

## **WHAT IS AN APOSTLE AND HOW DO APOSTLES RELATE TO OTHERS?**

**TEXT: PS. 37:3-5**

*3Trust in the LORD, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed.*

*4Delight thyself also in the LORD: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.*

*5Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. I AM COMING TO UNDERSTAND MORE AND MORE ABOUT APOSTLESHIP.
  - 1. What it is.
  - 2. How it relates to:
    - a) Prophets, pastors, evangelists, teachers
    - b) Laymen
    - c) Worldlings
  
- B. GOD IS RE-SEEDING/PLANTING THIS GIFT IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY CHURCH.
  - THIS WILL BE THE CENTURY OF APOSTOLIC GOVERNMENT IN THE CHURCH!

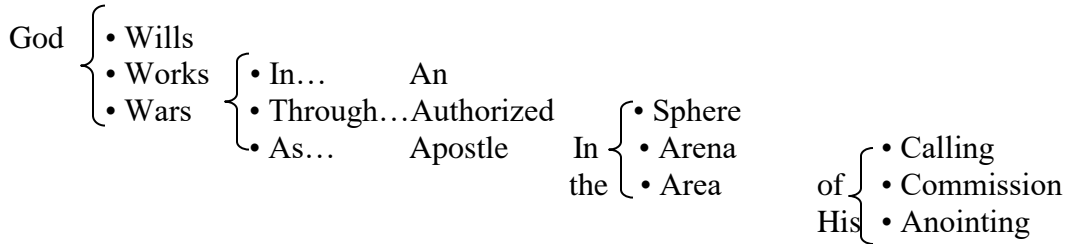
# I. WHAT IS AN APOSTLE?

## A. APOSTLE—SENT ONE (APOSTOLOS)

1. APO—MIN—From as an • Extension of... • Hand (YAD)...  
• Authority
2. STELLŌ—SHELIACH • Authorized • Ambassador  
• Representative
  - MESHIACH—Incarnation of God's
  - APOSTOLOS—authority on mission.

} Messiah  
} Apostle

3. PEMPO—*I send* vs. APOSTELLO—*I extend*



## B. CONCLUSION

1. There are many apostles (rising apostles) in this room.
2. I am an education apostle/*horizontal apostle*/bridge-builder.
  - a) 1964—Conception
  - b) 1975—Confirmation
  - c) 1983—Birth...2001
3. An apostle is one who is AN INCARNATION OF GOD'S AUTHORITY ON MISSION!
4. There are many different kinds of Apostles.
5. No apostle is just like any other.
6. Each one is a unique, *hand-made* extension of *divine authority on mission*.

## II. HOW AN APOSTLE RELATES TO OTHERS

- APOSTLES...PROPHETS (PROPHET)
- PASTORS, EVANGELISTS, TEACHERS (PRIESTLY)
- BODY—DEACONS, BRETHREN (SAINTS)
- WORLDLINGS—BUSINESS, BENEFACTORS, ENEMIES

### A. THREE SPECIAL RELATIONSHIPS I CHERISH.

1. Those who *LOOK* \_\_\_\_\_ me: Apostolic peers  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a) H. Miles; K. Sumrall; J. Kelly; P. Wagner
  - b) *Synoptic* brethren—*See together*—Purpose/Goals
    - Coincide
    - Correlate
  - c) Work alongside—Neither over/under
2. Those who *LOOK* \_\_\_\_\_ me: Mentor—Teacher/Coach  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a) Paul said *you have many teachers...one father.*
  - b) I cherish this relationship. I want to serve it freely.
  - c) It is not a *Son* relationship.
3. Those who *LOOK* \_\_\_\_\_ me: *Sons and Daughters*  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - a) I want to clarify this today because these are the people on whom I want to place my primary ministry focus!
  - b) Some in the room have already clearly identified themselves as among my *Sons and Daughters.*
  - c) There are those who carry my DNA and extend me.

4. Those who *LOOK* \_\_\_\_\_ me (out for).
  - My mentors, advisors
    - Personal—*Speak into my life, family*
    - Professional—*Speak into my work, ministry*

**B. I WANT TO CLEARLY IDENTIFY MY *SONS AND DAUGHTERS*.**

1. I want to be an Elijah...to Elishas.
2. I want to be a Moses...to Joshuas.
3. I want to be a David...to Solomons.
4. I cannot serve everyone like this.
5. I don't want to *spill seed*.
6. Therefore, I select *sons* carefully.

**III. MY RESPONSIBILITY TO MY *SONS AND DAUGHTERS*.**

**A. I SEE IT AS THREE-FOLD:**

1.	2.	3.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize</li> <li>• Raise Up</li> <li>• Release</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relationship</li> <li>• Resourcing</li> <li>• Recommending</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgment</li> <li>• Endorsement</li> <li>• Establishment</li> </ul>

Elisha *washed the hands* of Elijah and Elijah put his mantle on Elisha!

Moses raised up Joshua...  
Joshua kept Moses' dream from dying in the wilderness!

B. HOW AM I ATTEMPTING TO FULFILL THIS?

1. I have changed my \_\_\_\_\_. (*OFFICE*)
  - a) Less—Day-to-day administration  
More—*Long-view leadership...Mentoring of leaders*
  - b) Less—Travel/Live teaching  
More—Writing/Recording/Pastoring Sons/Daughters
  
2. I have changed my \_\_\_\_\_. (*HOME*)
  - Bigger house
    - Workout room
    - Studio—Audio/Video
  
3. I have established *Ron Cottle Ministries Foundation (MINISTRY)*
  - a) I hope to move thousands of dollars through that foundation into worthy ministries and projects and needs of *Sons and Daughters*.
  - b) RCM Foundation
    - Books
    - Tapes
    - Newsletters
    - Retreats

## CONCLUSION:

I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN TWO GREAT WORDS.

### 1. GRACE

- Initial entrance upon relationship with God
- But once I am a servant of God I must earn my place by my commitment.
  - PS. 37:4—God gives...desires...

### 2. RECIPROCITY

- Commitment to the relationship...

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• I will continue to respond to relationships as they develop...<i>Cornelius Connection</i></li><li>• Unlike in the natural, in the spiritual <i>SONS CHOOSE FATHERS</i> and <i>FATHERS ACCEPT SONS</i>.</li></ul> |
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## NOTE:

I BELIEVE THAT BIBLICAL FATHERS/SPIRITUAL FATHERS ARE *PATRIARCHS*.

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|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PATRI—PATER—AB</li><li>• ARCHOS—EPH.6—<i>POWER</i></li></ul> | } NO DADDIES IN SCRIPTURE |
|                                                                                                      | } ONLY PATRIARCHS!        |