

## What Are We Anchored To? *By Rex Burgher*

This past year Lois and I have witnessed an interesting phenomena happening. We have witnessed churches/ministries, individuals and secular businesses that are torn by conflict from within as well as being in unprecedented times of growth and prosperity. But there is one thread that we see continually running its course in each of these cases. Decisions are being made as to what are the important foundational building blocks that these ministries are anchored to. Whether you are secured to an anchor of integrity and holiness (doing what is right) or anchored to financial and personal gain (selfish ambition), these anchors will either give you stability or hinder you in the coming storms that are coming against individuals, businesses and the corporate church.

Right now it is not whether your ministry, personal life, or business is on the upswing or on the downswing. The issue is the struggle to maintain integrity in the midst of transition. I believe we are coming to the most crucial time the church has experienced in a long time. May each of us allow ourselves to be examined by the Holy Spirit that our motives may be blameless and pure and anchored to Kingdom principles.

### We are in a race to the finish!

Individuals are being asked the same thing as the corporate body is being asked in these days. What are you anchored to in these last days? For individuals it is fitting that as Paul states in Hebrews 12:1 *"Therefore since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." We could possibly be the last runner in the race that will bring home or usher in the return of our King.*

For the corporate body we must ask what is it that we are anchored firmly to. In the past couple of years we have seen in the world the downfall of many corporate giants. From Enron to WorldCom the integrity of those in leadership has led to the downfall of once powerful businesses.

In the church the scandal within the Catholic Church has led its church leadership, which at one time was never questioned by others, to now being questioned daily as to its role in the cover up of Priest who had been accused of sexual sins. We see the Episcopal Church being split over the issue of homosexual behavior being sanctioned within the leadership as to being acceptable behavior within the church walls.

Individually people like Senate Majority leader Trent Lott or medial personality Martha Stewart and singer Michael Jackson are being questioned concerning what they consider unjustifiable accusations over their affairs. Continual compromising on their parts has pushed the line of acceptable behavior to a point where society has let them know that they have stepped firmly over the line. In the case of Trent Lott when he did admit to wrong doing it was too late for restoration.

In all these cases the failure of leadership and individuals to listen to the danger signs that pointed to unacceptable behavioral patters and make a stand for righteous behavior has become their downfall. In the Episcopal Church the question has sparked the split of a once powerful church denomination. Split over whether those who favor homosexual lifestyles have become apostate meaning, that they have lost their faith and drifted away and are no longer followers of the Christ and those who follow Christ. Pretty heavy charges, but one in which I believe the church needs to take note and see that straddling the fence will not be so easy anymore. The questionable influence of indulgences within the leadership has reached a level that has become unacceptable in the face of God.

## The handwriting is on the wall!

We need to be aware and alert for it is a myth to think that because we still carry an anointing while we minister or that our business is a success that it is an approval from God that our personal house is in order. The same holds true if circumstances show our church/ministry and business is on the downswing, it doesn't mean we are doing anything wrong in God's eyes. The hand of God is most definitely writing on the wall for the entire world to see. This is just the tip of the iceberg that is drifting toward the church in these last days.

Interesting to see that in the secular business realm as in the church the question is on hypocrisy. That which has been hidden will be brought out into the light, what has been whispered in secret will be shouted from the rooftops. Luke 12:1-3 says it this way, *Jesus began to speak first to his disciples, saying: "Be on your guard against the yeast of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy. <sup>2</sup>There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. <sup>3</sup>What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.*

I believe that what the prophets are saying is true, that this next wave of God will be a wave of unparalleled Holiness and Integrity. We then need to prepare ourselves for the race that is being laid out before us. God does nothing without revealing it to His prophets first, Amos 3:7, Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets.

This is a season of making sure of what you are anchored to. There is before the church two paths in which to choose from. Robert Frost said it so well in his poem, The Road not taken, "Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."

Jeremiah 6:15-17 *Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct? No, they have no shame at all; they do not even know how to blush. So they will fall among the fallen; they will be brought down when I punish them," says the LORD . <sup>16</sup> This is what the LORD says: "Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls. But you said, 'We will not walk in it.' <sup>17</sup> I appointed watchmen over you and said, 'Listen to the sound of the trumpet!' But you said, 'We will not listen.'*

For two years now we have been given a window of opportunity to make straight the path, Proverbs 3:6, in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.

## The baton has been passed to us!

It has been a time of getting in spiritual shape for the last leg of the race that is before the church. The anchor position has been given to us to run and run it we will. The Daniel's are being raised up in the business world. The Elijah's are coming to the forefront. In these last days seek and you will find, ask and it will be given to you. The secrets of the kingdom are about to be revealed to the pure of heart. We have seen the death of some of the kingdom's most prominent leaders this past year, historically this has always paved the way for a changing of the guard. It has been ten years since the last move of God and since we have had 5 moves in the past that have been ten years apart it is not hard to understand that we are on the verge of another move of God.

The prophets are saying that the time is at hand and all signs point to the fact that something new is about to happen. During the 90's we saw the return of two important end time events come to pass. The five-fold position of Apostle came back into prominence as well as the wave of revival called the "Father's Blessing" out of Toronto. Books such as "Experiencing The Father's Embrace" by Jack Frost, and the series by

John Eldridge, "Journey of Desire" are books that I believe portray the heart of God for these last days.

We saw the days of *Promise Keepers*, *Bill Bright's 40 days of fasting and prayer*, *Mike Bickle and the 24 hour 7 days a week house of praise and worship* come into prominence. The Call with Lou Engle is bringing hundreds of thousands of youth into the forefront. These are not isolated occurrences and my voice to the church is Wake UP the time is NOW!

Perseverance is the key to running the anchor position of this race. We have been given time to get into positional shape by being over-comers of past actions that have led to our being less than what we are destined to become.

This is the most exciting time to be alive; the kingdom of God is soon to become manifest in front of our very eyes. The ministry of Jesus, the pure spotless bride of Christ is readying itself for the wedding. The cloud of witnesses are alongside of us cheering us onward. We have been born for a time such as this!

My prayer is simple, Father look into my heart and bring within me a desire to be holy unto you. That integrity will be a part of every decision that I make, that I will not be ruled by a spirit of fleshly desires but by your Holy Spirit. Correct my path if it is not of you that I may find myself walking firmly on your path of Holiness and Integrity in these last days.

The End