

Releasing the King's Decree

As a ministry, we have recently come through a time of sifting. In every way possible, God has stripped us down to the bare minimum. A Word of the Lord, we received through Chuck Pierce, indicated that the time of sifting was over at the end of June, 2008. I reminded those who remain with us, "You are like Gideon's 300."

CI and Gideon's 300

As I was seeking the Lord for a word for CI Central, at the beginning of July, He led me again to the story of Gideon in Judges 7, and I began to see things I had not seen before. There was nothing wrong with those who left. They just weren't the ones chosen for this particular battle. It was not about who was right or wrong, but rather that God needed only a few to do what He wanted in that battle. In the natural, it seemed that these 300 men had no means to fight the battle, but God won the battle by His hand. This is what He has done with us who are part of Christian International now—we are the ones chosen for what is ahead!

Hindrance to the Rebuilding

The Lord also took me to the end of Ezra chapter 4 into chapter 5. The children of Israel were rebuilding Jerusalem. They had all the resources they needed, but opposition arose against them. Harassment came and local officials did all they could to intimidate and deter Israel from succeeding. Finally, the governor of the area wrote to King Artaxerxes, accusing them of being a rebellious people. The king immediately ordered the building to stop, and it stopped.

Israel's Decree Was True

Sometime later, the prophets Haggai and Zechariah spoke and encouraged the people to again proceed with the rebuilding of the temple. When the governor questioned them as to whose authority they continued to build, they told him that King Cyrus had declared that they rebuild the city. Again he wrote to King Darius and informed him that the building continued. He added that they claimed King Cyrus had decreed the city be rebuilt.

King Darius searched the archives and found this claim to be true. He wrote back to Israel's accuser and commanded that he let them be. In addition, he commanded that all provision that they needed be given to them, from building materials to the animals needed to make sacrifice.

CI's Decree Is True

In the same way, for many years we have been sifted, shaken, accused and it looks as if we will have to stop. **Yet God has released a decree against our accuser!** It is true— God commissioned Christian International, us and you, to re-lay the foundation of church which is Apostles and Prophets and finish the work He has called us to. Satan must get away and leave us alone. He must allow us to build and accomplish the purpose God gave us. Moreover, **Satan must supply the resources we need.** God spoke to me clearly that He has released over CI the decree of Ezra 6; that means this decree is for you!

I encourage you to make decrees over your household, your business and your community. Just as Esther was endued with the authority of the king to make decrees, we have been endued with power from the King of Kings! We wear His signet ring and can make decrees in His name. I have urged our staff to take the decree from Ezra chapter 6 and apply it for CI and for themselves individually. I encourage you to do the same.

The sifting is over and it is time for addition. We have the resources we need to accomplish our mandate in this next season. We will not be stopped!