

CCN Presents

Dr. C. Peter Wagner
Tuesday, June 6, 2000

SESSION TWO:
10:10 A.M. - 11:30 A.M. Pacific

APOSTLES **A SPRINGBOARD INTO THE 21ST CENTURY**

INTRODUCTION

The Board Is In Place

- 16th Century:
- 17th Century:
- 18th-19th Centuries:

The Steps Out The Board

- 1900
- 1950s
- 1960s
- 1970s
- 1980s
- 1990s

The Spring Forward

Ephesians 4:11

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

1 Corinthians 12:28

And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

1. WHAT APOSTLES HAVE

A. They all have _____

Of all the radical elements of change in the New Apostolic Reformation, I regard one of them to be the most radical of all. It is so important that I have chosen these words very carefully:

*The amount of spiritual authority
delegated by the Holy Spirit
to individuals.*

C. Peter Wagner, *Churchquake!* (Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1999)p.75

Paul

2 Corinthians 10:8

8 For even if I should boast somewhat more about our authority, which the Lord gave us for edification and not for your destruction, I shall not be ashamed.

Q: Where does this authority come from?

A: Five chief sources:

(1) Apostles have a _____

1 Corinthians 12:29

29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?

1 Corinthians 12:18

18 But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

The authority is not _____.

It is _____.

Bill Hamon

Apostles have the delegated authority to represent the kingdom of God in a governmental, office capacity. It is not a religious hierarchical authority given by man but a spiritual authority given by Christ.

Bill Hamon, *Apostles, Prophets and the Coming Moves of God*, (Destiny Image, 1997), p. 32

(2) Apostles have an _____ or a _____.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.

6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

(3) Apostles have _____ .

Why "extraordinary"?

James 3:1
1 My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment.

They are _____

A. Apostles meet biblical _____ for _____.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

1 Timothy 3:1-7
1 This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work.
2 A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;
3 not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;
4 one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence
5 (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);
6 not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.
7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

Apostle Paul:

1 Corinthians 4:4
4 For I know nothing against myself, yet I am not justified by this; but He who judges me is the Lord.

1 Corinthians 4:16
16 Therefore I urge you, imitate me.

B. Apostles are _____

Matthew 23:12
12 "And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.

(4) Apostles have _____

The followers are

- _____
- _____

No followers? No _____!

Bill Hamon

During the last few years, I have seen some young pastors of small churches receive prophecies that they are called to be apostles. Some immediately changed their name cards from "Rev." or "Pastor" to "Apostle" and began trying to plant churches and solicit other ministries whom they can father. Some want to begin writing their book on the ministry of the apostle right away. Usually these called ones are very sincere and are doing what they think they are supposed to do. But most times the called one has a lack of proper understanding. They have more presumption than faith, more zeal than wisdom, more revelation than reality and more gifted ministry than manhood maturity. This type of person usually makes the wrong response and causes an improper representation of the divine ministry of an apostle.

Bill Hamon, *Apostles, Prophets and the Coming Moves of God*, (Destiny Image, 1997), pp. 73-74

Relationship:

Apostle: "How can I help _____ be all that _____ wants them to be?"

Follower: "This _____ adds _____ to my _____ and _____!"

3 John 1:4

4 I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.

The result? TRUST. . .

(5) Apostles have _____

They receive _____

Ephesians 3:1-6

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles--
 2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you,
 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already,
 4 by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),
 5 which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets:
 6 that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel,

2 Corinthians 12:1

1 It is doubtless not profitable for me to boast. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord:

Apostles hear what _____.

This and the other four qualities give them the authority.

B. All apostles have _____ spheres of _____.

1 Corinthians 9:1-2

1 Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord?
 2 If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

2 Corinthians 10:13

13 We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us-- a sphere which especially includes you.

Spheres can be _____ or _____.

2. HOW APOSTLES OPERATE

The question:

Here is the definition I have been using for the spiritual gift of apostle: *The gift of apostle is the special ability that God gives to certain members of the Body of Christ to assume and exercise general leadership over a number of churches with an extraordinary authority in spiritual matters that is spontaneously recognized and appreciated by those churches.*²

As I have continued to study the New Apostolic Reformation, however, it has become clear that this definition applies to many, perhaps the majority of apostles, but not to all. I was hoping that by the time I finished this book I would have satisfactory terminology to name and define however many other kinds of apostles there might be. This has not happened as I wished, so we will simply leave the matter pending for further search.

C. Peter Wagner, *Churchquake!*, (Regal Books, 1999), p. 105.

The answer:

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

- 4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.
 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

Four apostolic _____.

1. V _____ apostles.

Paul and Titus

Titus 1:5

5 For this reason I left you in Crete, that you should set in order the things that are lacking, and appoint elders in every city as I commanded you--

Titus 1:12-13

12 One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."
 13 This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith,

2. H_____ apostles.

Example: James of Jerusalem

The Council of _____

Acts 15:6

6 Now the apostles and elders came together to consider this matter.

Acts 15:13

13 And after they had become silent, James answered, saying, "Men and brethren, listen to me:

Acts 15:19

19 "Therefore I judge that we should not trouble those from among the Gentiles who are turning to God,

Acts 15:22

22 Then it pleased the apostles and elders, with the whole church,

Acts 15:28

28 For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, and to us,

3. H_____ apostles.

Paul: apostle - _____ - _____

2 Timothy 1:11
11 to which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.

Timothy: apostle - _____

2 Timothy 4:5
5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

4. M_____ apostles.

First three: _____ the church

This one: _____ the church