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**VOLUME I**  
FREE SAMPLE

ANDRE ANDERSON

# KINGDOM

THE RISE OF THE CREATIVE CHURCH

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# KINGDOM

THE RISE OF THE CREATIVE CHURCH

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All Bible segments are quoted from the  
New King James Version unless stated otherwise.



**VOLUME I**



**THE ARTISTIC HERITAGE**

CHAPTER ONE

**UNTHINKABLE**

THE ORIGIN OF CREATIVITY

It is ridiculous  
for a believer to say they have no creative bone in their body.

Unfathomable.

If they only knew the rich stream of genius that  
flows throughout their heritage,  
they would deeply reconsider.

Let me show you where your creativity comes from.

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”  
*Genesis 1:1* - one of the most overlooked scriptures ever written.

But think about it.  
The ground you stand on,  
the skies you gaze at,  
the very earth you live in,  
was non-existent until God thought it.

Outside of Him was pitch-blackness,  
and it spread endlessly from the left,  
to the right,  
behind and before.

But residing inside of Him was an idea most controversial.  
A Master-plan.  
He smiled to Himself,  
as He thought to do The Unthinkable.

In the silence, a command was given.  
This audible command, which echoed throughout space,  
changed everything, forever.

“LET THERE BE LIGHT”.

The moment He spoke it,  
time began.

**0000:000:00:00:01**

An hourglass,  
of which He could see the end of time  
as clear as the beginning.  
He said to Himself that it was good.

He spent the next five days continuing to create.  
Setting the stage,  
preparing for The Unthinkable.

“In the beginning God *created* the  
heavens  
and the earth.”

Read the same sentence again in Hebrew.

The word '*created*' in Hebrew is

# BARA.

What is BARA? It means simply 'to create'. But it is interesting because the word is only used in scriptures that refer to God. Why? Because God is the only one who can create something without using existing materials.

Before God said, "LET THERE BE LIGHT", light was unimaginable. It was an impossible concept. Time was an unreasonable theory, until God thought it. All original ideas are firstly a thought of God.

If He never thought it, then it does not exist.

We call Him “God”, the origin of creativity.

His complexity is unmatched.  
From the minutely small strands of DNA,  
to the infinitely magnificent galaxies of the universe,  
he has given it all unique design,  
and it is all designed beautifully.

His creative abundance is unsurpassed.  
He continually creates,  
yet refuses to make the same thing twice.

He invents all kinds of planets in all kinds of colours,  
including this planet,  
which we call Earth.

Earth has a sky, which paints all kinds of paintings,  
and below these skies are all kinds of mammals.

Deep down in the sea are all kinds of fish,  
which feed on all kinds of foods.  
Some sweet,  
some savoury.  
There are all kinds of flavours  
and all kinds of nutrients.

Some big,  
some small.  
Life in all kinds of sizes.  
And every living thing can reproduce.

There are trees hidden in seeds.  
There are babies hidden in humans.

Earth is a living and breathing blue ball  
which hangs perfectly in the middle of nothing.  
But yet, it is self-sufficient.  
“Abundance” is not even an accurate term.

Whoever lives here would never  
need to leave the planet for a single resource.

And it is all His work.  
He collaborated with nobody.

He needed no mentorship.  
He needed no peer groups.  
He needed no inspiration.

He is inspiration.

God is not the most creative being,  
God is the *only* creative being.

## **OMNIPOTENT**

(All energy and power)

## **OMNISCIENT**

(All science and knowledge)

And through it all, His creativity never exhausts itself.  
These few days of creation were just a warm up.  
Mere decoration.  
By-products of the Master-plan.



It was empty, six days ago,  
now look.

It was silent, six days ago,  
now the oceans roar,  
and the thunders clap,  
and the trees rustle their leaves,  
and the birds sing their songs.

The Sun lights up the Earth  
like stage lights do an opening act,  
as all creation witnesses God  
as He begins to work on His Masterpiece.

The time is now set for Him to do The Unthinkable.

CHAPTER TWO

**A BODY OF  
WORK**

THE SOLO EXHIBITION

God is an artist,  
and like any other artist,  
he signs His name on His works.

His signature style can be found on every created thing.

“For since the creation of the world  
His invisible attributes are clearly seen,  
being understood by the things that are made,  
even His eternal power and Godhead,  
so that they are without excuse...” *Romans 1:20*

The lions display His boldness.  
The lambs display His humility.  
The oceans display His depths.  
The skies display His superiority.  
The colours of the flower fields display His vibrancy.  
The design of the fruits displays His ingenuity.

Look around you,  
God is hidden in plain sight.

There was, however, one disadvantage.  
These created works could only display  
*one* Godly trait each.  
Nothing in the universe  
was able to exhibit all of God’s character.

Not one art piece could carry His boldness,  
His superiority,  
His authority,  
His vibrancy,  
and His creativity  
all at one time.

Until the sixth day,  
when God decided to create a body of work.

A Masterpiece  
that encapsulated all of His character into one grand design.  
God normally spoke things into being.  
“Let there be” this  
or “let there be” that.  
But when God thought to do The Unthinkable,  
He said “let *Us* make man in Our own image”.

He dug deep into the soil with His own hands,  
and began to make and mould.  
Bone by bone.  
Limb by limb.  
Eyelash by eyelash.

This man was the sum of three components:

# **THE BODY**

*Interaction with the outside world*

# **THE SOUL**

*Interaction with self*

# **THE SPIRIT**

*Interaction with God*

From the laugh,  
to the fingerprint,  
it was all intimately designed,  
and when He looked at it, He said it was good.  
He stared at Adam as if He beheld Himself in the mirror.

Man: The self-portrait of God

For the first time in history,  
God had someone He was comfortable collaborating with.  
God would provide the materials,  
and man would have the innate imagination  
and creativity to see his heart desires materialise.

Earth was a playground,  
but only for a time.

I suppose our gift and curse is one and the same:  
choice.

Before man,  
choice belonged to God alone.

At God's command,  
the sea only goes past a certain point.  
The sun stays exactly where it is.  
Not an inch closer, not an inch further away.  
But God can command us to love Him,  
and we can say "no".

And one day we did just that,  
when we thought we had no more use for God,  
and our teeth sunk deep into the sweet forbidden fruit.  
The juices of its consequence absorbed into our bloodstreams.  
Trickling down into our very soul.  
Infecting our very genetics.

Sin,  
changing us from The Unthinkable,  
to the non-presentable.  
An art piece gone horrifically wrong.  
And what does an artist do to an art piece that is beyond repair?

Earth went from playground to graveyard.

Sin continues to poison our bloodlines till this day.  
Human beings are birthed into this world crying.  
They spend their entire lives in pain,  
then die hopeless.

We divorced God,  
and asked for full custody of His creativity and materials,  
so we could continue to build our pyramids and skyscrapers,  
cities and empires,  
all by ourselves.  
Attempting to build back the paradise we lost.

But true creativity and ingenuity left us.  
Only traces remain.

The gap between the faces of the deep,  
and the roof of the universe,  
was the distance between God and man.

But God continues to watch from afar  
at this blue ball that hangs in the middle of nothing.

Carefully thinking of ways to restore  
before the blue  
fades to grey.

## CHAPTER THREE

# MASTER OF THE ARTS

THE EMPOWERMENT OF  
BEZALEL



Traces remain.  
Traces remain.  
True creativity is lost,  
and only traces remain.

God found His gateway back to earth.  
A nation.  
And He called this nation the Israelites.

They were despised above all people,  
but yet they were adopted to be the children of God.

And He loved them like a Father,  
but long distance relationships could never do.  
He wanted to get closer,  
so He decided to behold His own power and extinguish it;  
squeezing Himself into a tent  
(or a tabernacle)  
just so He could be in the same room as His people.

That was the idea,  
yet one questioned lingered in the air,  
who could build such a tabernacle?

God needed an architect,  
but the Israelites had just escaped Egypt,  
being victim to four hundred years of slavery.  
So anything they created would have been tainted  
with Egyptian culture;  
a culture that *stood* for everything God is *against*.

God would not settle for that.  
It needed to be a tabernacle fit for a King.

Such a place could only be created  
if such a place was designed by God Himself.

But then again,  
even if God gave a willing heart the blueprints to this design,  
the question *still* lingers:

Who would be able to build such a thing,  
if only traces remain?

“I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur,  
of the tribe of Judah.  
And I have filled him with the Spirit of God,  
in wisdom,  
in understanding,  
in knowledge,  
and in all manner of workmanship,  
to design artistic works...” *Exodus 31:2-4a*

Bezalel, God’s first commissioned artist.

He had to follow God’s instructions down to the very last detail.  
The dimensions,  
the materials that were to be used,  
the artefacts that needed to be crafted.  
There was no room for Egyptian influence.

The layout of the tabernacle was split into three:

## **THE OUTER COURT**

*Where the public offered sacrifices*

## **THE INNER COURT**

*Where the priests exclusively worshipped*

## **THE HOLY OF HOLIES**

*Where the power and presence of God Himself resided*

The task was vast,  
but he was not left helpless.  
He was filled with God's Spirit.

# RUACH

is the Hebrew word for it.

*'The breath of God'.*

The same breath that said "LET THERE BE LIGHT".

The same breath that moulded the known galaxies.

The same breath that made man a living creature.

This all-creative Spirit,

is now in this one artist.

Bezalel, the master of the arts.

In an instant,  
he became a goldsmith,  
an engraver,  
a carpenter,  
a dressmaker,  
a stonecutter,  
a weaver,  
an interior designer,  
and an embroiderer.

It would have taken many a lifetime to master one of these skills.  
Not Bezalel.

And it is interesting,  
Exodus 31:2 would be one of the first mentions in scripture  
where God says He would fill someone with His Spirit.

It is comforting to know  
that one of the first Spirit-filled persons on the planet  
was an artist.

He was filled with all wisdom,  
understanding,  
knowledge,  
and the ability to master any craft conceivable.

No more traces.  
Creative restoration is here.

And from that day forward,  
the people could never again say they lacked skill.  
God could make anybody a world-class artist from then on.

He gave the people dreams and visions.  
He taught them with symbolism and metaphor.  
He expressed to them His thoughts,  
and they poetically wrote it down on scrolls.

The Hebrews became visual learners  
and it showed in their writing.  
Not rhyming with words,  
but rhyming with ideas.  
Explaining the majesty of God  
by the beauty of His creation.

They wrote with poetic flair,  
because they believed  
that if something of such importance was to be said,  
it was to be said beautifully.

So when you open up the scriptures,  
know that it is not a mere instruction manual you gaze upon,  
it is God's sketchbook.  
His poetry to us,  
His ideas and concepts,  
His beautiful illustrations,  
His designs and redesigns of mankind,  
His architectural plans of building Eden back on earth.

And the final result was beyond words,  
the tabernacle, I mean.  
I wonder how it felt  
to know that you have built a home for God.

It incorporated every art form imaginable,  
but the temple was not made for art's sake alone.

This is known by one of Bezalel's greatest creations  
found at the heart of the Holy Of Holies.  
One of the most desired artefacts in human history.  
The golden crate of two cherubims,  
known as the Ark of the Covenant.

This was not just a beautiful work of craftsmanship,  
this was a symbol of the King's presence,  
a contract between God and man,  
a promise that all will be restored.

It reminded the Israelites  
that despite living in a godless world,  
as long as the ark remains,  
His presence would be there too.

CHAPTER FOUR

**BURNOUT**

THE RELENTLESSNESS  
OF DAVID



The Ark of the Covenant is missing.

Years have past,  
and the Israelites have forgotten themselves.

They have all fallen back into their old barbaric state,  
and when the people's spirituality decays,  
so does their creativity.

Compared to surrounding nations,  
their technology was embarrassing.  
Their enemies encircled them with swords and spears,  
while they awkwardly fought back  
with bows and slingshots.

Read 1 Samuel 13:19-22.  
Only two swords were found in the entire military force.  
They were completely unequipped.

There was not a single blacksmith in the land to  
mould weapons of iron.  
Thank the Philistines for that.  
They claimed ownership over that particular trade.  
So all things war and agriculture,  
would have been dealt with on Philistine territory.

The Israelites' wealth and well-being  
were in the hands  
of the very enemies they were trying to fight.

And if that was not enough,  
the Ark of the Covenant was missing,  
because the Philistines felt to take it.

It was a losing battle,  
but a heart aflame will set cities alight.

A teenage shepherd boy stood quietly in secluded forests.  
Unpopular in every aspect,

but nonetheless, he saw the depravity of his nation,  
and had a heart to bring it back to its rightful place.

I wonder if he knew that looking after sheep  
would prepare him to lead the flock of Israel.

I wonder if he knew that slaying a Philistine giant  
would make him a king amongst the people.

I wonder if he knew his musical experimentation  
would bring about artistic revival.

I wonder if he knew that his heart aflame  
would set cities alight.

His name was David,  
and his aim was clear:  
to explore and express the heart of God.

And through his love for music,  
David achieved this unlike any other.  
His musicianship carried divine power,  
so much so that when his hand touched the strings,  
and his mind was set on the Divine Creator,  
he could drive demons out of the very hearts of men.  
Read 1 Samuel 16:14-23.

David was the first to integrate music into everyday worship.  
His efforts can now be found in nearly every worship service.  
Scripture mentions music the most during David's time.  
He was the trigger for what we can call The Hebrew Renaissance.

His lyrical content was so transparent  
it still continues to touch hearers.

He wrote most of the 'Book of Psalms': his heart 'spilt in song'.

The book itself was essentially split into five separate books:

## **BOOK I**

*Psalm 1-41*

## **BOOK II**

*Psalm 42-72*

## **BOOK III**

*Psalm 73-89*

## **BOOK IV:**

*Psalm 90-106*

## **BOOK V:**

*Psalm 107-150*

Why five separate books?

The final editors of the Psalms marvelled at its variety,  
and thought it to be compared  
to the five books of the Torah,  
the law of God.

The Hebrews saw the Psalms as tutorials,  
the poetical commandments on reaching the heart of God.  
It explored every emotion,  
dissected every circumstance.  
Essentially, it was a full and complete soundtrack to life.

His name was David.  
A king with a skip in his step,  
and he was the only one dancing,  
until the day he decided to do what the other kings avoided,  
and fearlessly marched into Philistine camps,  
slaying every man found,  
bringing the Ark of the Covenant back into the city.

The presence of God is back in the city.  
Now, the entire nation is dancing.

And David was not finished.  
He wanted to build another place for the Ark to reside,  
but he did not want to create another tabernacle.

Tabernacles were portable,  
and were needed for a people who were searching for a home,  
but the people are now established.  
David sought to build a temple,  
brick and cement.  
An immovable building.  
A permanent home for God.

God was intrigued by the request,  
and even loved the idea of David building the temple,  
but the truth remained,  
the temple could not be built with bloody hands,  
and David, by reputation, was a man of war.

So God moved to Plan B,  
and gave the duty of building the temple to David's son.  
His son was named Solomon.

Still,  
that never stopped David from preparing resources.  
He provided the materials needed to build,  
he delegated roles to the priesthood,  
he selected the musicians,  
he wrote the songs for a temple

that was not even under construction yet,  
he offered finances for upkeep,  
he even drew up the blueprints of the temple,  
of which he said in 1 Chronicles 28:19,  
“the LORD made me *understand in writing, by His hand upon me,*  
all the works of these plans.”

God made a musician a fully qualified architect.

Godly inspiration drove him to even greater lengths.  
Amos 6:5 shows that David was an explorer of sounds.  
He invented for himself instruments that would  
expand his musical language.  
He made these instruments in their thousands.

Four thousand to be exact,  
according to 1 Chronicles 23:5.

*Let us just say* these were all stringed instruments:  
harps, for example.

If David was in our modern day,  
and he was expected to craft the same amount of harps,  
all by himself,  
David would not leave his workshop,  
until one thousand three hundred & thirty three years later;  
without tea breaks.

He worked furiously,  
he worked relentlessly,  
and above all,  
he worked passionately.

His dedication established a key lesson:  
not even a king is too busy to do the work of the Lord.

His investments into the arts were plenteous,  
bringing the city from having no blacksmiths,  
to being full to the brim with craftsmen,  
storytellers,  
educators,  
poets,  
and musicians.

An entire generation of creatives  
were birthed from this one man.  
A heart aflame *can* set cities alight.  
And David,  
being one of the greatest kings the land has ever seen,  
reached a ripe old age.  
And after successfully seeing his city ablaze,  
he had no more fire to give.

So he laid his head to rest,  
and fell into a sleep,  
until his fire simply burnt out.

CHAPTER FIVE

**BREATH OF  
MIND**

THE THREE PROPERTIES OF  
GOD'S CREATIVITY



God moved to Plan B,  
and gave the duty of building the temple to David's son.  
His son was named Solomon.

And knowing Solomon had big shoes to fill,  
God appeared to him one night in a dream,  
offering Solomon his heart's desires.

In those few moments of dreamtime,  
Solomon could have asked for anything.  
A little bit of fame,  
a little bit of fortune,  
a little more life,  
a little less war.

But Solomon did one better, and asked for wisdom.  
To have a heart that is able to lead such a great city.

God paused for a moment,  
then applauded him.  
He gave what Solomon asked,  
plus all of the trimmings.

And this explains  
why Solomon's bank account was so incredible.  
1 Kings 10:27 states that he made silver to be like stones.  
Anything below gold was tarmac.  
If it was not twenty-four carat,  
it was not in Solomon's house.

David spent his life in war.  
Not Solomon.  
From the time of his reign to the time of his death,  
Solomon slept cosy.

But all of that was dust compared to Solomon's first request  
'And God gave Solomon wisdom  
and exceedingly great understanding,  
and largeness of heart like the sand on the seashore' 1 Kings 4:29

The wisdom of men  
and the wisdom of God are not to be compared.  
God is wise enough to make planets,  
men are only wise enough to discover them.

Solomon was filled with the wisdom of God.  
Rich in mind, and that made him the richest man of all.

*When your wisdom comes from God,  
three properties reside...*

# NO. 1 ABUNDANCE

1 Kings 4:29 says that Solomon was given “largeness of heart”. We can call it ‘breadth of mind’. He had a taste to explore and discover the known universe. He was filled with strong curiosity, and this curiosity drove him to understand nature, physics, biology, sociology, and all kinds of artistry. There was not a thing on earth he did not explore. 1 Kings 4:32 says that he wrote three thousand proverbs and one thousand and five songs; that is around eighty-three albums worth of material.

*When your wisdom comes from God,  
your well will never dry.*

# NO. 2 DOMINANCE

The intellectuals of the east, the inventors of ancient Egypt, and the queen of Sheba. All of these people were masterminds in their own right, but 1 Kings 4:34 says that all the kings of the globe travelled far and wide to hear the wisdom of Solomon. 1 Kings 10:23 states that Solomon's riches and wisdom surpassed them all.

*When your wisdom comes from God,  
kings and princes will confide.*

# NO. 3 LONGEVITY

We still have the book of Proverbs, we still have the book of Ecclesiastes and we still have the Songs Of Solomon. Like his father David, Solomon's writings are still used for teaching, thousands of years after his death.

*When your wisdom comes from God,  
your words will never die.*

After seven years of labour,  
the temple reached completion.

And it was beautiful.

Gold-plated walls.  
Gold-plated floors.  
It was the joy of the city,  
and a statement to the world:

God has a home,  
and His home is in Jerusalem.

God looked at the finished product and was pleased

...ish

Temples and tabernacles were beautiful gestures,  
and God was happy to dwell with His people,  
but this was not exactly what God had in mind for a  
'happily ever after'.

The gap between man and God was still apparent.

After all, God is omnipresent,

He is everywhere,

yet His only invitation to inhabit earth  
was in a small building in Jerusalem.

It was cute,

but it was too exclusive.

Too restricting.

God needed to get closer.

God needed to fill the earth.

And residing inside of Him was an idea most controversial,  
a Master-plan.

And He sought to fulfil this Master-plan  
through a special individual.

'The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,  
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
The Spirit of counsel and might,  
The Spirit of knowledge  
and of the fear of the LORD' *Isaiah 11:2*

The skill of Bezalel,  
the heart of David,  
the wisdom of Solomon,  
combined into one.

A man that will finally bridge the gap.

Once again, God smiled to Himself,  
as He thinks to do The Unthinkable.

## CHAPTER SIX

# **SEVENTY-TWO HOURS**

THE DEFINITION OF  
SUCCESS



In the silence, a command was given.  
“LET THERE BE LIGHT”.

**0000:000:00:00:01**

And from that moment onwards,  
the Master-plan was underway.  
The temples,  
the tabernacles,  
the prophecies,  
they were all setting the stage,  
for this one instant in history.

A man stripped naked  
with flaps of His own flesh hanging off His body.  
A King  
with a crown of thorns on His head.

The All Knowing One  
who planted the seed,  
which grew to be a tree,  
which was axed down to the ground,  
to become the cross He was stapled to.

He knew the craftsman  
who made the nails,  
that are now pressed into His hands and feet.

He read the thoughts  
of the Roman soldiers,  
who publicly beat Him half to death.

He knew the resting place  
of the shoes that once ran to Him,  
and are now hidden from Him.

He was aware of all of this,  
yet He considers it all to be a successful conclusion to a life.

He looks up to the sky with a glimmer in His eyes,  
a sigh of relief,  
and a sense of accomplishment.

This is Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.

He healed the sick,  
He raised the dead,  
He comforted the broken-hearted,  
He changed the world.

David taught with song.  
Solomon taught with riddles.  
Jesus taught with stories.

And Jesus was full of them.  
Mark 4:34 says He refused to speak to anybody  
without telling a tale.

Why stories?  
Because Jesus understood something crucial about them;  
storytelling is one of the few methods that reach  
the inner core of a person.

The Kingdom of Heaven is like a man with one hundred sheep.  
One of the sheep goes missing.  
The Shepherd forsakes the ninety-nine to find the one lost sheep.  
We are the lost sheep.  
God is looking for His people.  
Let Him find you.

He took the complexity of God's authority,  
and made it so relatable that little children understood it.

He walked from city to city,  
telling the people about the new government approaching,  
a government where man and God will rule alongside on earth,  
just like the good old days.

He spoke about

# **THE KINGDOM.**

The King's dominion.

A new culture.

A new way of thinking.

A rulership that would liberate the people  
instead of holding them captive.

A rulership in which Jesus would be King.

But not all of His words were sweet to the ears.  
Some of His sayings sickened many.

He once stood before the temple,  
and in front of respectable religious leaders said:  
“tear this whole place down  
and I will rebuild it in three days”.

The religious leaders were enraged beyond belief.  
And now, Jesus hangs on a cross,  
gathering just enough strength to gasp for air.

Yet this is all part of the Plan.  
This was all a success.

For man was once the self-portrait of God,  
until the acidic nature of sin was thrown onto the canvas,  
altering the entire appearance of the Masterpiece.

The malfunction infuriated God,  
seeing His artistic efforts go to waste.  
All of His time,  
all of His love,  
all for nothing.

And what does an artist do to an art piece that is beyond repair?  
He destroys it.

From that moment on,  
we were irreversible failures.  
Men with expiry dates,  
just living life to die in a furnace of unquenchable fire.

But then The Unthinkable happened.

God just could not bring Himself to destroy us.  
He became so engrossed by His art,  
that He sought to *become* His art.  
Merging two of His greatest ideas together:  
the body,  
and the temple.

He formed His new idea in the womb of a virgin,  
A clean vessel that would birth the Saviour of the world,  
Jesus, the perfect art piece.

God in the flesh.  
He dwelt among us,  
yet we would not recognise Him if he passed us on the street.

He looked like us,  
walked like us,  
laughed like us,  
just so He could talk with us,  
live with us,  
die for us.

His body was

## **THE OUTER COURT**

*The place where He interacted with the outside world*

His soul was

## **THE INNER COURT**

*The place where He sacrificed selfish ambition and pride*

His Spirit was

## **THE HOLY OF HOLIES**

*The place where the God of this universe claimed residence*

He spoke about destroying a temple.

He spoke about Himself.

His body was the temple.



He hung on the cross,  
and *all* of the furious frustration of God,  
formerly reserved for mankind,  
was poured out fully on Jesus.

He smiles as He takes our place.

And now the prophecy in Isaiah 53:10 is brought to clarity;  
where it says it pleased the Father to bruise the Son.

God vented His anger on His Masterpiece,  
so when He looks at us,  
the disfigured work of art,  
He looks at us with fresh eyes,  
with all fury vaporised,  
and makes efforts to mould us back into His image.

Back to our original state,  
as if nothing happened.

“IT  
IS  
FINISHED” Jesus cries.  
The Master-plan is complete.  
He bows His head as the crowd cheers.

Christ’s crucifixion: the definition of success.

Seventy-two hours later,  
He steps out of His own grave,  
with His temple rebuilt,  
and pats Himself on the back for a job well done.

All differences have been settled.  
Man can now be at peace with God.  
The Kingdom on earth can now be established.

CHAPTER SEVEN

**JESUS TIMES  
TWO**

THE ARCHITECTURE  
OF THE CHURCH

What is The Church?

What did Jesus visualise when He bled and died for it?

Much more than mere religion.

Much more than brick and cement.

Think of RUACH,

the Spirit of God.

In times past, God's Spirit would come upon a select few.

And these individuals,

even though one or two,

would influence entire generations.

It descended upon Bezalel,

and he crafted the first earthly home for God.

It enflamed David,

and he set a city alight.

It inspired Solomon,

and he wrote the wisest words the world has ever witnessed.

It rested in the heart of Jesus,

and He saved the world.

The Spirit only moved in the lives of a select few.

But 33 A.D changed all of that.

Shortly after the resurrection of Jesus,

an age-old prophecy was being unveiled before the people.

Acts 2 tell us that in an upper room,

on the day of Pentecost,

one hundred and twenty people were filled with RUACH.

Joel 2:28's promise was fulfilled.

God said that in the last days,

He would pour out His Spirit upon ALL flesh.

RUACH, now known as the Holy Spirit,  
fell upon the hearts of believing men,  
and has set hearts aflame ever since.

The Spirit,  
which only displayed its full power in The Holy Of Holies,  
is now abiding in the bodies of men.

The same Spirit that empowered Jesus,  
is now the Spirit that empowers us.

So even if you and I  
were the only ones on the planet filled with His Spirit,  
we are Jesus times two.

We are double,  
triple,  
even quadruple the force Jesus was.  
That is why He told His disciples  
“he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also;  
and greater works than these he will do” *John 14:12*

No longer does God need to inhabit one temple at a time,  
we are all now walking tabernacles.  
He could inhabit millions simultaneously.

Acts 1:8 says it best:  
the Holy Spirit is POWER  
and makes us a WITNESS that God exists.

And if we carry this power individually,  
what will happen if we come together collectively?

‘Arise, shine; for your light has come!  
And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.  
For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,  
and deep darkness the people;  
but the LORD will arise over you,  
and His glory will be seen upon you.

The Gentiles shall come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your rising' *Isaiah 60:1-3*

Time and time again,  
God has used the creative thinker and the artist  
to build bridges between God and man.

Now, we reach an age where the world is at its darkest,  
and our generation needs God's love  
demonstrated to them in a new way.

We will have the ideas  
that would bring them out of their poverty.

New businesses need to be launched.  
New books need to be written.  
New medicines need to be discovered.  
New ministries need to be initiated.

The world needs newness.  
The world needs creativity.

Remember BARA.  
Fresh supplies of creativity can only be sourced from God.  
And if we believe to be connected to the only creative source,  
then true innovation should really come from us.

What would happen if we unlock  
this creative power invested in us?  
How bright would our lights shine?

Do you want to know what The Church is?  
Do you want to know what Jesus visualised  
when He bled and died for it?

The Church is the lighthouse.  
It is the sum of every person who believes in Him,  
irrespective of race,  
family background,

financial history,  
educational status.

Spiritual liberation is no longer exclusive for the Israelites.  
We are all now the spiritual Israelites of the world.  
We carry His wealth and wisdom.  
We are the visual representatives of the King on earth.

The Church is the body of Christ.  
Our faith in Jesus is the flesh that links the body,  
and we are all made alive by the blood of Jesus.  
His blood circulates throughout the body,  
and connects its members to the heart and mind of God.

We are the body,  
Christ is the head.  
We move according to how He thinks.  
That is what it means to be Kingdom-minded.

Establishing God's Kingdom on earth is our duty.  
So with the divine power invested in us,  
we will generate works of art with every tool and talent we have,  
until we effectively reintroduce this culture to Jesus.

God said "LET THERE BE LIGHT",  
And now here we are.

In tribute, we will continue to shine.  
We will keep the fire burning  
with every ounce of energy we have,  
until the hands of the clock reaches its last second,  
and it all goes back down to zero.

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