

2015 Spring LMA Fellowship

"From the time of His resurrection a fire has been burning on earth. This fire started from Jerusalem, and then it spread through Judea and Samaria to the uttermost part of the earth. Today this fire is burning all over the earth.... Christ today is a burning fire. We all have been burned by this fire; we have been brought together by this fire; and now we are burdened that this fire would burn many others.... Let the fire burn on! No one can stop it." (The Issue of Christ Being Glorified by the Father with the Divine Glory, pp. 11-12)

The Lord in Luke 12:49 says, "I have come to cast fire on the earth, and how I wish that it were already kindled! But I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how I am pressed until it is accomplished!" When the Lord was ministering on the earth, He yearned to cast fire on the earth by being glorified by the Father with the divine glory in His resurrection through His death. This fire has been burning on earth since His resurrection. On the day of Pentecost, tongues as of fire sat on the disciples and the disciples were burned by this fire to bring this fire all over the earth. Today as the continuation of Acts, we also have been burned by this fire of life to bring this fire to the uttermost part of the earth.

In the Lord's Move to Asia Spring Fellowship held in Nantou, Taiwan, from Feb. 22-24, over 500 saints from 26

countries testified in one accord that this fire is also burning in Asia and will not be quenched. The general subject of this fellowship was "The Vision, Burning, and Expression of the Burning Thornbush". Six messages led us to see that the Lord has released Himself into man as the fire of life to burn on the earth with its present applications. The six messages were "The Release of the Glory of Christ's Divinity—Casting Fire on the Earth", "The Church as the Corporate Thornbush Burning with the God of Resurrection", "The Body of Christ as the Burning Thornbush (1)—the Father's House for His Expression", "The Body of Christ as the Burning Thornbush (2)—the Son's Vine for His Spreading", "The Body of Christ as the Burning Thornbush (3)—the Spirit's Child for the Carrying out of God's Eternal Economy", and "The Burning in the Proper Coordination, Producing the Power and Impact of the Church".

The first message reveals that the Lord as the fire of life is burning on earth and will be brought to the whole earth through us. As those called by God, we should be like Moses, realizing that we are just a redeemed thornbush with a fire burning within us and that this fire is the Triune God Himself, the God of resurrection. God does not want to use our natural life as fuel; He will burn only with Himself as fuel. The speaking brothers had a heavy concern for the serving ones in Asia: The Lord is indeed moving rapidly in Asia, and this fire is burning all over Asia. But are we truly serving by the divine fire? Or are we serving by our natural life and ability? The more we allow the divine fire to burn in us, the more we will love the Lord and depend on the Body. On the contrary, if in our service we find ourselves getting busier and busier to the point that our intimate time with the Lord is compromised, loving our work more than the Lord, and not needing the brothers and sisters, that means the fire burning within us is the wrong kind of fire. We not only need to pray for the Lord's outward move in Asia, but even more we must pray for the Lord to expose any hotness in our natural life that we will not offer up strange fire to the Lord.

As individuals, each of us is a thornbush, but we are also a part of the church as the corporate thornbush. The second message helps us to

see that the church is a corporate thornbush burning with the God of resurrection. Just as the fire on the altar of burnt offering should be kept burning continually and not go out, the divine fire also should be kept burning within us. As we have morning revival or attend the meetings, are we sleepy or are we burning? We must be burning that we may also burn others. The Lord's move to Asia should not be the result of man's labor, but of the burning of the divine fire!

Based on John 14-16, the third to fifth messages speak of the three aspects of the Body of Christ—the Father's House for His dwelling, the Son's vine for His spreading, and the Spirit's child for His moving—which are the practical applications of the church as the burning thornbush. To live in the church as the Father's house is to live in a house of prayer and worship. We need to pray for the Lord's divine fire to burn away our self,



attitudes, goals, aims, motives, and intentions as well as for the preparation of a glorious church that will match Him and fulfill the desire of His heart. As the Son's vine, we should be fruit-bearing living branches, bearing fruit and feeding the lambs to issue in the growth and multiplication of the church every year. This is not by our own effort, but by the divine fire burning within us. We are also the corporate child of the Spirit for the carrying out of God's eternal economy. Today the seven Spirits of God are the seven lamps of fire burning before the throne (Rev. 4:5) to direct the world situation and purify the churches to produce the golden lampstands. The saints should not look at the outward situations, but should be focused on the throne of God. We may say the political and social situation of a certain Asian country has limited our propagation. However, if we see the seven Spirits before the throne, we will not be discouraged by the outward situation. We need to pray, and our prayer will cause the seven Spirits to move. The seven Spirits are also sent forth into all the earth. So we must not be narrow and only care for our own locality. We need to have an enlarged heart that we may cooperate with the seven Spirits for Their move over the whole earth.

The last message shows us the way to be burning is to have the proper coordination. In Ezek. 1:13-14, the result of the coordination of the living creatures is that they become burning coals; they do not walk but run. The proper coordination causes them to be full of power and impact. The burning in coordination makes us fervent, intensely hot. The more we coordinate with one another, the more we burn one another. A co-worker in Taiwan testified that the churches in Taiwan have been greatly blessed in the matter of gospel preaching due to the proper coordination that comes out of much blending. Just a few years ago hardly any church practiced going out weekly to preach the gospel. But the blending of the churches caused the churches to lose their distinctions over time and ushered in an unprecedented one accord. Now over 90% of the churches practice going out weekly to preach the gospel. The proper burning in coordination truly releases the dynamic impact!

In every LMA fellowship, the saints are always eager to hear the reports from the LMA countries.

This time there were also reports on each country as well as fellowship given by Rhema and reports on the Lord's move to Europe and Africa. Noteworthy, in recent years many churches in Asia picked up the burden one by one to care for the propagation in the LMA countries. Brothers from some of these localities shared how the Lord put such a burden within them and how the saints participated in the short-term labor in these countries. For example, since many Filipino saints had migrated to the GCC countries over the years for work, the churches in the Philippines developed a burden to go there ever year to join their



annual conferences and trainings. A recent policy change in Japan opened the door for the Nepalese to go and work there. As a result, the Japanese saints have been able to contact and lead quite a few of them to salvation with the view that they would be the seeds of the Lord's move in Nepal in the future. The churches in Taiwan also participate in the propagations in Pakistan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, etc. The brothers testified that when they paid the price to visit these countries, some of the countries that were originally quite closed actually began to open up. Their experience has been that the more they cooperate with the Lord's move, the more the world situation works together for them.

The concluding session of this LMA fellowship was on the current situation and propagation need of Asia. Currently there are 17 Asian countries that have full-time serving ones from overseas. Altogether there are 340 churches with over 17,000 saints in these countries. Over 100 overseas full-timers came from 8 Chinese-, Korean-, or English-speaking countries. This is



a real testimony that the Lord's move to Asia is a move of the Body. There are still 13 Asian countries with no testimony of Jesus. We need to pray that the Lord would prepare the situation in each country that it would be suitable for the spread of the kingdom gospel and beseech the Lord of the harvest to thrust out workers into His harvest. It was shared with the saints that the

goal of offering for LMA this year is one million USD. This is so that all the needs related to propagation can be met. May we go by going, by praying, and by giving, cooperating with the Lord's move on earth by all means.

Praise the Lord for the fire burning in Asia today. May the Lord gain more people in Asia that they would not only be saved, but would enter the practical church life to become part of the corporate thornbush that through them this fire can burn on until the gospel of the kingdom is preached in the whole inhabited earth unto the consummation of God's eternal economy.