

Visions and Revelations Message 6: “The Wise Men and the Star (1)”

The contrast between the Pharisees and the Wise Men is very stark. The Pharisees were Jews who were well-versed in the Scriptures, followers of the Law, and seekers of knowledge, but they were not able to see reality when it was in front of them. The Wise Men were Gentiles who were also seekers of knowledge, but unlike the Pharisees they were able to see and accept the reality when it hit them. What was the reality? It was that the Messiah was here in the flesh. The question is, how did the Wise Men know that this was true? After all, they didn't have the same access to the Old Testament scriptures that the Pharisees had. They didn't have the same access to the stories passed down from generation to generation among the Jews. They were at a disadvantage in so many ways in seeing the truth that the baby Jesus was the Christ. So what did they have that the Pharisees did not? A revelation from God. The Pharisees probably saw the same star in the sky, but they did not see the revelation that the Wise Men saw. May the Lord save us from being blinded like the Pharisees in this day and age!

Many of us have been in the church life a long time. We've read through the Bible multiple times, we tithe regularly, we diligently attend church gatherings. However, we need to ask ourselves, do we have a fresh Christ? We are currently in the Age of Grace, and we may think that what we're doing is okay with God, but are we actually receiving revelations from Him? Are we attuned to what the Lord's will is at any given moment? How the Lord moves is not stagnant, so we cannot be either. If we do become stagnant, then the Lord will find new people to carry out His will. As Romans 11:20-21 tell us, “They (the old branches) were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you”. The Pharisees had become stagnant in their ways. When the Lord's will moved from the Age of Law to the Age of Grace, they were not attuned to His will. They were not receiving His revelations. And thus, the Pharisees were cut off from God's tree. New branches (in this case the Gentiles) were grafted into the tree to carry out the Lord's will. If we become stagnant in our ways and blind to revelations from God, we could end up just like the Pharisees. How do we keep our eyes open for revelations? We need to have an open mind, a pure heart, and not be set in our ways. Oh Lord, may we be the ones who have eyes to see and ears to hear! May You save us from our close-mindedness and our clinging to our set ways! May we be the ones that receive a fresh Christ and fresh revelations, and who are always attuned to Your will!