

## Planting the Seed of Life

*Scripture reading:* Luke 1:26-38

The great work of the Holy Spirit is to plant the seed of life into the womb of the church, which is the soul of the believer. It is far more important to God to change the NATURE of the believer, than to endow him with power. No matter how much power the individual has, if he or she is not changed from within, God has not yet brought forth a SON. God wants to multiply, just as we want to multiply. It is within HIS DIVINE nature to bring forth children. This nature of God is expressed in everything He makes. The grass, the flowers, the trees, the birds, the animals; all things bring forth abundantly.

God's order of bringing forth is the same everywhere. The scripture declares that everything brings forth after its own kind. Therefore, if we desire corn, we plant corn. If we must bring forth Christ in the earth, then we must plant Christ. What the ministry has been doing for hundreds of years is planting themselves in people and expecting to bring forth Christ.

God's divine order is revealed in Luke 1:28, 30-33. God first sent the angel Gabriel to Mary with a message. This message of the angel was absolutely positive. He skipped 2,000 years in one sentence to bring all the good news concerning Jesus. Not a negative note – nothing was mentioned of the death and suffering. The intention was clear to bring faith in Mary to receive the Holy Ghost and the work He should do within her. Mary cried, *Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word* (Luke 1:38). The angel left. His work was done.

The minister of the gospel is the angel, the messenger who carries the word of the Lord to the maiden, the church. The church is not the wife of the minister. The minister is not the husband of the church, he is the husbandman; he is not planting his own seed, but the seed of the word to invoke faith in the maiden. When the faith is invoked in her, then she receives the Holy Ghost. He it is that plants the seed of the Christ within the soul, which is the womb of the church. The overshadowing of the Holy Ghost is the overshadowing which is necessary to bring forth the change of the human nature to that of the divine nature.

This obedient nature can only be planted within man when he obeys the Spirit of the Lord. John 14:23 shows this plainly. In verse 22, Judas, not Iscariot, asks the Lord a most pertinent and direct question:

*Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? 23 Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.*

This shows that the coming of the Christ is first within the believer, BUT only the believer who obeys the Holy Ghost.

The further explanations here show that every man who loves God keeps His sayings. The ministries and believers who go about freely expressing their love for God, yet continue to “do their own thing,” are only deceiving themselves that they love God. In short, love is obedience.

We can see here that no amount of effort or labor on the part of any son of God can bring him into the NATURE OF GOD. Only obedience to the Spirit will allow him to plant the CHRIST SEED within the soul, which will change the soul nature to God-nature, the mind to the mind of Christ, the emotions to the emotions of God, the will to the will of the Father, and the desires to the desires of God. This work, when it is completed, will bring forth a change from mortal to immortal.

(Excerpt from *The Pattern*, pg. 109-110)

*Thought for today:* It is the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit that one needs so that his/her soul may be changed into the nature of Christ.