

Sermon . A.M.

1/3/88

In the Book called "Exodus"  
Chapter 12 Verse 2 God

Said to Moses & Aaron,  
"This Month shall be unto  
you the beginning of  
months, It shall be the  
first month of the year  
to you"

God was saying to their people,  
"There is to be a "New Beginning"  
A Renewal, An Answer  
to prayer"

God's people had been enslaved  
for over 400 years — They had  
prayed for God to intervene

They had asked for their  
own land, a place where  
they could worship God  
or they felt led to do so —

And God said: "So be it"

Now Vividly we recall "a New  
Beginning" An Answer to  
prayer — For you see,  
Just 3 short years ago,  
The first Sunday in January  
1985 there was a "New  
Beginning" An Answer to  
prayer —

On that day, God brought together  
26 precious souls who had  
prayed for a place to worship  
in their immediate area, And  
who had prayed for someone  
to minister to them —

What an experience / what a joy  
(Were you there that day  
Jan. 6, 1985) would you  
stand up please —

Happy Anniversary to you Dear  
People — "Hasn't God been  
Good"

If you've been saved since then  
Please stand up — Hasn't God been Good

We sang a chorus in almost every service "In God Be the Glory"  
 And folks are long as God received the glory, a sweet spirit prevailed —

But when self desired the glory, problems arise (they always do.)

And these problems prevailed until God intervened — Oh listen to me "We shoot ourselves in the foot when we try to take something that belongs to God" Amen

"Would you stand, and if you miss it with all your heart, join me or we sing that chorus "In God be the glory"

"Amen"

Be seated please

Dear people God has done what He was asked to do / He will continue to do for us, what we can't do for ourselves — "But He must get the glory"

Don't try to give it to me / Don't  
try to keep it yourself / It's  
God's, Let's give it to Him.

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When did it all begin, when was  
the foundation laid for North  
Creek Baptist Church?

Before the Beginning?

Jim convinced it was included  
in God's plan even before time  
began —

And Jim convinced that "Hell  
itself ~~was~~ not prevail against  
it, unless you and I allow  
it. Amen

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Listen folks "We are on Holy Ground"  
Do you know why?

"Because the Spirit of God  
makes Himself known in  
this place" Amen

"Because the Lamb is Exalted in this  
place —"

3/ "Because His precious Word is preached in this place"

And because there are those who worship here, who are sincere about serving God faithfully and obediently

There are those who worship here, who support God's work financially and prayerfully — And they do it because they love Him

Now we've talked about the past,

① But what about the future?

② Where do we go from here?

③ What does God have in store for North Creek Baptist Church?

The answer is very simple:

① "We'll go just as far as we'll allow God to lead us"

② "We'll go just as far as we'll be willing to follow God's leadership"

well how do we do it?

Please turn to John Chapter 20  
Verses ~~20~~ 21 & 22

As Jesus was about to return  
to Heaven, just prior to  
His change to Peter,

Jesus said: "As my Father hath  
sent me, even so I send you"  
And when He had said this,  
He Breathed on them, and  
saith to them "Receive ye  
the Holy Spirit or Holy Ghost"

The word "Breathed" as used here  
implies "An Act of Germination"  
"A Seed planted" "a change"

Jesus was saying to His Devoted  
followers "You have a job to do!"  
"You'll need help" / "You'll  
need wisdom & power"

"When the Holy Spirit Comes, Receive  
Him joyfully —"

41  
These people did not receive the Holy Spirit then, they simply received Assurance that He would Come / And He did —

Jesus was saying: "I send you, And you shall have the Holy Spirit go along with you"

Oh Dear hearts what Jesus said to these followers, He says to you & me — "Receive ye the Holy

① Ghost, let Him work in and through you."

"Receive ye the Holy Ghost", let Him lead you always in all ways"

③ "Receive ye the Holy Ghost", let Him come over you, even on my breath, and let Him empower you with wisdom, courage, and boldness"

If we are to do the work God intended we do, we must "Receive the Holy Ghost"

You see there is Nothing mystical  
About the Holy Ghost, "He is  
evidence that God is with us"

There is nothing wrong with being  
Spirit Filled & Spirit Led, "It's  
all included in God's plan  
for His people —"

You could say that when the Communion  
Was Given, "Receive ye the Holy  
Ghost" that Jesus was saying  
"Be Spirit Filled/Be Spirit Led"

People are heard to say: "Oh but  
that's Charismatic" No That's  
Scriptural — It's From God's word  
And if the spiritual gifts  
are used or used imprudently,  
people can call you what  
they may, It won't make  
God mad, And it ought  
not make us mad — #

No, the job won't be done unless we let  
the Holy Spirit loose —

9 Have you received the Holy Spirit ~~power~~  
you believed? <sup>2</sup>

{ Have you allowed Him to come  
over you, **Breathe New life**  
**into you**, Empower you —

Oh to be sure, when you were saved  
you received the Gift of the  
Holy Spirit, but many people  
**have not unwrapped the Gift.**

Some old Pentecost / Some old Agony /  
Some old concerns — Still  
without power, or boldness / Some  
old unproductive life —

Jesus said's "Just Him Loose"  
"Let Him work than you"

And folks, that's how this work will  
grow / that's how Disciples  
will be made / that's how  
souls ~~will be~~ introduced to Jesus

Some of you may say Acts 1:8  
was only for that day. Don't you  
believe it?

If that were true you could tear  
John Chapter 16 out of the Bible

Then Jesus said: "It is of  
the utmost importance that I  
go away / ~~then~~ Jesus said: "I  
will not leave you without help"

5<sup>th</sup> John 16:13 Jesus said: "The Holy  
Spirit will teach you the truth."  
"He will show you things  
to come", He will show  
you your assignment in  
God's plan"

Oh Dear people "Jesus The Holy Spirit  
loose in your life" Let Him do  
the work God demands every  
Believer to do —

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I look back over the past 3 years  
and note that the attitudes of  
some have changed toward the  
Church — That which they asked for

6/ And I wonder, "How could it be"

Then God reminded me of a Verse of Scripture in 1 John 2:19. Here John writes of the attitudes that will prevail in the days prior to our Lord's return - Listen, and pray that you don't fall in this

Category -

"They have left our company it's true, but really they never belonged to it, if that had really belonged to us they would have stayed" (That's what the Bible said)

"Left" means "Backslidden" // It means if they were ever sincere, they are no longer sincere. It means "By their fruits ye shall know them"

May I ask "Where do you stand today"? Are you as excited today as you've been before?

The God who put it together is still Owner of the team, and you still on the Active Roster

Today Our Invitation Calls for "Spiritual Inventory" How is it between you & God? Remember Now, God already knows the Answer.

Believers, are you in a position where God will use you? Have you received Holy Spirit power? Are you using it?

No, let me rephrase that. If you've received Holy Spirit power, you WILL use it.

Do you need to get things in order between you & God?

Let's would you be saved.

Unorthodox, would you be led of God to put your shoulder to the wheel here?

I believe you know where we stand on God's word here.

Let Him lead.