

PREFACE

“Thank God for Esther Ng’s comprehensive response to pastor’s preaching. I am thankful to God that I could hear pastor’s message from Acts. The way he profiled Paul that though the Holy Spirit was upon a lot of people, Paul’s calling was distinctive. For the first part of the message, he showed me how the unction of the Holy Spirit was empowering those people – be it Stephen, Peter, or Philip, whoever heard them were special and privileged. He did not just stop there but asked a question that made me really think – do you think you are special and privileged to be here? He left it as a rhetorical question. He said some in our midst would also be sent to bring it to others. These people who hear us expound the doctrines pastor has given us would also be special and privileged. To have the privilege to hear this Gospel is already a very blessed thing – you could be called and given the opportunity to convey this Gospel to others. There is a lot to be grateful for especially when considering the times we are living in. As pastor spoke on the ‘State Of The Union Address’ and the battles we are fighting, I want to affirm I am really special and privileged to hear these things. Pray that I will not say this glibly but will understand doctrinally why I am special and privileged. Pastor also showed us how the Gospel has spread to all the earth as he quoted Psalm 19. It is encouraging how in the time of Acts, God scattered the disciples all over the world to bring this message on who Yeshua Christ is. It is significant when pastor spoke about the rejection of the Jews and linked this to the special calling and ministry of Paul the apostle. He wasn’t meant to be part of the 12 but had a distinct ministry and calling. Luke, with the mind of the Holy Spirit, recorded this significantly for us so we can see the uniqueness of Paul’s calling. When pastor portrayed Paul the apostle for us, he showed us a few things about this man that made him so special – firstly his special calling and revelation. Three times the book of Acts recorded Paul’s special conversion experience – Paul’s actual conversion experience (Acts 9), when he narrated to the Jews (Acts 22), and testified before Agrippa (Acts 26). Paul the Apostle did not see Christ face to face as the other 12 apostles, but to be an apostle you have to witness Christ face to face and people might doubt if you don’t – so Christ appeared to Paul on the road to Damascus. Firstly, Christ was revealed in him at his conversion (Galatians 1:16). Secondly, there is the direct revelation of Christ to Paul and he was appointed to preach to the Gentiles. How Paul narrated this experience in Galatians is very clear: he did not learn the Gospel from men but directly from Yeshua Christ. In such a short time, the apostles could not have been able to teach him the Gospel in such clarity and depth – especially as seen in the way he explained Justification by Faith. Pastor showed us the problem of the times: that the Jews thought the perfect performance and keeping of the law would save them. But Paul said it is Justification by Faith. The problem then was the ceremonial and judicial laws and the keeping of them, especially signified by circumcision. In our times, the professing Christians still have problem understanding this doctrine. They want to phase out the law completely – the moral law specifically thinking that this is the period of grace. But pastor has shown us that the moral law is to show us our sins and that we cannot keep it. Most importantly, it is to bring us to Christ that we may be justified by Him. Thank God for the man of God who showed us these principles. It takes special anointing to explain it in a time when everyone else is getting it wrong. Some may get slivers of it but pastor brings it out in such wholesomeness and clarity and showing it from the whole range of Scriptures – all the historical examples till our times so we can see the difference between then and now. I see the parallelism between Paul explaining this doctrine to the Jews and pastor explaining it to us now. I am very blessed to hear these things. Pastor explains it in such clarity – both the objective and subjective aspects, it is so comprehensive and deep. If we just consider the message on Yeshua Christ and The Identity Crisis Part 1-4, there is already a lot to take in. Our blessedness is very great. I don’t think I fully appreciate what has been given to me. As Habakkuk Singh said, I did not have to fight with all the wrong teachings and strongholds from the false prophets – I just got it on a silver platter. Greater will be my sin if I do not receive this wholeheartedly. It was striking when pastor showed us the contention between the other apostles, Barnabas and Paul. It is one thing the unbelieving Jews did not accept Paul – because if they did not accept Christ, they would not accept His ministers anyway, be it James or Peter or Paul. But it is those who believed, who were with Christ, who couldn’t accept Paul too – as they couldn’t recognize the extent of the light and anointing given to him. I am speaking of especially Barnabas. He was with Paul on a number of mission trips and saw him preach but he still went away. It is significant these examples were cited. You can come so close and not recognize the calling of the man of God. It is scary pastor showed us how Barnabas became a heretic. Thankfully James and Peter acknowledged the special calling of Paul at the end. But the example of Barnabas is scary. On the contrast, there was Luke. He was so quiet; Paul might have even been annoyed as to why Luke was there all the time. But the Holy Spirit attested to Luke who Paul was. That’s why Luke followed Paul, not Barnabas. Initially Luke was in the last few names Paul mentioned in his earlier epistles but by II Timothy, Paul said, ‘Only Luke is with me.’ Luke followed the special anointed man of God till the end. Speaking about this context of the conference especially, pastor showed us the messages concerning ‘The Identity Crisis And Yeshua Christ’ and the messages have been getting deeper, more experimental and pastoral. What came across to me is that the responsibility is very great. As I was thinking about it, I felt the weight of it – there is only one response for us, and that is for us to be upright to accept it! If you say no, you are a really dishonest person. The same thing applies here to the ministers of God – it is the way he preaches.

Pastor said Paul can convince people of the Gospel. Agrippa and Festus were convinced (whether they repented and changed is another thing) and the fact is that the Gentiles listened and were interested in the preaching but it was his own people, the Jews, who rejected him. People outside (our church) are responding to the BRCs but for us who have been with pastor for 30 years, nothing about us seems to have changed. People in Peru and other countries are pleading, 'Give us more BRC... bless your ministry etc.' And Malachi sealed the deal in that sense. Christ is coming soon and will smite the earth with a curse. Those people who don't respond in uprightness and honesty will be smitten with the curse. Instead of following the man of God, I follow my ungodly lusts and what is right in my own eyes. If you think this man is credible, you will listen to his message. But if you don't think he's credible, you won't believe his message or live it out in your life. These Jews heard Paul and as much as they rejected Christ, they rejected Paul. I can hear pastor all my life but choose not to respond to it. Pastor brought out the eschatological aspect of Malachi – before the second coming of Christ, there will be the Elijah that will come to turn the hearts of the fathers back to the children. But the scary thing is, whether I will align myself with him. It is one thing to say I believe or I align with him but my life shows I don't. It is disturbing to be able to say so much but not change my life. Notwithstanding, I affirm that the anointing upon the man of God is great. I pray that the Holy Spirit will attest to my heart who pastor is. The proofs are there – it is for us to take heed." Response of Esther Yeoh (Singapore) to pastor's discourse on "Identity Of Those Anointed With The Holy Spirit" from the book of Acts, Cameron Highlands, Pahang, Malaysia; 22 December 2016 AD