to do is make us a house of rest, a house of refreshing, a house of leadership and discipleship. Guess how many chants we fit in here? 82. He wants us to be the salt and the light to go out and being ambassadors of the to represent him well.

Main Point 2: Three Types of Houses God is Building

A House of Prayer

So what house is God building? He's building a house of rest, a house of training and discipleship, but he's also building a house of prayer. In Mark 11:17, Jesus said, "Is it not written, my house shall be called the house of prayer for all nations?" The nations are in God's heart. That's why in Psalm 2:8, it says, "Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance. Now every city is a global city especially major city like Pinang. We have lots of nations right here in Pang. from different nations, the construction workers, the experts, those who are here for different reasons. Students come here to study law from other nations. It's amazing how many people get saved in another nation on their own.

Do you have a vision field right in your guard house? Do you have a guard house in your condo or your apartment? Pray for the guys in that guard house. You know, many of them from Asia, they're so used to being looked down upon and despised and rejected. Honor them in the name of Jesus. Amen. Show them love and respect and their heart will be open to the face of you. Everyone has been made in the image of God. Just not that anyone say yet. See when we stand before God, we don't stand on anything external but that we are we human beings in our mother's wombs and we at the foot of the cross is even this place. It's not the VIPs here and the poor people here. We're all even before God. It's very hard to influence anyone that we do not love, respect and regardless of their job or their money or their status.

A House United

And the the third I think the last key of what this house is going to be is a house united a house That is one represent United. Not Manchester but Manchester United. John 17. This is one of the last prayers that Jesus prayed that his people would be one. Why is it why is unity so important? He said because Jesus prayed that we may all be one. Why? Verse John 17:8 says that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them as you have loved me. So when people call by God's name are one, that's a witness and a testimony for the nonbeliever to believe that God the Father sent his son and that God loves them just as much as he loves the son.

And you know what? Disunity is one of the number one reasons why many lead God because they see the infighting and they follow the teaching. So why should they follow Christ different from the world? And the power blessing of It's a place that attracts the presence of God.

And that's why the spirit was brought out on the day of Pentecost. Some believe it's today, some believe it's next Sunday. I think most believe it's next Sunday. Anniversary of the out of the Holy Spirit. It says when the day of Pentecost had fully come. They were all in one accord in one place. What's the word one accord? It talks about a unity of diversity, not a uniformity of conformity. So uniform is everyone's wearing the same thing. Almost exactly the same in what you wear like a school uniform. The dog created us different because we're meant to compliment and not compete. When it comes to food, the tastiest dishes have more than one ingredient. So many different ingredients, the right quantity. And the beauty of a rainbow is not that it's one color. Seven different colors in the wrong place. Even music a blend of different instruments playing in harmony. So many times we see one another based on the differences and then how we can complement one another. Only in Jesus and through Jesus can he make us blend and complete and complement one another. There's got to be a unity of

Main Point 3: Three Keys to Unity

Unity of Gratitude

Can you imagine all the Israelites die in the wilderness at the end of the day because of in reality instead of being thankful for all that God did for them and delivering them from the Egyptians parting the Red Sea, you know, the pillar of fire, the cloud before them, they kept complaining about what they did not have. Oh, we miss the good old food of Egypt. and not offended by what he has not done yet. That's why Isaiah 46:9 we're told to remember the former things. Remember what God has done for you. Remember what others have done for you. When you forget, you begin to magnify all these what they haven't done, what God hasn't done. And one of the first things to break down when we're no longer grateful for each other, grateful to God, is we get offended with unmet expectations.

So how you stay faithful to God, rehearse your testimony, rehearse the blessings. It's amazing. Every area of complaint, there's a hidden blessing. The spirit of greed and covetousness always makes you want something else, something more without being thankful for what you have. remember what God has done. Remember what the people around you have done.

Especially when you're offended, when things don't happen the way you expect, you're tempted to get angry and say, "Okay, because the testimonies I thank you all the prayers have answered. I thank you God for how has blessed me. So unity of gratitude.

Unity of Faith

Secondly, unity of faith. Isaiah 43:18 says, "Do not remember the former things." So you don't know what to forget and what to remember. Verse 19 said, "Behold, I will do a new thing, but first you got to put life. The things we need to forget. A lot of people live in the past. They can't let go of the past or they're living in past offenses. Always realizing all the bad things that people did to them. You know, you can't drive a vehicle with your eyes in the rearview mirror. Got to look again. remember the promises of God. We will in faith is beginning to fulfill all the promises he's given us. And so when you're tested, when you're challenged, reverse your testimony, remember his promises and

Unity of Humility

the unity of humility in the fear of God. One of the biggest reasons for disunity is pride.

We will rather break a relationship than and be right in this field for the sake of peace. It's like I got to win every argument at all even if it means relationship. It's more important to love than to be right all the time. Humility involves being the first to acknowledge when we missed it, when we failed in whatever way. Sometimes it's not that you started, but you didn't do anything wrong, but you reacted the wrong way. Maybe So humanity is quick to take responsibility and not to blame to blame everything else and everybody else who really says I'm sorry for me but because each many people are not humble enough to do that relationship break.

So when we are one in gratitude, when we are one in faith, we are one in humility and the fear of God, we will be one. Jesus promised us that offenses will come. Everybody will have an opportunity to be offended. But that's your opportunity to deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow him. Maybe okay is preparing to land in closing conclusion.

Main Point 4: Five Physical Features as Spiritual Lessons

I'm going to close with five physical things of this place that is like a spiritual lesson for us. So unique of of what we have around is location.

The Ear Symbol

Number one is the year. Have you noticed the year? As soon as you come out the lip, you see a big year on the wall, right?

And what is the reason that hearing or life? You know, the end of the New Testament, Revelations, there's seven letters in seven places and each says, "He that is here. Let him hear what the spirit of God is saying. So every morning, every Sunday morning when you come in here and you in the air, remember to hear what the spirit is saying. Let's do one of these for. But also remember that your words are encouraged to the spiritual realm. Because death and life are the power of the tongue. So when you speak, guess what? The enemy hears, but God also hears. So when you speak words of life, God acts in those words because he's the word. When you're speaking life, thin himself, but you speak words of death to tear down and hold down Then we will act those words. So let the year outside remind us to hear what the spirit is saying regardless because God is hearing you so

Wine Bar Below

you know what's directly below us the floor below under the wine bath. and

wine. Wine. Okay. Wine.

Okay. So that is Ephesians 5 with wine but be filled with the Holy Spirit not the Holy Spirit. So you sitting down and depressed don't go to the water. The church is meant to be the happiest place on earth. Believe it. The man be the happiest place before people. You know why? Not because we know problems but because our anchor is the source of in circumstances. So when our soul is anchored in God's presence in his kingdom, we have the authority to change our circumstances to speak life. to pray effective prayers.

Glass Entrance

The third thing about this place is the entrance is all glass. We are behind glass doors. The glass wall people can see are watching you. In fact, you and I are mobile signs. Sometimes Christians are the closest thing to the Bible, the non they're watching us. How do we how do we speak to this place to enter through the narrow boat is the way that leads to life, right? It's not is not God. God is a part of destruction. But take you got to put aside what? Don't take everything with you. But there's a price to pay.

Unique Seating Arrangement

But the good news is this is when you walk in, you got to turn around to sit, right? Let's turn around. Okay. This is very unique. Most churches you walk in, you enter the back, right? You're facing the front. But this time all the late comers are going to be watched by everybody. So if you're late and all the seats are full, the last will be the first.

The Building's Transformation

And lastly, it's interesting that we first the first thing we saw when we came to check out was a terrible mess. Maybe later we'll post some pictures to show you what it look like. But it's like, man, this is a dump. We need to do a lot of work. God, how are we going to pay for this? How long is it going to take? It was just two big rooms. This was like this whole side was divided into two rooms. So those rooms had to be broken down. There were patches. There were holes in the ceiling. There was no there was just bare concrete. It was just a mess.

The only thing You know amazing amazing thing is we didn't walk out and say no that's not for us because it doesn't look perfect. Why did we take this place? Because we saw the potential. He saw what his place could become. So do not see yourself The way you are, the way God sees you, and how you can become, how he's created you to be. We're all a work in progress. And that's a challenge. God's going to send some broken people in here. When people come in here, you're expecting the best, looking the best, dress the best. Are you serious? to be accepted by others and to become by them. But in Jesus as a believer, as a Christian, we are meant to love everyone as they are. So through that love, they change. We don't say change and then you come. When you change our love, he's not going to come as you are. And hopefully through that relationship, it won't change.

I mean there's so many people I know today who were saved in terrible mess. They were saved in prison. They were gangsters. They were addicts, alcoholics. But today many of them are pastors and ministers and leaders so far from where they were when God saved them. So in Jesus there is no hopeless case. Even Saul of classes, a terrorist became an Avengers. This is the season for turnaround time. All things are possible for those who believe. And I believe that the grace upon this church is upon you. The things you've been praying for years, for a long time, God's about to answer them. And here's the thing. What the enemy meant for evil, God intended for because all things Romans 8:8, all things work together for good. Those who love God and are called according to his purpose.

Conclusion

So lean not on your own understanding, but trust in the Lord without. Okay. So Amen. Because there are many things that we won't be able to understand. But we can trust the character of God. And always remember, no matter what you're going through, somebody else is going through a lot worse, a lot longer. So every day is a great day because every day could be a lot worse. When you when you complain about your job, thank God you're not unemployed. You tell me to complain about the traffic jam. Thank God you have a car. Complaining about what difficult. Thank God you answered your prayer and children. my husband, my wife, you pray, you said I do, right? It's your choice. But God will commit them to the Lord.

I'm so thankful for the blessing not just to me, but the family brought in this nation four years ago. And yeah, you know, I'm sure many of you as we this morning It's like oh finally finally finally in that finally don't wait for the rain before you buy an umbrella walk around in an

umbrella spiritually and so from the place of being hidden for years we get it we got to put a sign right even awareness it's like what the global What? Which floor? There's a gym. There's office. Where are you? Right now, not only do we have a glass wall, our side walls are right beside the traffic light. Go to the bathroom. I hope all of you received a car decal and did get one. Anyone get one? the key chain that says G the house of prayer.

Amen. So prayer is the foundation of everything. It reveals our dependence upon God and reveals our valency for what he's doing and what he's done.

And that why we actually made it because many years ago when we were in Rainbow Paradise, we needed the sticker to park in the data to get permission. So they sold the sticker all over the church hotel. So those are all extra copies. You can speak anyway.

Amen. So let's stand together.