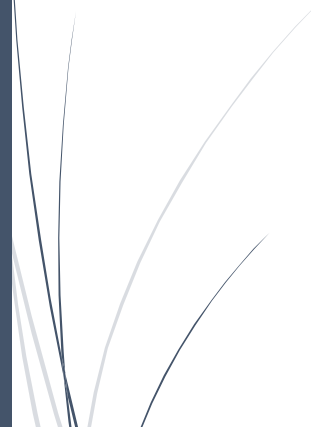


you be. Your purposed is meant to be fulfilled in the workplace, in the worldly gatherings, and in other avenues.

It is just that simple. The “What Now” is upon us and all we have to do is obey.

12/26/2020

# WHAT NOW CHURCH?



<b><u>INTRODUCTION</u></b>	<b>1</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1 CURRENT</b>	
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2 CURRENT</b>	
<b>CHURCH NOT IN ACTION</b>	<b>9</b>
<b><u>CHAPTER 3 CURRENT</u></b>	
<b><u>CHANGING CHURCH</u></b>	<b>15</b>
<b>CHAPTER 4 THE “WHAT</b>	
<b>NOW”</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>CONCLUSION</b>	<b>25</b>

sold a lie that we are just meant to sit in the pews, nice theater chairs or on couches and do nothing more.

Today’s circumstances have happened for such a time as this. This is where the church has the ability to shine the most. God is using the evil from the Evil One to shake the nations. We will not stand without being shaken as well.

The “What Now” is simple. Be the church to the world. It means be Jesus to the world.

If you don’t know how to lead someone to Christ or disciple a new believer then you have wasted your faith in Christ. You are like the servant who buried his talent in the ground.

[1Ti 3:15](#) in case I'm delayed. I want you to know how people who are members of God's family must live. God's family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

[Hag 2:7](#) I will shake all the nations, and the one whom all the nations desire will come. Then I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of Armies.

[Hag 2:8](#) The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the LORD of Armies.

[Hag 2:9](#) This new house will be more glorious than the former, declares the LORD of Armies. And in this place, I will give them peace, declares the LORD of Armies."

The Church today is standing at a crucial point in history. All around the world the church is affected by different dilemmas which are affecting the survival of the living Church of Christ. What do we do now? What is our direction from the Lord? Where is Holy Spirit during this hour?

This simple bible study called "What Now Church?" discusses next steps and purpose of the church during these uncertain times. The goal is to give the church direction and hope for tomorrow. We are not down for the count. We are living vessels for Jesus and His purpose is burning within us. The World may seem destructive and out of control but never forget that Jesus is in control.

Our current world appears to be moving further away from the Lord. The Church life in modern countries has become more religious and routine than ever before.

**Fact Stats:**

- 50% of Americans belong to a “Church” which is down by 20% since 1999. Understand that “Belonging” to a church does not mean that the goers are faithful at going. (<https://reachrightstudios.com/church-statistics-2020/>)
- Younger generations are less likely to go to “Church” Many are choosing to not attend traditional church settings.
- 32% of church goers actually read the bible and less than that actually believe in the fullness of God’s word. (<https://factsandtrends.net/2020/01/07/20-vital-stats-for-ministry-in-2020/>)

then why?

3. Have the Leaders in the church been faithful to God’s purpose for them?
4. Are you ready?

5. Leaders need to stop hoarding the Church for themselves. It is time to release them to the world.
6. If the church is truly led by Holy Spirit, then this movement will not be messy and unorganized. He knows better than we do.
7. The church is ready to preach the gospel, lead others to Christ, disciple them and reproduce this truth to others.

#### QUESTIONS:

1. What do you think

- Globally, Christianity is growing at a 1.27% rate. Currently, there are 2.5 billion Christians in the world. The world's population, 7.7 billion, is growing at a 1.20% rate.
- Islam (1.95%), Sikhs (1.66%) and Hindus (1.30%) are the only religious groups growing faster than Christianity, though followers of Jesus outnumber every other faith and are predicted to continue to do so at least through 2050.
- Pentecostals are the fastest growing Christian sects around the world. Many other

[surprising-trends-in-global-christianity-in-2019/](#))

- The church of Asia will surpass the growth of all countries over the next decade.

It is easy for us to get caught up in what the world is not than see that God is still moving today. There are some evil things taking place today which is affecting the church. Estimates say that there are 2.7 billion Christians in the world. I believe it is fair to say that less than 10% of those are truly serving the Lord.

Did Jesus face similar situations? Did the First Century church face similar

1. Be the church that is on Fire for God and devoted to Him without compromise.
2. Stop allowing the sins of the world hold you back from being the Bride of Christ.
3. Understand the purpose of the church can't be fulfilled in a building or house where we meet once a week. It is fulfilled in our daily interactions with the world.
4. Leaders of the Body of Christ were to suppose to be preparing the Church for such a time as this. Is the church

needs the apostolic spirit. She needs so deep a baptism with those fires of Holy Ghost that she can go out and set the world on fire by her zeal for the souls of men.” Charles Finney

The “What Now” is the rising of the church. I have preached this message for over 30 years now. I have always believed that the Church was something special from the Lord. Jesus created us with a purpose. The first century church set their world on fire for the Lord and it is time that we do the same.

I believe our current situation is being used by God to push the church out from the four walls and into the world's

lived during the time where the Romans were in control of most of the world.

### **Roman Rule:**

1. Many were subject to the laws and rules of the Roman Empire.
2. Sexual immorality was the norm during this time.
3. Dissidents were hung on a cross or much worse.
4. False religion was allowed to take hold in every facet of life.

[Joh 16:33](#) I've told you this so that my peace will be with you. In the world you'll have trouble. But cheer up! I have overcome the world."

[1Jn 5:1](#) Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Messiah has been born from God. Everyone who loves the Father also loves his children.

[1Jn 5:2](#) We know that we love God's children when we love God by obeying his commandments.

[1Jn 5:3](#) To love God means that we obey his commandments. Obeying his commandments isn't difficult

[1Jn 5:4](#) because everyone who has been born from God has won the victory over the world. Our faith is what wins the victory over the world.

[1Jn 5:5](#) Who wins the victory over the world? Isn't it the person who believes that Jesus is the Son of

word or from tainted Christian beliefs?

5. Is the message from Daniel 5 still relevant for today?



of our Lord. We can't be pious and sit back in our comfortable church buildings any longer. Holy Believers declaring the word of the Lord in every area around the world. This the current changing of the church.

#### QUESTIONS:

1. What is the current state of the Church?
2. How should the church change for today's world?
3. How should the church be like Daniel?
4. What is our message to

1. Is the current condition of the world in a hopeless state?
2. Has the church always seen trouble in the world throughout history? If so, list current comparisons.
3. Did Jesus already overcome the World and its selfish system?
4. How can you be an overcomer in today's current world's condition?

The current pandemic and discourse in the world have left most of the church without action. Many don't know how to operate outside of the four walls of their building. Where is the church in action?

The no action church is alive and well. A church without action is a bird without wings. Most of the church does nothing to encourage the world towards Jesus. Many pastors are bound to building their buildings instead of building the kingdom of God.

1Jn 2:15 Don't love the world and what it offers. Those who love the world don't have the Father's love in them.

1Jn 2:16 Not everything that the world offers-physical gratification, greed, and extravagant lifestyles-comes from the Father. It comes from

by God's wise judgement and found to be lacking. Finally, the King's kingdom would be divided among his enemies.

8. The King was arrogant and ignored the power of God. We see this happening today. God will have the last word. You and I must make this truth know and never back down.
9. God's word does not come back void. King Belshazzar was killed that night on the day he heard the revelation of the writing on the wall.
10. The church is not changing its message

beyond his years,  
Judgement that came  
from divine wisdom,  
and an extraordinary  
spirit. May the believers  
of Christ be seen as the  
same today.

6. Daniel had the answer  
to the writing on the  
wall and it was not  
pretty. He preached a  
hard message to an  
audience who was  
celebrating their sin.  
Christians have to be  
willing to do the same.  
The message is not  
easy, but it is not  
supposed to be.

7. The writing on the wall  
was “Numbered,  
Numbered, Weighed,  
and Divided.” The

person who does what God  
wants lives forever.

1. The No Action church  
focuses on the world more  
than the Kingdom of God.
2. Many Christian leaders have  
suffered under the current  
world’s dilemmas.
3. The church gets more in debt  
and fights to stay bound to  
traditional means of worship.

### **The Voice of the Lord to the Churches / Revelation 2-3 (Read)**

The message to the churches in  
Revelation and how they relate to  
the church today.

1. Ephesus lost their first love  
which was Jesus. Jesus told  
them to change the way they  
think and act. This is the true  
act of Repentance.
2. The church of Smyrna had to  
prepare for persecution.

There are pockets or areas to where believers are dying for their faith.

3. Living in the Lion's den. The church of Pergamum was right in the middle of the devil's play pen. The church had to battle idolatry and sexual sins. Still sins that plague the church today. Again, Jesus said change the way we think and act.
4. Get rid of the Jezebel. There was a false prophetess who was allowed to run the church of Thyatira. She affected the church in a negative light. It is important that the church does not allow unrighteousness to reign.
5. Be alert. The Church of Sardis was told to be alert because the Lord could come at any time. This is vital information today. The world is a busy place with many distractions. The church of Sardis was

## Parallel truths

1. The world is currently rejoicing in their own wickedness without a care about God's divine direction. Sin feels good for a season.
2. God is suddenly moving in the midst of wickedness like he did before King Belshazzar in Daniel 5
3. The writing on the wall is for the world but only believers can relay the meaning to them.
4. Many in the world should see believers in Christ as a group they

“We are awakening to that marvelous truth, that Christ is not in the heavens only, nor the atmosphere only, but Christ is in you.”

-- **John G. Lake**

With all the things happening in the world today, the church has to change (Not in message) in order to reach the world affectively.

**Dan 5:5** Suddenly, the fingers of a person's hand appeared and wrote on the plaster wall opposite the lamp stand of the royal palace. The king watched as the hand wrote.

Read Daniel 5: 1-31

There are some similarities to

- returning.
6. Obedience is better than sacrifice. The church of Philadelphia was a church which endured much persecution. However, they stayed true to the Lord's word and purpose. Obedience to His truth pleases the Lord.
  7. Being a spit ball. The church of Laodicea was Lukewarm. This church lived in an area where technology and human development was growing. The church became less dependent on the Lord and more on their self-reliance. Much of the church today is neither cold nor hot. They are just a juice spit ball ready to be released from the Lord's mouth.

**The No Action church characteristics:**

1. Lukewarm before the Lord

a staple of many in the church today.

2. Plagued by the same sins that the world faces. The sins are overflowing rapidly in the church and go mostly unaddressed. God is calling forth godly men and women to arise. Put away the idols which hold us down.
3. Busy church. The church is busy with their everyday lives which draws us away from the purpose of God and being alert for his return. The praying church needs to arise like never before. Watchmen for the Lord need to pop up once again.
4. Encouraging the less fortunate. Less fortunate believers around the world need our finances, encouragement, and leadership. Must have a love and passion for our fellow believers first and foremost. We need to band together to

1. What is a reoccurring statement from Jesus to the churches?
2. How would you describe the church of today?
3. How should Christians help each other around the world?
4. What sins plague the church today? How can we overcome them?