Recovering a Pure Testimony of Jesus

The Vision of the Apostles

In 1994 Brother Lee spoke of the need to have a new revival and that it would be a revival to end the age. And, for this revival to happen, he said we must have a vision, a vision of the age. To carry out the vision, he said we must have a minister who ministers according to *the vision*. "Since we have seen such a high peak of the divine revelation, we need to put into practice what we have seen. Our practice will have a success and that success will be a new revival - the highest revival, and probably the last revival before the Lord's coming back." (*Living a Life According to the High Peak of God's Revelation* (p. 39, 1994)

So far, following the vision of the age set forth by Brother Lee long ago has not brought revival and actually distracts people from the vision of the New Testament age. Our vision is found in the gospels, the Acts and the teachings of the apostles – ministered chiefly by the Lord Jesus, Peter, Paul, and John – and that brothers Nee and Lee helped recover in the 20th century, which brought many seeking believers back to the vision. What vision? The vision of the apostles! They were all in one ministry to produce one thing.

None stood apart and above the others as exemplified in Paul's attitude of inclusion in Corinth of fellow ministers of the New Testament vision. Rather than quadron off a section of overcomers in Corinth to follow him as the minister of the age, Paul wrote to the Corinthians and said, "Is Christ divided", and pointed to Christ and to their calling to participate in Him, and thus avert confusion, exclusion, and division. In this way Paul blended in the Body, not only with the Corinthians, but also with his fellow ministers of Christ. He berated no one for their lack of vision. He also encouraged them in his letter to be blended together and to have the same care for one another that there may be no division in the Body. _This is to have the vision of the age.

It is the vision throughout this New Testament age to minister according to, if we are to be in the reality of the Body. If we follow the "vision of the age" speak, it is actually to produce overcomers within the churches – it is not like getting a letter from Paul to the Corinthians with a vision of the blending of the weak and the strong; the comely and the uncomely, where every member is important and included in God's expression and a pure testimony of Jesus. Rather, following their vision is for those who are willing to submit to absolute authority – with their money, time, houses, jobs – forsaking all to gain "an invincible morale" to "march over all obstacles" and "conquer wherever we go." _Vision of the Age

Brother Lee's New Vision and the New Standard

Brother Lee knew these things I have mentioned and so do the blending brothers. They just don't maintain this vision, the vision of the New Testament age, and even created a new vision. It is actually the same but with bells and whistles and a new minister of the age, boldly claimed by him, and proclaimed by the blended brothers.

Concerning Watchman Nee and himself, Brother Lee submitted, "I followed Brother Nee absolutely; yet I was not following the person, I was following the vision that he saw. If you remained in that vision, you were serving according to the vision. In that age, the vision that came up to God's standard was the vision that Brother Nee saw. If you remained in that vision, you were serving according to the vision. If you did not remain in that vision, you were not serving according to the vision". He continues,

"Today, Brother Nee has passed away. I have no intention to make a new start, but the Lord has commissioned me with this ministry. I can only take the lead willingly and obediently. **The vision that I**

have brought to you today is God's vision for this age. If you remain in this vision, you are serving according to the vision. If you do not remain in this vision, you should be aware of what your end will be." (*Vision of the Age*, p 52) A blending brother writes that "this and many other passages in Brother Lee's writings indicate that he considered both Watchman Nee and himself to be the ones who passed on to God's people the vision of the present age". (Bob Danker, *Minister of the Age*, p. 12, 2007)

Yes, Brother Bob, you mean Nee in China, and Lee in the U.S., particularly with reference to his high peak teachings, which distinguished him from Watchman Nee, and made him the new minister of the age with the ministry of the age, engendering major attraction to him and his publications. Your exaltation of Brother Lee mirrors Nee's exaltation in China; and Lee's vision of the age led to confusion, exclusion, and division.

This exaltation of Brother Lee was in 2007 long after campaigns for him led to division in the late 80s in a movement that had its official inception by W. Lee in 1974 and has been the cause of division ever.

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Regardless, Bob Danker continues on this wrong path exalting Brother Lee and a concocted vision of the age: "Outside the vision Brother Lee brought us – God's consummate vision, the completed vision of the age, the bountiful and all-sufficient vision of God's eternal economy in the Bible – there is no other vision. The vision of the age has been passed on to us in the writings of Brother Nee and Brother Lee. Our unique responsibility today is to enter fully into this vision and to serve the Lord in His unique recovery under this unique vision." *The exaltations and new vision are bogus, containing impure elements and motive* 1 Pet 5:2

Our Unique Responsibility is Transparent Accounting

Watchman Nee and Witness Lee are lifted up as ministers of the age and full attention is given to their ministries. Regrettably, no attention is given to their colossal failures, which require sober attention, from overseers according to God., as our brothers were indeed men, not *gods*. Their records prove this, much to the alteration of the concepts previously formed under LSM's protective shield for them. Actually, then, "our unique responsibility" is firstly to clear our past and give transparent accounts of our church history.

"If you know all mysteries but have not love, you are as a clanging cymbal", lifting up men and also a vision that nobody can keep. Ni Tuosheng's final words were cryptic, "I am only a sinner saved by grace." This was his foremost thought and profound realization at the end of his life.

Brothers who addressed the abhorrent condition in **Anaheim** during the evil reign of Philip Lee were quarantined by the churches following his father's recommendation. Former Shanghai church members have written a book *in their 80s* to show the corrupting elements of their time that many years since could not erase from their memory. There were many tears of anguish, despair and disillusionment in **Shanghai**, and also in **Taipei**, as a grievous detailed report of Taipei history shows.

In 1983, Brother Lee thought he could say, "The Lord's recovery is really among us, and, although the scale is quite small, the standard of the character is higher than Christianity. In the Lord's recovery the high standard of the character must be kept and maintained. Some have checked with me asking, Do you mean that all the other Christians are rotten and that only the local church people are not rotten? I don't mean that. If any people have become rotten, they are no more in the reality of the Lord's recovery. Whatever and whoever is rotten is not in the recovery. The local churches are people who have been recovered out of their rottenness back to the pure church life. The local church is not a kind of organization or religious group. The local church is the pure church life as a pure testimony of Jesus. If we become rotten, we are no longer in the reality of the Lord's recovery.

"This is why in the New Testament the Apostle Paul would not tolerate any kind of immorality. In 1 Corinthians 5 Paul charged the church not to associate with that immoral person. The church as a pure testimony of Christ would not tolerate any impurity, any immorality. The church has to be pure. **Once the church becomes rotten, it loses its nature** and standing as the Lord's testimony...." (ch 1, section 4)

The Local Church leadership has much to offer the Body of Christ but in their ever-exultant state they cannot lay down their idols and come back to Christ alone. A thorough reading of the following documents give light concerning their need for repentance and clearance of the past. It is much better to see the vision of our failure; be abhorred by it; and pursue determinedly a good conscience before God and man - and a pure testimony of Jesus.

Shanghai - www.twoturmoils.com/LilyHsuBook.pdf Taipei - www.twoturmoils.com/TaipeiHistory.pdf

Anaheim - www.twoturmoils.com/TimelineofWitnessLeeEraUS.pdf

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