

# Before the THRONE

Inner Court Ministries, Inc. Autumn 2004

## The Season of Aaron's Rod<sup>1</sup>

By Mark D. Spencer



### God Ordains the Seasons!

**The Essence** - "Pray for the season of Aaron's Rod" There is a change of seasons coming upon the earth. We, the whole body of Christ, will soon be experiencing the full manifestation of the glory of God in unprecedented ways! The Spirit will confirm His voice through His people and we will experience at once supernatural growth, budding, blooming and fruit - every season visible in a moment! The harvesters will overtake the sowers as we gather this last great harvest of souls before the return of Jesus Christ! And with this fresh season will also come the judgment of the rebellious nations of the world.

There is something in the air! The season is changing. "For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds is come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land; The fig tree puts forth her green figs, and the vines with the tender grape give a good smell. Arise, my

love, my fair one, and come away." (Song of Solomon 2:11-13) The Church is entering her final moments of world history, and these hours will be her finest! Before us lies the greatest opportunity for world evangelism that the people of God have ever witnessed. The knowledge of the glory of God is covering the earth, and His fame is intensifying among the peoples. There is an appointed time for everything. And there is a time for every event under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1 NASB) The second act of the Event of the Ages is about to commence as Jesus returns for His Church with the cry, "Arise, My love, My fair one, and come away!"

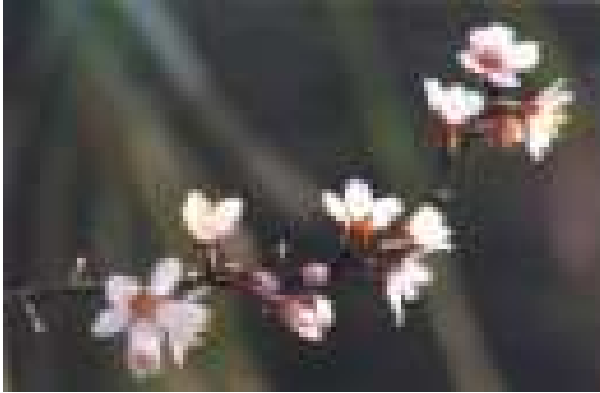
We may desire a different season in life or reminisce about better times, but ultimately the seasons of our lives and ministries, as the seasons of nature, are in God's hand! "And He changes the times and the seasons: He removes kings, and sets up kings: He gives wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding." (Daniel 2:21) We may labor long and hard, we may pursue the finest education and the latest technological advances, we may hire the best administrators and staff, but the ultimate determining factor is the ability to hear the voice of the Lord and subsequently move with His Spirit. "My times are in Your hand..."(Ps. 31:15)

### **The Spirit of Anti-Christ Attempts to Change the Seasons.**

All those who attempt to enter the Kingdom of God by any method or means other than by the Door Jesus Christ, have been identified and Jesus has identified them as thieves. "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that enters not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (John 10:10) How many people attempt to change, not necessarily the way, but the time? There is no difference, whether we endeavor to enter the Kingdom by a different door than Christ, or by a different time other than His, all those entering illegally, will be branded as thieves!

One of the characteristics of the spirit of anti-Christ will be the arrogance to believe that changing the times and season is within his power. "And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time." (Daniel 7:25).

As in all the tactics of the evil one, his most potent weapons against the saints are his deceptions - "has God said?" Once we lose our basis for life and faith - the Word of God - we become vulnerable to Satan's even more subtle work of wearing down the saints. This should never be, for Satan's weapons are merely natural or carnal in nature, while the saint has at his disposal — supernatural weapons. "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)..." (2 Corinthians 10:3-4).



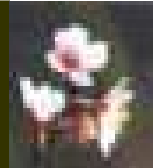
While the devil may attempt to cause us to "grow weary in well doing" (Galatians 6:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:13) thus tripping us up, hoping to keep us from our destiny, we hold weapons of faith and patience that when once used will manifest the promises of God. "For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of

God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith: but if any man draw back, My soul shall have no pleasure in him. But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition; but of them that believe to the saving of the soul." (Hebrews 10:36-39) It is in this hour that the believing Church must arise and be found in a living and vital faith, which will facilitate our vigilance and anticipation for the coming of the Lord Jesus! "...Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the earth?" (Luke 18:8)

An effective spiritual weapon carried by all Christians but most often overlooked is the supernatural character of Christ - the fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is ...longsuffering..." (Galatians 5:22-23) Without a doubt, we have the ability in Christ alone to outlast any assault of the wicked one for we have an infinite supply of Jesus' patient endurance! Now, while the devil may attempt to thwart our progress, if we persevere we are assured to experience the Lord's victory!

As this spirit of anti-Christ strives to thwart us (1 Thessalonians 2:18; Daniel 7:25), in attempting to divert the seasons ordained by God and thereby causing us to doubt God's Word, we are only in danger of experiencing incomplete victory, if we faint. "And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9). You see, there is an appointed time for the harvest! (Genesis 8:22). Our job is to remain faithful to Kingdom purposes, guard our hearts and faith, obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit and wait on (also read "serve") the Lord and His people. The season of victory will come as we take an aggressive posture in intercession. As we unite with the Holy Spirit's

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prayers we will be found awaiting the victory, and that, right on the front row!

### **"Say what?"**

When the word of the Christ comes to us, it can often catch us off guard. We may be so focused on a specific thought or purpose that when He speaks to us it may cut perpendicularly across all we have had in mind, although it will always bear the unmistakable earmarks of the peace and wisdom of Christ. (Philippians 4:7; Colossians 3:15; James 3:17-18) Psalm 102:13 is one of those verses that many in the Church have laid hold of to wage a good spiritual warfare for Israel and her Ending Days restoration; and rightly so. "You shall arise, and have mercy upon Zion: for the time to favour her, yes, the set time, is come." The appointed time has come for the ancient people of God! The time has come for Israel and the descendant of Abraham to see the Messiah's glory, to have the veil removed from their eyes that they might see "the One whom they have pierced." (Zechariah 12:10) But there is more in this verse. This is not just for the Jew, but it is also for Zion - the peoples of God!<sup>2</sup> Recently, while praying and meditating on this verse... Psalm 102:13, the Spirit of God spoke to my heart... He said, "pray for the season of Aaron's rod." It is time for a changing of seasons!<sup>3</sup>

### **Aaron's Rod was Just a Stick! <sup>4</sup>**

It was just a stick! Some refreshing of our memories may be helpful. Yes, maybe it was just a walking stick, but it was still only a stick — a stick to support yourself as you walk through the loose rock and sand of the desert. It was also a valuable aid to defend against animals or serpents. Most likely, in addition to these roles of support and defense, it became something of the family genealogical record as well, and hence, a symbol of authority. While tending the herds and flocks of the family, during those times of personal quiet and reflection, the opportunity may have been taken to use a knife and carve a narrative of the family's history — a prompter for the oral history every child must memorize. From top to bottom it may have been carved with important family names, key patriarchs of the family... Abraham, Isaac, Jacob. Levi. Critical events that impacted the family, maybe the sacrifice of Isaac or the ladder of Jacob's dream could be found inscribed upon such a stick. But still, it was just a stick!



## Who's Got the Real Goods?

In Numbers 16 we find the judgment of Korah and the murmuring of the people. Their offenses were jealousy and the arrogance to believe that they too should have the right to offer sacrifice before Yahweh! (Actually, this was the initial intent of the Lord — to have a "holy nation of priests" but the Jewish nation rejected the Lord's offer! (see Exodus 19:6 and 1 Peter 2:9.) How many Christians today are still rejecting the Lord's gracious offer? Even so, rebellion is never the proper way to appropriate spiritual principles and realize the fullness of Kingdom life in our families and churches.

## The Test

To meet this challenge to his authority, and to his brother, Aaron, and his sons whom God had appointed to the high priesthood, the Lord instructs Moses to gather every tribal leader's rod or staff. Once assembled, they were to place them in the Tabernacle. By the morning's light, God would have spoken convincingly about His sovereign choice for the priesthood.

"The next day Moses entered the Tent of the Testimony and saw that Aaron's staff, which represented the house of Levi, had not only

sprouted but had budded, blossomed and produced almonds." (Numbers 17:8 NIV) Think about it... every season in a moment! Every aspect of life had manifest in a single instant! This stick, this old dead stick had grown new branches! It had also sprouted fresh green leaves. Not only that, but it had, overnight, produced fragrant blossoms and amazingly, even ripe almonds! Yes, the Lord had spoken! All could see - touch - smell - and taste! Every season was present at once - from the dormancy of winter to the abundance of the autumn harvest!

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## What will this season of Aaron's Rod look like?

Some are already experiencing the beginnings of this new Season! Others are awakening to this season of Aaron's rod and as they do, they will find themselves overtaken by the blessings of God - "caught off guard" if you will, by the goodness of the Lord!

As surely as the Body of Christ is expecting "...nation to rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in many places of the earth" (Matthew 24), so we need to begin to understand that while the earth is in the midst of birthing a new Kingdom, so we should be expecting a supernatural moving of God's Spirit! "The time will come," says the LORD, "when the grain and grapes will grow faster than they can be harvested. Then the terraced vineyards on the hills of Israel will drip with sweet wine!" (Amos 9:13 NLT)

You will barely get the seed in the ground before your harvest will come! The reapers will be on the heels of the sowers, pressing them to increase their speed and encouraging them to sow faster and in greater measure! As the instant and miraculous results manifest before all to see, the sowers will pick up the pace and in a matter of days or weeks the precious harvest of the peoples of the earth will be complete!! The invitation to receive Christ may not even be given before the repentant seekers are at the altars. The services will not even begin before the lost are finding mercy at the Throne of Grace. Before you begin to pray for your lost co-workers, they will be searching you out asking if you will pray for them to become Christians, "what must we do to be saved?" (see Acts 2:37; 16:30, Zechariah 8:23). Signs and wonders will accompany and announce the presence of God in our homes, churches and city streets! Crowded Wal-Marts will become holy sites as the miraculous breaks out in the aisles! "Lift up your heads"..., the season of Aaron's rod is upon us!

The reapers will be on the heels of the sowers, pressing them to increase their speed and encouraging them to sow faster and in greater measure!

"And it shall come to pass, if you shall hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all His commandments which I command you this day, that the LORD thy God will set you on high above all nations of the earth: And all these blessings shall come on you, and overtake



you, if you shall hearken unto the voice of the LORD your God." (Deuteronomy 28:1-2) The Lord has spoken, and as the budding of Aaron's rod gave attestation to His chosen priesthood, so the Spirit of God's verification of the message of the Gospel will be seen in and on those believers daring enough to believe the Gospel and act upon it! The authority of Jesus will find a daring and bold breed of believers who, clothed at once with His humility, authority, and power, is advancing the Gospel at an unprecedented rate! "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In My name..." (Mark 16: 15-20).

### **This Season of Aaron's Rod and the Jewish People**

The initial miracle of the Aaron's Rod came about as an attestation of God's divinely appointed authority over His people! He had chosen and appointed Moses as their leader and Aaron and his sons to the priesthood. These appointments were challenged at the point of rebellion and civil war. (Numbers 16). God answered in dramatic fashion — He had spoken, and now He would confirm His appointed and anointed leaders. (Numbers 17:8). The bottom line — whether in Moses' day or in ours — is the issue of man's rebellion and defiance of God's own leadership, and the questioning of His wisdom concerning His rightful governing over our lives!



It is no different today! Israel's very right to exist among the family of nations is being challenged. The nation of Israel, as well as the Jewish people scattered among the nations are experiencing a worldwide surge in anti-Semitism. Palestinian suicide bombers, nuclear and biological weapons, Middle Eastern Islamic nations, a hostile and irrational United Nations, and violent anti-Semitic gangs throughout Europe have all sided to defiantly and arrogantly challenge the right of the Jewish people to their God-given land and destiny! This evil intent is the total and final annihilation of every Jew and with them the rule of God! This is Satan's concluding attempt at his last and grandest "final solution." It is his final assault on the integrity and purity of God's Word!

Even as the Lord defended and vindicated Moses and Aaron — a modern day Rod of Aaron is about to be realized among the nations of the earth as Yahweh stands up to confirm and defend His ancient people, not to mention His Son's Bride, the Church! Jesus the Rod of Aaron, "the rod out of Jesse" will settle the issue once and for all, Messiah will reign; establishing forever His righteous government!

"Jesus the Rod of Aaron - "the rod out of Jesse" will settle the issue once and for all."



"And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of His roots: And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD; And shall make Him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and He shall not judge after the sight of His eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of His ears: But with righteousness shall He judge the poor, and reprove with equity for the meek of the earth: and He shall smite the earth with the rod of His mouth, and with the breath of His lips shall He slay the wicked. And righteousness shall be the girdle of His loins, and faithfulness the girdle of His reins." (Isaiah 11:1-5; also see Jeremiah 3:17; Micah 4:1-3; Zechariah 8:22; 12:9; 14:16).

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### The Season of Aaron's Rod and the Nations

The manifestation of Aaron's rod initially was a judgment of Yahweh upon the rebellious leaders and usurpers who had intent to remove Moses and Aaron (the LORD's chosen and appointed leaders), and substitute themselves as the rulers over God's people Israel. (Numbers 16). Their arrogance and the subsequent assertion that they could stand in an office of God's appointment without His anointing brought quick and horrible judgment, not only on themselves but on their families as well.

While the manifestation of Aaron's rod will bring untold blessing to the body of Christ along with the attestation that we are the called and anointed of God, so it will bring speedy judgment to those who continue to deny and resist the Lordship of Jesus Christ! "The king proclaims the Lord's decree: "The LORD said to me, 'You are My son. Today I have become your Father.



Only ask, and I will give You the nations as Your inheritance, the ends of the earth as Your possession. You will break them with an iron rod and smash them like clay pots.'" Now then, you kings, act wisely! Be warned, you rulers of the earth! Serve the LORD with reverent fear, and rejoice with trembling. Submit to God's royal Son, or He will become angry, and you will be destroyed in the midst of your pursuits-- for His anger can flare up in an instant. But what joy for all who find protection in Him!" (Psalm 2:7-12 NLT)

As the Master has taught us to pray for our enemies so we begin to see why there is a vital and practical reason for it. When challenged, Moses and Aaron, in falling on their faces to both mark their humility and their intercession for the people, give us a clear example that we too, are called to pray for our enemies lest they fall under our Father's righteous judgment! "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven..." (Matthew 5:44:45)

### **New Season of Ending Day's Financial Harvest**



Some may scoff at this new season, but for those who have given of their all to the proclamation of the Gospel, there will also come a reaping in the financial realm of unprecedented magnitude! This final season of Aaron's rod will not be confined to the salvation of men from their sins alone, but will also demonstrate the Lord's ability to redeem and restore their fortunes as well. "I will be found by you," says the LORD. "I will end your captivity and restore your fortunes."

(Jeremiah 29:14) The season of the release of the Ending Day's financial outpouring is upon us! Simply put, it takes vast sums of money to

take the message of Jesus' deliverance and salvation to the ends of the earth. The only harvest in these Ending Days more miraculous than the financial harvest will be the harvest of souls in these closing moments of history!

## The Call to Enduring Prayer

"And when they cried unto the LORD, He put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: *and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season.*" (Joshua 24:7 emphasis the author's). When days turn into months and months into years, it can be easy to "grow weary in well doing." But we must persevere for the alternatives are unacceptable! While it rarely seems that the Spring and Autumn seasons are long enough, the seasons of Winter or Summer often tend to drag on and on. The cold or the heat gives the appearance that it will never end. There is a longing for the freshness of the Spring's warmth or the crisp of Autumn's cool. While spiritual seasons cannot be calculated on a calendar as can the seasons of nature, they are just as real and their change inevitable!

While the purposes and plans of God will come to completion, on time, and uninterrupted by the devises of devils or schemes of men, believing Christians do have an

important part to play in their fulfillment. "You should look forward to that Day and hurry it along — the

"...saints down through history have seen God's purposes for their generation and joined His labor of intercession..."



day when God will set the heavens on fire and the elements will melt away in the flames." (2 Peter 3:12 NLT) The prophet Daniel, being a man of prayer, saw the purpose of God for the return of the Jew to Jerusalem from their captivity in Babylon. Many today would offer a glib "praise the Lord" and go about their daily business. Not Daniel, he began to take hold of these promises and allow the Holy Spirit a channel in which to believe for the fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecies. Paul saw the importance of the Jewish people in the Ending Days and made intercession accordingly. (Romans 10 and 11). Other saints throughout history have seen God's purposes for their generation and joined His labor of intercession — traveling in spiritual birth until that thing was accomplished, or they had the witness that they had finished their part in its completion by prayer and faith. "For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep," (Acts 13:36 NASB) Never give up your stand of intercession until the Lord releases you from the assignment!

## Awaiting in Faith

As we are laboring in intercession and while we are awaiting in faith the manifestation of this "season of Aaron's rod", our responsibility as believers is to be constant regardless of the season we are currently experiencing. Remember, it is God's responsibility to change the season. However, if we have faithfully accomplished our part, then we will be ready to experience the entirety of the Lord's best as the season does change. "Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine." (2 Timothy 4:2 ) "But oh, my dear children! I feel as if I am going through labor pains for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives." (Galatians 4:19 NLT)

## Time Not Wasted

"...this is the moment for which  
the Lord has been working!"



Our time spent in believing prayer is never wasted time. "The time will come," says the LORD, "when the grain and grapes will grow faster than they can be harvested. Then the terraced vineyards on the hills of Israel will drip with sweet wine! (Amos 9:13 NL). It is an interesting fact of nature that the longer a grape remains upon the vine, the sweeter it becomes as its starches are being converted to sugars. This long stay upon the vine - even to the point of withering - produces the sweetest of the wines. From the famed Chateau Barrosa, in the Barrosa Valley wine district of South Australia they have this to say about their Late Pick Frontignac wines... "This wine realizes the huge potential of the white Frontignac grape, which is harvested after the vine leaves have dropped and the berries begin to shrivel, thus intensifying the flavors and sugar content. The result is a floral bouquet with a generous palate and an elegant firm finish."

"Be encouraged, the Lord has kept the best wine - the best fruit, until now!"

For many Christians it may seem the harvest is past - the leaves have fallen from their branches, the season is over and all they can see is a withered and wasted or fruitless life. Even the Harvester seems to have passed them over, and any fruit in their lives appears to have been rejected or over looked. Possibly it may be gathered for use by a few poor and beggarly gleaners, but mostly left for the fowl of the air or the beasts of the field. Even if this may seem the case for your life, it is not the Master's

plan! For those who have experienced a long dry season or a hard period where your labors have gone seemingly unnoticed, and maybe you are at the place where you feel you are about ready to expire, to wither away, or to faint in your well doing - you must understand this, this is the moment for which the Lord has been working! Surely it has been unperceivable to you, but He has been perfecting the character and nature of Jesus Christ within your life. "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 creation waits for the manifestation of the sons of God." (Romans 8:18-19). Your character is growing sweeter and sweeter. The fruits of the Spirit within your heart are becoming riper and riper. Those to whom the Lord is sending you - whether family or friends, coworkers or neighbors, peoples or nations, the fragrance and aroma of your life is becoming more and more attractive, all the while pointing to the goodness of the Lord. "O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusts in Him." (Psalm 34:8). Through this hard and difficult time there is a message of His life fermenting and being prepared within your life. A message, which He intends to serve to those in need of the Saviour! "Usually a host serves the best wine first," he said. "Then, when everyone is full and doesn't care, he brings out the less expensive wines. *But you have kept the best until now!*" (John 2:10). Be encouraged, the Lord has kept the best wine - the best fruit, until now! "...who knows whether you are come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" (Ester 4:14)

### **The Change is in the Wind**

"And Jesus also said to the people, 'When you see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway you say, There cometh a shower; and so it is. And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, There will be heat; and it cometh to pass. Ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth; but how is it that ye do not discern this time?' (Luke 12:54-56) It seems every season has its unique and peculiar winds. It might be said that the seasons change on the winds. And so as we anticipate the changing of the seasons and wait with increasing

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expectancy for the coming of the season of Aaron's rod, so we must look to the Wind! "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting." (Acts 2:2)

The Lord of the Harvest is also the Master of the Wind! "But the men marveled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey Him!" (Matthew 8:27) These winds of change and winds of the seasons obey the voice of Jesus. They bring the visitations of God's Spirit and pour forth the necessary rains of revival and restoration. From His abundant storehouse and provision the Lord meets the needs of the people. "When He speaks, there is thunder in the heavens. He causes the clouds to rise over the earth. He sends the lightning with the rain and releases the wind from His storehouses." (Jeremiah 10:13) As Jesus challenged His disciples so He is challenging us today to believe Him for the outpouring of this Ending Day season of Aaron's rod. Faith is demanded, but faith's demand will produce the desired result! "And He said unto them, Where is your faith? And they, being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for He commands even the winds and water, and they obey Him." (Luke 8:25)

### **"Speak to the Wind!"**

We are called to give utterance to His voice - the voice of faith - calling for the winds to change the season and bring this last great visitation of the Spirit of God to the earth. Our prophetic intercession and ministries will be empowered by the Lord of the Harvest as He mobilizes this Ending Days army of evangelists and apostolic ministry. "Then He said to me, "Speak to the winds and say: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, O breath, from the four winds! Breathe into these dead bodies so that they may live again.'" So I spoke as He commanded me, and the wind entered the bodies, and they began to breathe. They all came to life and stood up on their feet-- a great army of them." (Ezekiel 37:9-10) Over the gardens and fields that are white unto harvest there will blow the gentile winds of God's Spirit wooing and calling the lost to "taste and see that the Lord is good." (Psalm 34:8) So prophesy now with the Preacher, "Awake, O north wind; and come, thou south wind; blow upon My garden (*My Church*), that the spices thereof may flow out. Let My beloved (*the lost of the world*) come into His garden, and eat His pleasant fruits (*salvation's blessings*)." (Song of Solomon 4:16)

## Four Indicators

In this Ending Day's season of Aaron's rod, we may expect the Lord's supernatural manifestations quickly. Things will change for us overnight, suddenly, and often spectacularly!

What should we expect in this season of Aaron's rod? Watch for a victorious and triumphant Church; watch for increase and provision, favor and reproduction! But not only will we see these things in the Church but we will see these things in the most fundamental aspect of the Church and that is in the lives of those individual's who have dared to believe for this season in their personal lives as well. Expect then the same increase and provision, favor and reproduction as we are expecting in the Church. (Can you see why it is important for you to be in a Spirit-filled, faith and love filled Body of believers? What we are believing for in our churches, we may expect to manifest in our personal lives as well!)

Expect *increase* - the kingdom is a kingdom of increase - "the LORD shall increase you more and more, you and your children." (Psalm 115:14) "Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end," (Isaiah 9:7) Expect *provision* "God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." (2 Corinthians 9:8) Expect *favor* - "And let the beauty and delightfulness and favor of the Lord our God be upon us; confirm and establish the work of our hands - yes, the work of our hands, confirm and establish it." (Psalm 90:17 Amplified) Expect *reproduction* John 15:8 "Herein is My Father glorified, that you bear much fruit; so shall you be My disciples." All that we touch in Jesus' name will bear the mark of the Lord - "Every detail works to our advantage and to God's glory, more and more grace, more and more people, more and more praise." (2 Corinthians 4:15 The Message)

Expectant faith continues to stand, continues to believe, continues to persevere regardless of the season for it knows that the new season is coming and, any day at that! It's in the air! "Pray for the season of Aaron's rod." **BtT - The End**





## *Standing in the Gap*

*(Practical help for the ministry of intercession.)*

*by Mark D. Spencer*

Let's examine the critical importance of believing with the Spirit for the manifestation of the promises, prophecies and revelation seen throughout the Word. In essence we are responsible to pray through the prayers the Spirit of God has given to us...

Is it necessary for us to pray and believe for something the Lord has prophesied? Won't it automatically come to pass whether I play a part in its fulfillment or not?" This question is answered by the following selection from the book of

Daniel. "During the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, was studying the writings of the prophets. I learned from the word of the LORD, as recorded by Jeremiah the prophet, that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy

The Lord never needs man to fulfill His eternal purposes, but He has chosen to invite us into this process!

years. So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with Him in prayer and fasting. I wore rough sackcloth and sprinkled myself with ashes. I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed..." (Daniel 9:2-4)

### **Praying for the Season of Aaron's Rod... it is a thing to be believed for...**

The ultimate purposes and counsel of God will always come to full realization and be seen of all creation whether we have believed for it or not. The Lord never needs man to fulfill His eternal purposes, but He has chosen to invite us into this process! Because of His choice, He will always find someone to stand with Him in His prayer and purposes. (Isaiah 59:16-17; Ezekiel 22:30; Philippians 3:10; Hebrews 7:25 ) It is His sovereign choice to call men into this partnership with Himself and thus the Lord calls all

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believing saints into this labor of intercession, even as He continually labors in this ministry Himself. (Hebrews 7:25) Are we not called "labourers together with God"? (1 Corinthians 3:9) And as such labourers together with God, it is our responsibility to come into agreement with Him for the fulfillment of all His purposes.

As the prophet Daniel was called of the Spirit to believe for the prophecies of Jeremiah to come to fruition, so we too, must stand in believing faith for the promises of God to manifest in our lives as well as to release our faith for His Ending Days purposes! 1 Timothy 1:18-19 "This charge I commit unto you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on you, that you by them might war a good warfare; Holding faith, and a good conscience;" Pray on in believing faith and patience!

BtT — The End



## Life in the Christ

(Realizing the Manifest Blessings of Jesus in the Now!)

by Mark D. Spencer

"For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." (Colossians 2:9)  
Faith always operates in the now! For those who will believe, Jesus has opened the door to abundant life here in the now! No need to wait upon a certain this or certain that - He *is* the season of Aaron's rod, even as He *is* the fulfillment of the Jubilee Year of God. (Luke 4:18) Having been the complete and final sacrifice for us before God, we now have access and the right to appropriate all

"Jesus *is* the season of Aaron's rod!"

the many blessings of the Father's Kingdom! While there are varying seasons in our lives and even specific times of the visitation of God's Spirit, (Philippians 4:11-13; Luke 19:44) we can, by the faith released in us by His Word, obtain all that is needed and even desired before that season or visitation is realized in a general way by others. (Mark 11:24; John 15:7.) He that has ears to hear let him hear! **BtT - The End**

## Sowing Prayer

By Dawn Koltz

The Lord said to me that we are about to see the fruit of our prayer. As I thought of all the prayers that have been prayed that are about to be answered, I was excited and encouraged. The Lord also reminded me that the reapers *will* overtake the sowers. Prayer is the sowing and the answer to the prayer is the reaping. The time is coming quickly when the answers to prayer will come so fast that they will overtake the praying. For those who have prayed and not yet seen answers - get ready!!

What an encouraging and exhilarating thing! Knowing that the answer will come before we can pray, should encourage us to look for the things we need to be praying for now! It means that EVERYTHING is fair game for prayer. Every moment of the day can be filled with prayer, for there is a rising expectancy of quick answers to our prayer — so quick that it may be hard to keep ahead of the answers! For those who have not made prayer a priority, this is the hour for prayer! **BtT - The End**

## In Conclusion

Faith stretches out doesn't it? We may have prayed and prayed for something, but at some point, faith calls us to reach out and begin believing beyond the present circumstances of our lives! We speak not of foolish or presumptive prayers, but prayers that yesterday may have seemed impossible today are grasped and obtainable in Him. Today's prayers will then be the realities of Tomorrow!

Isaiah 65: 24 "I will answer them before they even call to Me. While they are still talking to me about their needs, I will go ahead and answer their prayers!"

**BtT - The End**

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<sup>1</sup> This prophetic word came to Mark in the Spring of 2003 while he was praying for Israel.

<sup>2</sup> Hebrews 12:22-24 "But ye are come unto mount Zion, and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect, And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaks better things than that of Abel."

<sup>3</sup> When the "word of the Lord" comes, it must of course, be judged primarily by the Word of God. But we must also recognize that when such a word does come that it is so real and so personal to the one hearing it, that it can easily be mistaken for a personal word rather than a word that is to be given to the larger body of Christ. And so this too, must be discerned and ultimately recognized by the larger Body of Christ as such – a word for the entire body of Christ.

<sup>4</sup> "Manners and Customs of the Bible", Freeman. Number 180, page 99 1972 Logos Int'l, Plainfield, NJ also see "Manners and Customs of the Bible Lands", Wight. 1953 pg 149,150 Moody Press, Chicago.

