



PEOPLE POWER – THE DAY OF THE SAINTS

15 July 2012, Stephen Smith

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened, that you may know what is the hope of His calling, and what is the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us, the ones believing according to the working of His mighty strength.

Ephesians 1:17-19

Definition of the word Saint:

- It means *holy, separated, set apart*. A true Saint is one who has become holy through the righteousness of Christ.
- Saints are separated from the world's use and set apart strictly for God's use and glory.
- They are sanctified and anointed ones who have become set apart from the ways of the world to live Christ's life and demonstrate God's Kingdom.

The corporate body of the saints – the church

As a corporate group, the Saints, these redeemed people who are called out from the world, separated and dedicated unto God, are called *Ecclesia*, translated as "the Church."

Why human beings are called to be Saints:

- Men and women that brings liberation and freedom to humanity through the power of God
- People that will disarm the powers of wickedness, and bring humanity out of the clutches of corruption into the glory, light and freedom of God
- People whose conduct will be as God Himself on the earth, because of their knowledge of their godly nature
- Sonship is the releasing of the life (*zoë*) of God in people

But the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever. Until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High. And the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

And the kingdom and rulership, and the greatness of the kingdom under all the heavens, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom. And all kingdoms shall serve and obey Him.

Daniel 7:18, 22, 27

- 1. The Church fulfils its mandate when it changes society, not when it is confined to its sanctuary.**
- 2. This isolation of the Church from the world has led to ineffectiveness and failure to carry out the great commission.**
- 3. The great commission mandate is to go out and disciple nations.**

Ask of Me, and I shall give the nations for Your inheritance; and the uttermost parts of the earth for Your possession.

Psalms 2:8

- 4. Ministry is what you do to bring your life and your sphere of influence under kingdom rule.**

I Timothy 3:15 calls the church *the pillar and foundation of the truth*.

5. We are not called to huddle inside the Church sanctuary but to restore the kingdom of God to the world.

6. God holds the Church responsible for societies.

7. The Church is to be the society around them.

No one who wars tangles with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who chose him to be a soldier.

2 Timothy 2:4

When you are in a rut, it is hard to recognise what is happening!

Summary:

Why not take the future to God, but with the clear understanding that everything – all that we have been clinging to in how we “do church” – is on the altar for God to change.

A healthy church will abandon whatever Christ calls them to give up for the sake of the gospel.

- Build with God’s help
- Embracing a new work
- Letting the Spirit lead us into unknown territory
- Living our lives on fire for God instead of coasting in comfort

The purpose of the church is to fulfil God’s two commands and the one commission. This means being committed to loving God, loving others and making disciples of all nations. Our effectiveness will be determined by the degree to which we are led by and surrendered to the Holy Spirit. Whatever our strategy for passing on the baton, it must be embraced and implemented first within the local church. We need to return to the foundation worth building on – loving others as God loves us.

- **John McElroy**

	1	2	3
Our Mission	Love God	Love each other	Make disciples of all nations
Our Priorities	Transform the local church	Raise up the 5-fold ministries	Send workers into the harvest fields (market place leaders)
Our Strategy	Link spiritual mothers and fathers to sons and daughters	Raise up a church within a church	Mobilise local and trans-local mission teams