



Teacher: John Burton

Teaching Title: The Coming Church (2026)

- I. The Coming Church
 - a. Steve Gray: "Too many people are waiting for a move of God that fits what already exists."
 - b. In the coming church, we won't be able to define 'going to church' the way we do now.
 - i. God is coming to reform and to crush structures of old for what is to be introduced very soon.
 - c. The human wisdom and natural common sense that has been involved in the development of the current church structure will not be usable in the new. Those who walk by sight are in danger.
 - i. We will have to rely on a new set of senses as we, in faith unlike any we've ever allowed ourselves to embrace, begin to walk blindly into a fearful new church reality.
 - ii. Critical! "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned." (1 Corinthians 2:14, ESV)
 - iii. The Lord gave me a strong word for all of us last week: Aggressive response
 1. The roar of prophetic intercession and unbridled passion must explode and shatter the atmosphere at Victory Church!
- II. Our ministry's mission statement and mission strategy:
 - a. The coming church will look nothing like we see now. Revival X is working toward a revolution of the church structure.
 - i. Mission Statement: Revival X exists to awaken and equip forerunners who are united in the mandate to initiate reformation in the church and revival in the region. As carriers of the fire of God, we are single-minded in our mission to rally a generation that will embrace the cross of Christ, pursue radical holiness, engage in fervent prayer, live a life of repentance and experience both the freedom and the fear of the Lord.
 - ii. Mission Strategy: Adapted from John Burton's book 20 Elements of Revival, we rally around these revival strategies:
 1. Consecration: As a company of reformers we are alert and intentional in our mission. The call for all is to gather together continually, free of distraction, with surrendered hearts, in unwavering agreement and with an unusual investment of time, energy and passion.
 2. Fiery Prayer: The biblical church is a house of continual prayer, and we commit to upholding that standard. Every Christian has the sober responsibility and wondrous opportunity to pray in such a way that

the fire of God burns night and day in our lives, our church, our region and the nations.

3. Fear & Trembling: The fear of the Lord will always be before us. Brokenness and repentance are a continual reality in the resulting atmosphere that will facilitate a historic end-time revival.
4. Culture shock: When truth is preached, religious spirits react and the hungry marvel. Comfort zones are threatened and personal endeavors are disrupted. In the fear of the Lord, we will prophetically decree shocking and liberating realities of the Kingdom of God.
5. Wonders: A supernatural baptism of fire will hit all who have given themselves to Jesus without measure. Death to self, humility and a bold, burning spirit of prayer will open the door to a life of wonders!

III. A Radical Change of Strategy

- a. Most every church in the nation looks the same.
 - i. People are crying out, "No more church as usual, as they continue doing church as usual."
 - ii. The fire by night and the cloud by day must return to God's people.
 - iii. The kabod of God (what can be seen) and the shekinah (what can be felt) must return!
 1. The kabod is the unseen weight of God's glory.
 - a. Falling over as dead, tremble, intense visitation
 2. Shekinah is the visible supernatural manifestations of God's glory.
 - a. Pillars of cloud and fire
 - iv. The enemy is not afraid of today's American church.
- b. "The Philistines drew up in line against Israel, and when the battle spread, Israel was defeated before the Philistines, who killed about four thousand men on the field of battle." (1 Samuel 4:2, ESV)
- c. "Why has the LORD defeated us today before the Philistines? [CHANGE OF STRATEGY] Let us bring the ark of the covenant of the LORD here from Shiloh, that it may come among us and save us from the power of our enemies.'" (1 Samuel 4:3, ESV)
- d. "As soon as the ark of the covenant of the LORD came into the camp, all Israel gave a mighty shout, so that the earth resounded." (1 Samuel 4:5, ESV)
- e. "the Philistines were afraid, for they said, "A god has come into the camp." And they said, "Woe to us! For nothing like this has happened before. Woe to us! Who can deliver us from the power of these mighty gods? These are the gods who struck the Egyptians with every sort of plague in the wilderness." (1 Samuel 4:7-8, ESV)
 - i. The demonic government of this region must soon declare, a god has come into the camp!

IV. Rejecting God at every turn

- a. Today's church has radically resisted this type of presence driven ministry.
 - i. We need the new wine! We need disruptive change!
- b. God has a question:

- i. *“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates, “ ‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’”* (Matthew 11:16–17, ESV)
 - a. What do you want? Are you happy or mourning?
 - ii. Jesus compared that generation to stubborn, unresponsive children.
 - 1. You won’t dance. You won’t mourn. You won’t respond.
 - iii. The problem with the church today is that it has given in to the stubbornness.
 - 1. It has traded a prophetic and offensive culture for a relevant and affirming one.
 - 2. As I was writing this, I saw someone wearing a church shirt with their tagline that said, “Relevant. Authentic.”
 - 3. The world doesn’t want relevant. They want a to be stunned by glory!! They want to experience the shock and awe of a mighty God!
 - c. The new wine, the change, the shift will disrupt most everything we know about the church.
 - i. Traditions and tables will be overturned.
 - ii. You as a church member will have every opportunity to rise up in indignation, to complain, to gossip, to demand things return to normal.
 - 1. No more normal!!!!
 - 2. We need God to come into the camp!
 - iii. In the midst of the turmoil, we have a promise:
 - 1. *“... And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”* (Matthew 11:5–6, ESV)
 - d. If we continue reading, we see Jesus severely rebuking unrepentant cities.
 - i. *“But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you.”* (Matthew 11:24, ESV)
 - ii. John Kilpatrick called America an apostate nation.
 - e. We must see massive reformation come to the church!
 - i. Wake up America! Wake up Church! I’ve never witnessed so many cowards, frauds, and wimps in Christianity as I do today. So many are afraid to rock the boat, make waves, take a strong stand, or speak up. So many are only concerned about their reputation, their own territory or house, their popularity, their followers, or church members. Yet there are others who still think this is a game. I’ve written strong articles the last few weeks to warn people on the state of the nation and the Church, and the approaching danger, but so many are either slow to believe it, or too cowardly to share it or speak up themselves. Other solid, stable ministerial men of stature and influential voices are doing the same, while many yawn, slumber, and even snore. Wake up!!! ~Bert Farias
 - ii. Pavement people!
- V. Ancient and Emerging: 5 Changes Coming to the Church
- a. **Services will become more like prayer meetings.**
 - i. One of the greatest indictments on the church today is that prayer is not the driving force.

- ii. Today, people tend to choose churches based on the appeal of the teaching and the worship instead of the fervency of prayer.
 - iii. If the church was a house of teaching, or a house of worship, that would make sense, but it's not. The church is a house of prayer for all nations.
 - iv. Every person in the church will function as a burning intercessor and the services will be marked by this unified groan of fiery prayer.
 - 1. Story of Jesus visiting man in Manitou as result of prayer. (If there's time)
 - 2. Also, Mission Manitou, resistance as far away as Egypt.
 - a. Facebook group started by witches and others attacking our ministry.
 - b. Satanic cult contacted and cursed us.
 - c. Every morning at 3am a witch would arrive outside our ministry to pray against us during that prayer watch.
 - d. All of this because we were praying! That's it!
- b. Personal need will give way to personal mission.**
- i. Today, churches are often more like organic, socially driven hospitals. People tend to use the church as a way to meet their personal needs instead of serving it as a minister of God.
 - ii. Of course, there will still be personal ministry and true needs will be addressed.
 - iii. However, instead of the church functioning as a hospital, it will once again function as a mission-driven military.
 - iv. The mission will take precedence. The saints will be equipped for service, not for personal survival. In this ancient and emerging model, there will be MASH units that will take very good care of the wounded with the primary purpose of getting the soldier back into battle.
 - v. Apostles will again lead with governmental authority and pastors will be seen as the main leader less and less as they focus more on shepherding and less on primary leadership.
- c. Teaching will be minimized while instruction is emphasized.**
- i. Teaching is mostly for personal edification while instruction is mostly for corporate assignments.
 - ii. Today, most churches focus on teaching principles of scripture, providing truths that will help Believers navigate through their lives and giving nuggets of biblical info.
 - iii. While there will still be important Bible teaching, apostolic instruction will emerge as a necessary new ministry.
 - iv. There is enough Bible teaching online, in books and on video to turn every one of us into personal spiritual giants.
 - v. We need to take it upon ourselves to grow.
 - vi. What is lacking, however, is apostolic leaders, military commanders who give instruction and assignments to a ready army.
 - vii. Teaching is personal growth-based while instruction is a call to corporate action for the sake of mission fulfillment.

- viii. It's mission focused versus personal growth focused. Personal growth will be largely our responsibility between services so we can be ready to respond to the corporate instruction where we will receive our assignments.
- d. **The 24/7 Church will emerge.**
 - i. The 24/7 church will arise as the church starts driving the culture instead of reacting to the culture. Cares of life will lose their power as we simplify our lives and put corporate prayer and mission ahead of most everything else.
 - ii. This may be the most challenging change for Christians. Today, Sundays are the days to set aside for corporate worship while we give precedence to our 'normal lives.'
 - iii. In The Coming Church, the very reason we live will be to pray on fire together continually, receive apostolic assignments and then move out into our lives as kingdom ambassadors.
 - iv. It wouldn't be surprising if a tithe of our time is what became the standard.
 - v. Two to three hours a day, whether it's in the morning, afternoon or evening, or even in the late-night hours, will be given by every believer to praying on site together with others, ministering and giving ourselves to intercession-fueled kingdom ministry.
 - vi. Of course, much of what we have been giving ourselves to will have to be eliminated so we have the time necessary to devote.
- e. **Worship will be supernaturally driven.**
 - i. There is a new sound coming to worship, and it's not simply a new style.
 - ii. There is a supernatural, otherworldly groan of intercessory worship that will explode out of the entire body as a new breed of trembling worship leaders lead the way into the shock and awe of the glory of God.
 - 1. It's a move from Ichabod to kabod.
 - 2. We need the weighty Shekinah glory!
 - iii. We will no longer simply sit in a pew or stand with a raised hand while a familiar worship song is sung.
 - iv. The prophetic, groaning sounds of Holy Spirit facilitated worship will make it normal to shake and fall to our faces as we cry Holy!
 - v. The natural, logical, karaoke style sing-a-longs will be no more.
 - vi. We will have a hard time standing as God's Shekinah and Kabod glory resides in his church.
 - vii. Worship teams will practice less and pray in the Spirit with tears in their eyes more.
 - viii. Leaders must be ready to run together as the challenge intensifies, consecration becomes mandatory and the cost increases. Don't lag behind!