

Chris Reed: Why God Wants to Change Our Thinking

Read Time: 4 Minutes 32 Seconds

"Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies all around, that the king said to Nathan the prophet, 'See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.' Then Nathan said to the king, 'Go, do all that is in your heart, for the Lord is with you.' But it happened that night that the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying, 'Go and tell My servant David, Thus says the Lord: Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?"... Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house.'" (2 Sam. 7:1-7, 11)

This chapter begins with David wanting to build God a house, but God ends with telling David, "I will make you a house." This happened because David partnered with the purposes of heaven and wanted what God wanted. Like David, sometimes we all need to abandon our plans and agendas, reexamine what we are doing for the Lord and receive God's instructions through His prophets.

A Collection of Living Stones

The house God is building today is a temple not made with human hands, but a collection of living stones. Yet today, we see the church collectively drowning in a flood of human

ideas, programs and new initiatives to help build God's house. Not to diminish anything that God has done elsewhere or in the past, but over the years, many well-meaning people have borrowed 'bricks' from Toronto, Brownsville, the Voice of Healing, the Latter Rain, the Pentecostal movement and various other movements trying to build God a house. But what worked in one place does not work everywhere, and what God did in the past may not be the new thing God is doing today.

Moves of God cannot be manufactured. They come by prophetic revelation, by catching a vision for what God is doing and by partnering with the purposes of heaven.

When John the Baptist preached repentance and the kingdom of God, he addressed a religious people set in their ways. They had perverted what God had done through previous generations by adding toys, trinkets, rules, regulations and man-made ideas. John commanded them to repent and change how they saw the kingdom of heaven. God shook everything that could be shaken, so His kingdom would remain pure. God does this in every generation.

We can no more borrow bricks from other movements than David could fight Goliath with Saul's armor. That may have worked for Saul, but Saul wasn't facing Goliath. Before we initiate anything, we must evaluate whether it is needed or simply dead weight.

Likewise, when we assemble bricks to build God's house, we must evaluate whether we are building God a habitation or someone else's graven image of the past. Sure, we can glean from and learn from others, but we cannot take others' ideas and expect God to bless us as He did them.

Big box home improvement stores have many prefabricated items to build your house, but that doesn't work for God's house. (It was forbidden for a hammer or chisel to be used, and were not even heard, when building God's house; see 1 Kings

6:7.) Instead, we must want the spiritual change, reformation and transformation God is doing in each of us, as His predestined living stones to build His house.

The political and economic shaking we see happening in the earth right now is merely a reflection of the shaking that's happening in God's church. Judgment begins at the house of God. So, whatever we see happening in the world, began in the church. God is shaking our church systems and will continue to shake them until all that remains is the pure kingdom of God. We are now entering a third great reformation in which God is stripping away everything He never told us to do.

What if God Wants to Build Us Something?

Second Samuel 7 represents an incredible dialogue between God, David and Nathan. David wanted to build God a house. God wanted to build David's house and wanted His house built in His timing and order, not David's. David's blueprint, strategy and business plan was not the Lord's.

It's easy to build God's house with good intentions, but our good intentions just become dead, formal religion when added to God's simple plan. Like Martha, we can become so encumbered with serving, troubles and anxieties that we miss God's opportunity to do so much more, simply by sitting at His feet.

God wants to change our thinking. Instead of us trying to build God something, what if God wants to build us something? Instead of giving God our contrived systems, laying them at the altar and saying, "Bless this mess," what if God wants to change our systems? Instead of asking God to "bless this mess," ask, "Lord, what are Your blueprints; what are You building?"

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Chris Reed first felt called to minister at the age of 12. He started accepting invitations to minister on a regular basis at the age of 14, and after turning 19, he began serving as an assistant pastor. After turning 25, he was elected senior pastor of The Revival Center in Peru, Indiana, where everyone present witnessed significant advancement in the kingdom of God. In July 2021, Chris, his wife Missy, and their children relocated to Fort Mill, South Carolina, where Chris now serves as Lead Pastor of MorningStar Church. Chris is also actively training to become President of MorningStar Ministries as Rick Joyner's successor. Chris has a mandate to train, equip and help believers step into their ministries and find their purpose and role in changing the world.