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Manifestation of Sons

Those in relationship, as sons, with Mark and Linda Hanby are part of a necessary and promised order that not only relates to our individual ministries but also to the fulfillment of what the Lord is doing in the earth in our day. As with the development of any relationship, there are stages of growth and change. Initially all relationships require a meeting and an exchange within that says "I want to develop this relationship further." In the realm of fathers and sons, it is a birthing of desire for connection and order. As sons there is a long period in which we must remain hidden. It is a period of testing and maturation to prove us ready for our revelation to the world as sons, who come in the name of our father. This is true not only in relation to our spiritual fathers but in the Churches relation to our heavenly Father as well. The Church needs to be hidden in Christ before it will ever be able to bring Christ to the world in any measure approaching the biblical promise.

Jesus knew he must do the fathers business at 12 years of age yet he was only begotten as a son into the Father's full purpose at age thirty. It took time for Jesus to grow in wisdom stature and favour with God and man: Luke 2:52. Merely being a son does not give us the maturity or sanction to go forth in our father's name. We may be heirs to all the spiritual legacy and wisdom of our father but if we remain as children rather than enduring a process that leads to our growing up as sons, we will remain in the bondage of the tutors and overseers required by religion: Gal. 4:1-2. Before the revelation and return of the Son of God in the earth, there must be a return within the Church to a biblical father/son order and a revelation of sons with authority to go forth in the name of their spiritual father.

There are of course fathers of various visions sanctioned by God throughout the earth. Those of us who have the God ordained privilege of being part of the vision given to the Hanbys, have also been given the responsibility to be found faithful by God in the work. God desires not only sonship for us but also the manifestation as sons through maturity, that the vision handed down to the Hanbys may become generational, expanded and completed. To that end we must understand how God is operating to reveal His Son in the earth in our day. We must come to understand the soon manifestation of the sons of God as the revealed body of Christ to a lost world. (Rom 8:18-19 KJV) For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be

compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God. We are living in a time in which the Lord is bringing an end to conditions as they now exist in the earth. Creation itself was cursed by God for the sake of man. Earthquakes and wars, crime and rebellion, economic disruptions and the like, are merely the natural birth pangs giving witness by their increased intensity that the sons of God are about to become manifest to the world. Yet many remnant Christians have yet to realize who they really are in Christ; to grasp in full measure, that they are members of a body yet hidden, that when revealed will expose the true Christ to the entire world.

There is a great pressure in the Church, and in the world, to bring to manifestation the sons of God. This pressure comes through a suffering meant to change and perfect us so that it is truly the Lord Jesus and not ourselves which is revealed by His body to the world. Those of us who understand and welcome this process are now increasingly partakers of a glory which is being revealed in us. God is bringing light to His Church. Such a great light that the darkness of our traditions must flee at the blinding clarity of His truth.

The Spirit of God is moving upon the waters, bringing forth a cleansing from carnality and every bondage of the mind and heart. God is not only seeking followers but those who are willing to have intimacy. Those willing to become sons and allow God to be manifest through them just as the personality of our spirits are manifest through our own bodies. We learn from the scripture that there is a process which is ready to be revealed to the world, a process that will bring Christ's body the church into a place where the Head (Jesus Christ), can truly govern and rule the Church and through this body, a perfect man, may appear once again in the earth.

(Eph 4:13 KJV) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: There is a day coming and indeed is now here, when the dead are once again hearing the voice of the Son of God and come out of their spiritual graves. There is a time when we will come through the unity of our faith and through a knowledge, not of this earth, to a perfect man. Notice the Church is not spoken of as perfect men or people in the plural but in the singular, a perfect man. What God is doing can only come through unity, in a desire to be one with the Lord and each other. There is no place for anything which exalts self, personal ambition or personal ministry. Only that which is God will be exalted and only through a perfect man, not perfect men.

The Church needs to stop looking for another Moses to bring it into the promised land. The Church needs to stop seeking a rapturous escape into the heavens motivated by its fears and start walking in its rightful position as the body of Christ. A many membered body yet one body with one head, even Jesus Christ. (Rom 12:4 KJV) For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: (1 Cor 12:12 KJV) For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. (1 Cor 12:20 KJV) But now are they many members, yet but one body. Though we are many members of the one body, we as immature members have not yet been connected and matured into anything resembling a body which the world would be able to recognize as Jesus. It doesn't see Jesus because it doesn't

yet see His body. Religion has gotten the Church to look for Christ in all the wrong places. Some see Him in a denomination. Some see Him in elevated ministries or great men. Some see Him in a rapturous appearing in the clouds, but few see Him in the very place in which the bible says He resides. The remnant which is being called forth out of Christianity is beginning to be freed to walk in His marvelous light.

We are the house of God, we are the body of Christ, we are the temple of the Holy Spirit, we are the sons of God! Not sometime in the future but now! (Ezek 37:1-5 KJV) The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo, they were very dry. And he said unto me, Son of man, can these bones live? And I answered, O Lord GOD, thou knowest. Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: This many membered body, this remnant of the plan of God in our day is disconnected, in many pieces, existing in dry areas, yet the Lord knows that this body shall live. He is bringing the members together, not into a monstrosity of man's religious creation, but into a glorified body foreshadowed by Jesus' body after His resurrection. Unlike the body of Christ fashioned by the attempts of man, which is almost completely unrecognizable, the world will see Jesus as His glorified body is manifested in the sons of God.

Elevated ministries and individual aspirations of greatness have no place in the manifestation of God's sons. Jesus was asked, are you the one who is coming or do we look for another? The Church today is asking the same question, seeking another who can bring forth Christ in the earth. But the light of the glory of God is beginning to shine into hearts. We are beginning to see that it is not through another but through us that Christ's appearing will come. Not that He is not literally going to return to the earth and stand on the Mount of Olives, but that before that event, the promise of Scripture must be fulfilled in the coming of the perfect man.

James tells us in his epistle that a perfect man is one who does not offend in word, one in whom the whole body is brought into submission to the Spirit. If the Church at large does not begin to see its place in the return of the Lord, it will forever be tied to the traditions and bondage's of past religious generations that bind the Church to fear and fleshly hopes, rather than the power of its rightful position as the manifested sons of God. The Spirit of God desires a habitation, a house, an abiding place, a body with Jesus as head, that can manifest Christ in all His power. In chapter 14 of the gospel of John, Jesus tells us that He is preparing a place in His Father's house for us. This is not some gold laced palace in the clouds, but our individual place in the abode which will house the eternal God forever. Two thousand years ago, Jesus manifested Himself in a body born at Bethlehem. In this day, He is going to manifest Himself in a many membered body born of God and ruled by the Spirit.

The Apostle John tells us of a day when the kingdoms of this world, will, become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ. If Jesus is the Lord, who is His Christ? Is it possible that the remnant

sons of God are the Christ of the Lord? Is it possible that most of Christianity is forever putting off until some future time, that which the Lord is desirous to reveal in them now?

Much is made in modern Christian eschatology about the return of the Lord and the future building of a temple. I do not believe that the Lord is ever again going to inhabit a temple made by the hands of man. Moses' tabernacle, David's tabernacle and Solomon's temple were simply portents of an eternal habitation of the Lord, a temple made without hands. These each spoke of God's habitation in a different dimension. Moses' - God's habitations in the religious wilderness, David's - God's habitation in spiritual praise, Solomon's - God's habitation in eternal glory. But the temple made without hands speaks of the house the Lord is building for Himself out of the remnant sons of God, a habitation made by His Spirit!

The Lord has a spiritual geography. Up, down, out, into, and other like prepositions in the Bible, speak not only of natural direction but of a spiritual way. People who speak of going up into heaven often fail to realize that heaven is not a geographic place at all but the realm of a person, the Lord Jesus Christ. When many speak of the resurrection they are speaking of an event yet the resurrection is not an event but a person, Jesus Christ. I am the resurrection and the life. Likewise being caught up with the Lord is not a movement from one natural place into another but a movement dimensionally in the Spirit. (1 Th 4:17 KJV) Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Geographically speaking, what is up for the Chinese would be down for Americans since we occupy opposite sides of the planet. When the Bible says we will be caught up into the clouds to meet Jesus it is again speaking of God's spiritual geography. If not, an astronaut in space or a pilot flying above the clouds would have to be caught down, not up to meet the Lord.

When we limit God in time, geography, manifestation and in any other way to the natural, we negate the greater spiritual possibilities. The coming of the Lord, the appearing of the Lord, the revelation of the Lord, the gathering together to the Lord and many other expressions need to be understood in the Spirit to understand their fullest meaning.

The appearing of the Lord has a manifestation that involves the sons of God. He will reveal Himself to this world through His body and those seeking Him will not have to wonder whether or not it is the Lord. His dwelling place will be with His people. Ministry that is not ordered after a father/son order will have difficulty understanding this. The church is going to have to be in submission and order to our heavenly Father just as true gospel sons have to understand what a true spiritual father is and what true biblical submission really is. Until there is a proper manifestation of father/son order in the remnant Church, there will be a hindrance to the manifestation of the sons of God in the world.

Many have mistakenly equated the manifestation of the sons of God in the earth with fleshly doctrines that speak of the glorifying of self and the use of great supernatural powers to eclipse even those of the early Apostles. Yet for the manifestation that God is bringing forth, the body of Christ will learn the lesson that unless the grain of wheat fall into the ground and die it will abide alone. We have to lose our selfish desire of abiding alone in Christ. This manifestation is not the

manifestation of separate individuals but of individuals which make up a body. There is a death of the carnal mind required but there is no way it can be accomplished in our understanding or in our power. It is only in and through God that it will come.

We are the body of Christ. We are the temple of a holy God. We are the people upon whom the end of the age has come. We are the sons of God being readied to be revealed in His time. Shape our minds Lord to see ourselves as we truly are and as we are most assuredly to become through you.

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