

**TELECAST SERMON FOR
SUNDAY, JUNE 8, 2025 (PENTECOST)
"WHAT DID THE UPPER ROOM BRING?"
HEAD PASTOR BILLY HAN, JR.**

Thank you, Melvin!

It is truly wonderful, viewers, to have you share in my sermon for today, entitled **"WHAT DID THE UPPER ROOM BRING?"** Are you searching for the Spirit of the Lord, so that He can lead and guide you in your daily endeavors? I guarantee that one way to discover Him is through the self-same Gospel taught by Jesus, Himself, at Galilee, and being offered by yours truly in this telecast, and as in all our telecasts: the past ones, the present ones, and the future ones. With your Bible in hand, we can proceed together.

Our responsibility in these critical, yet exciting times, is for us to stay close to the Lord in prayer, worship, study, and application of the scriptures. We, as believers, ought to be encouraging one another and assembling ourselves in the House of God, more so, as we "see and feel" the apparent second coming of the Lord.

The Apostle Paul reminded the Jewish Christian congregation to leave what is thought of as being the "good" things of Judaism, and ascend to the "better" things that are found in Christ.

Thus, the experience of the "Upper Room" enhances and incites a greater personal relationship with God. The experience in the Upper Room became a milestone to every believer, from the very moment the Holy Ghost fell upon the saints of that day, and retaining its significance to the present day believer.

Today, we ought to be striving earnestly for the furtherance of the Gospel, and working together to get into that "One" place where He wants us to be, just as they were on the day the Holy Ghost fell upon the 120. The Upper Room caused the saints to pray, perfecting unified hearts as each day passed.

When God saw they came to the place of heart, where He wanted them to be, He manifested Himself. The exact formula works today, and Jesus is waiting for His body to perfect their calling, as an individual, and as a Body, as His time to return is at hand.

Who knows what God will do, when He finds His church in the place of unity and righteousness. Is He a God of the present day? He certainly is! The scriptures tell us that Jesus is the same Yesterday, Today, and Forever: "With whom is variableness, neither shadow of turning!"

Let us turn to Hebrews 11:39-40. It reads, "And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise. God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect."

I am sure, TV viewers, that you are familiar with the definition of faith, which the Apostle Paul brought to us in chapter 11. The essence of faith is required, that one might receive the things, which are freely given to us by God. Receiving what the Lord gives us, through faith, impels loving obedience, good works, and fosters a growing relationship with the Creator of all things.

Yet, in chapter 11, Paul, through the inspiration of God, identifies the bridge that brings the past martyrs up with the present day believers. Today we learn of faith through their examples and sacrifices, and we should be extremely humbled because of it. Having resisted unto blood, striving against sin, yet without us, "they" are not made perfect!

Yes viewers, you may ask, "How can that be?" Simply put, we vindicate one another, with the similarity being that we both seek after a city whose builder and Maker is God! We should be appreciative that the Lord Jesus does not forget the good works we may do, no matter what dispensation we lived in. Thus was the full intent of Jesus, as He hung, crucified on the cross.

Those who died in the Lord, and whose works do follow them, are not excluded from the promise of eternal life, nor of the Kingdom of God. Though they had no knowledge of His kingdom, neither were promised to have an inheritance, what is revealed in Jesus, and freely given to us, is offered to them as well. They lived by the inspiration of God; they embraced the promises and lived in the fear of God, "as seeing Him who is invisible."

Yes, their quality of faith, obedience, and works made them worthy to receive such a reward. Peter writes in I Peter 3:18-20, "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: By which also he went and preached unto the spirits in prison; which sometime were disobedient, when once the long-suffering of God waited in the days of Noah while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water."

Yes, the salvation Jesus brought, reaches beyond the depths of the grave to those who died in their ignorance of unbelief. We, on the other hand, through the dispensation of Grace, have received of the Lord, "some better thing," that is, the truth of life and immortality, as revealed in the scriptures.

Thus, the mystery of Godliness is brought to the surface through the Gospel. Through it, we know where we are going and know what is required of us to get there. We know what we are going to receive. We know, in part, what is in the Kingdom of God, and we know fully, that we shall be like Him, when we shall see Him, as He is! We know that in His kingdom there will no pain, sorrow, or death, and neither will the elements that bring about these emotions exist.

When we are redeemed from this sinful, violent, and deceitful world, we will not be asking one another where is this Brother, or that Sister. We will be experiencing a joy that is immeasurable and overwhelming.

But it will take the kind of faith, obedience and works that are plainly spoken of in Hebrews chapter 11 to obtain it.

We read of similar promise, inspired through David in Psalm 16: 1-3, and 10-11, "Preserve me, O God: for I thee do I put my trust. O my soul, thou hast said unto the Lord, Thou art my Lord: my goodness extendeth not to thee; but to the saints that are in the earth, and to the excellent, in whom is all my delight.....For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption."

Yes, Jesus conquered death, hell, and the grave, and the Captain of our salvation was made perfect through suffering. We have a wonderful promise, that our eyes shall behold Him, in all of His glory, and we shall see Him as He is! Thus, the measure of faith, moved the disciples to assemble in the upper room, after witnessing Jesus, ascend into heaven.

Let us turn to and read Acts 1:12-15, "Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a Sabbath day's journey. And when they were come in, they went up into an "Upper Room," where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James.

These all continued with one accord in prayer, and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names together were about an hundred and twenty."

The Lord's final instructions were to go to Jerusalem and tarry for the Spirit. It was faith that urged and motivated the remaining 11 apostles, and a band of believers to proceed to the upper room. Peter numbered them, and they totaled 120.

Let us consider the amount of effort Jesus put into for the cause of saving a soul. Jesus actively preached for 3 years. During this time, he healed, counseled, rebuked, performed miracles, in the unselfish effort that man might come out of their sins. He sent out His apostles, and appointing 70 disciples, giving them power over the devil to heal the sick and to cast out evil spirits, and to preach the good news, in the cities and places where He would have gone Himself.

The reward He received for His efforts were condemnation, rejection by the people whom He came to save, threats, verbal and physical assaults, arrest, humiliations, jailing, trial, unfair judgement, and then crucifixion, to die and to be forgotten with His ministry in the grave.

Let us read in Isaiah 53:3-4, "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not. Surely, he hath borne our griefs? and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

Yes, Jesus came to earth to give His life. His sacrifice gives all sinners an opportunity to become a part of his flock. He is the Good Shepherd, and He has given His life for His sheep. He had and continues to have within his heart and thoughts, the welfare and well being of believers. As they come to Him, He knows them by name, and is fully aware of their needs, whether they be spiritual, or physical, small or great.

Yes, the sacrifice Jesus made, was not just for Israel, but for all humanity. For God is no respecter of persons! In his eyes, there is neither bond or free, male or female, Jew or Gentile; all have sinned and have come short of the glory of God.

Television viewers, have you made your peace and repentance with the Lord? Jesus certainly desires that you enjoy the physical necessities of life. But you must also understand that there is more to life, than the accumulation of material assets. Jesus drew a conclusion for you and me, when He said, "Solomon in all of his glory, was not arrayed as one of these!" and Jesus was speaking of the simplicity of the lilies in the field.

Even Solomon, as he pondered life in the book of Ecclesiastes, admitted himself, all is for naught and worthless, if the final result is a life without or apart from God.

Let us read in John 3:5, "Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

Perspective and values play an important part, as to whether or not one will accept the Lord as one's personal Saviour. Jesus, wants you this morning. TV viewers, to take a closer look at what is at stake.

It is not the house you own, or the car that you drive. It is not the job that you hold, neither the promotion you may have just recently received. It is not whether or not you are a law abiding citizen, or a community minded person.

Salvation is not determined by one being a "good" person in this life. You and I came naked into this world, and certainly we can take nothing with us when we die. Paul tells us, "After death, only judgment remains!"

Salvation is an individual matter, strictly meaning, YOU decide whether or not you will accept Christ Jesus as Lord and Saviour. Jesus instructed Nicodemus, saying he had to be born again, inspite of being a Pharisee.

Born of water to be baptized in the Name of Jesus by immersion, and to be born of the Spirit is to be filled with the Holy Ghost, speaking in an "unknown tongue." We read in Acts 2:38, "Then Peter said unto them, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in

the name of Jesus Christ for the remissions of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Repentance is Godly sorrow for sin. Remission is to have one's sins removed completely. The gift of the Holy Ghost, is given to all those that "believe as the scriptures have said, then out of their belly, shall flow rivers of living water."

The infilling of the Holy Ghost is God's presence within His people. It is a seal of redemption. We await the redemption of our bodies, so that we can receive the glorious liberty as the children of God. Therefore, without hesitation we preach that "Baptism is essential to salvation". The simplicity of water baptism, in the name of Jesus confounds and angers the wisest of theologians and researchers of the Bible.

We see in the scriptures how Jesus came to fulfill the law, and bringing Judaism to an end with Christ, fulfilling every aspect of the law. The Jews were encouraged to leave the "good" things of Judaism, and seek and abide in the "better" things of Christ.

The scriptures tells us how Christ is "better" than the angels, than Abraham, than Isaac, than Jacob, than Moses, than Joshua, than Aaron. Thus, we see, Jesus, Who was made a "little lower than the angels," was baptized by immersion. He commanded His disciples to do as so.

Paul, Peter, and Apollos, humbled themselves and were baptized, and did administer baptisms in turn. Thus, how much more does water baptism apply to you, our listening audience, this morning, especially if you have not yet obeyed the commandments of God.

Let us read in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven, given among men, whereby we must be saved."

Jesus is appealing to one and all to save themselves from this untoward God generation. The Day of Visitation is at hand!

This simple gospel will resurrect the dead, and quicken the living to meet the Lord in the air. The simplicity of water baptism, that bears the definition of "an act of a good conscience toward God," will present many believers sinless in the eyes of God. Thus, salvation, in the truest sense, is one of faith and works.

Have you ever considered what were in the thoughts of the disciples, as they stood at the top of the Mount of Olives, and watched their Saviour ascend into heaven? As He ascended, it became materialized into more than the transfiguration, a miraculous event, familiar to Peter. What were those words or unfamiliar sounds proceeding out of His mouth, as He ascended? Or of the two angels that stood along side and speaking to them.

Let us read in Acts 2:10-11, "And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven."

The Apostles were at a major milestone in the birth of the Pentecostal Church. Everything, Jesus had foretold them, came to pass, and that Milestone of watching Him ascend into heaven, further solidified the authenticity of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Nevertheless, they were just as human as you and me, requiring encouragement, and the constant presence of the Lord, while living in this sinful world. I am sure they felt a degree of abandonment, and insecurity. In the company of Jesus, they experienced a severe and intense assault of their faith, and now, they were about to suffer the same things, but without Jesus.

The faithful few, were tasked to spread "The Gospel" to the "uttermost parts of the earth." However, the world as they viewed it was solidified in their own beliefs, and the task may have seemed overwhelming.

They knew of the faith Jesus spoke of and of the level of faith, which He tried to develop within them. They experienced the power, given to them by Jesus, to heal the sick and to cast out devils.

However, they could always return to the Lord, and enjoy His physical presence at the end of the day. Now, it was their faith that they had to rely on. In essence, they were at the crossroads of their Spiritual lives, and the experience of the Upper Room would nullify the concession, "What will happen to them and the ministry?"

Let us read in Acts 4:1-4, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Unfortunately, many in the Christian realm find, "tarrying" for the Holy Ghost is a thing of the past. The "wise and prudent" of the Christian realm have concluded that the existence of the Holy Spirit is evident amongst all believers, and "being filled" with the Spirit (speaking in tongues) is a privilege or one of many "gifts" of the Holy Ghost.

The gift of tongues is not given to all, therefore, it cannot be used as a Confirmation, identifying one has been filled with the Holy Ghost.

To distinguish and separate the speaking in tongues as a "gift" only, and not the biblical evidence of one being filled with the Holy Ghost, misleads many believers, and will leave them incomplete, Spiritually empty, and unsaved. Yes, television viewers, you

must be born of water and of the Spirit, in order to enter into the kingdom of God. "Water-washed, blood-washed, Spirit-filled, and living a life above sin, until Jesus comes in clouds of glory, is the motto in this church, and you should adopt it as well.

Now, what happened on that notable morning of Pentecost, is considered as phenomenal, and nothing was by coincidence, but purposed by God. Did you know that when Jesus went into Jerusalem, as they prepared for the feast of the Passover, that He was the "unblemished Lamb" to be sacrificed, and this would bring an end to all future Passover Feasts.

Did you know, that He was to be the "temple" that was to be broken down, then rebuilt on the third day, being resurrected from the dead? Did you know, how the feast of Harvest, that is, counting seven Sabbaths and "On the morrow," numbering 50 days, they were to celebrate the harvest, that is Pentecost?

Did you know, after Jesus' resurrection from the dead, He walked the earth for forty days, teaching and preaching the things that pertained to the Kingdom of God, and it was after ten days of tarrying, that the Holy Ghost fell upon them, on the day of Pentecost?

(The manifestation of God, was never before experienced by the world.)

What the inhabitants of Jerusalem initially heard could not be related to anything spoken by man's mouth.

The power that was felt in the upper room and the presence of God that aroused the interest of the millions in Jerusalem characterized that something miraculous had been done, and to them it could not be explained.

What they saw and heard, in their respective native tongues were of the things that pertain to God. However, they marveled even more, when those that were speaking, were mere Galilaeans, the majority being unlearned men.

We read the 7th, 8th, 11th, and 12th verses of Acts chapter 2, "And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our tongue, wherein we were born?.... We do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?"

The outpouring of the Holy Ghost on that day, spiritually surpassed the roar, volume, and magnitude of the mighty Niagra Falls, ten times over! The phenomenon was the least of the Apostles' expectations, but a very much anticipated one! Something was destined to happen, but they did not know what! They anticipated the power Jesus spoke of, but they did not anticipate the overwhelming measure of power and magnitude that was manifested.

Have you felt the power of the Holy Ghost, as they did, and as we have here, daily at the Apostolic Faith Church?

(Everything came to light through the experience of the Upper Room!

The Holy Spirit whom John the Beloved addressed, and recorded in John 7: 37-39, was present with them. The "Comforter," and "Anointing", Whom Jesus frequently spoke of during His time with the disciples, was now present with them, and the evidence of His Spirit was felt internally. It was something new and powerful, and it confirmed the Word of God.

Sincere believers were now experiencing the "Indwelling Christ," whether they were Jew or Gentile, in the same manner as the 120 did on the Day of Pentecost. The sound, noise and commotion, heard that day, were misunderstood by the onlookers, Who could not comprehend the miracle being demonstrated before them. The onlookers erroneously concluded they were looking at drunkards, mourners, or fanatics!

Such was the case when God restored Israel, and put it upon the people's hearts to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. They were in one heart, one mind, and in one accord. In spite of dissenters and enemies of Israel, they pressed on in restoring the Temple. As the Temple foundations were being laid, Israel rejoiced, such that the sound could not be distinguished from joy or mourning.

Let us read in Ezra 3:10-13, "And when the builders laid the foundation of the temple of the Lord, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the Lord, after the ordinance of David, King of Israel.

And they sang together by course in praising and giving thanks unto the Lord; because He is good, for His mercy endureth forever toward Israel. And all the people shouted with a great shout when they praised the Lord, because the foundation of the house of the Lord was laid.

But many of the priests and Levites and chief of the fathers, who were ancient men, that had seen the first house, when the foundation of this house was laid before their eyes, wept with a loud voice; and many shouted aloud for joy: So that the people could not discern the noise of the shout of joy from the noise of the weeping of the people: for the people shouted with a loud shout, and the noise was heard afar off."

The similarity between the experience, of Pentecost, and Israel during the time of Ezra, was how the people rejoiced. Can you imagine the 120, down on their knees, with hands lifted up towards the heavens in victory, praying, tarrying, yearning and crying for ten days, with each day growing greater with intensity?

They proceeded in faith in pursuit of a promise, not knowing what would happen, or when it would happen. They were in the midst of the materialization of God's plan, with the confirmation of Pentecost being the objective.

We can draw that conclusion, as we look back today. Yes, what we learn from them, is what faith ought to be in our lives. Israel, who labored to rebuild the Temple, did so under extreme hardships. Onlookers sought to cause division and confusion, and attempted to discourage the restoration by placing stumbling blocks in their path of progress.

Nevertheless, the laborers pressed on, and when the time came to lay the stones that would begin the restoration of the Temple, the people rejoiced with a shout that could be heard abroad, intermixed with the weeping of the elders, whose joy was manifested with weeping, as they could recall the beauty and grandeur of the former temple.

If you would like to learn more about God's Word and the Church, and view these telecast presentations in their entirety, please visit our website at <http://Jesuscomingsoon.org>.

Until our next telecast, this is your host, Head Pastor William Han, Jr. expressing my sincerest appreciation to each of you, who have allowed us to come into your homes. May the good Lord bless and keep you all in the hollow of His hands.

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