

The Prophetic Charge Committed to Agathos

Part 1

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Full Text (for reading on your own)

Cast your Vision!

I've been in a wonderful study in the Word for about a month and in prepping this message I heard the Lord say "you have a framework but that's not a vision; I want you to cast your vision." That's what this message will be: casting vision.

I believe there is a prophetic charge that has been committed to our church. It is therefore good for us to know what that charge is because "for lack of vision My people perish." "But happy are those who keep the law." The "law" in that verse is not only the Word of God but more specifically the "law of restraint" as Kris Vallotton says. When you have a vision you begin to operate within restraint toward accomplishing that vision.

Thank you God!

When I took over the church that September (2016) I heard the Lord say "Brad laid a foundation for the church. Your job is to now bring it above ground." Paul was a skilled master builder who laid a foundation. Likewise Brad laid a solid foundation in Christ for us. Thanks Brad!

Then the Lord spoke to me and said "your job is to bring it above ground." What's so neat is that here at The Wave we are above ground! Thank You, Lord!

Before Brad was Joshua. Last fall Brad and I felt it important to specifically honor Joshua so we had a party to honor and bless Joshua for all he so beautifully sowed into our body. Interestingly, not only did Brad lay a foundation but Joshua had a vision for this sort of space (a co-working space) 15 years ago when he started the church. The first place the church formally met in was The Third Place. The idea of a "third place" was that it's not your office, it's not your home, it's a "third place." It's just that Joshua's concept there was probably 10 years ahead of his time. Co-working spaces were not yet popularized when Joshua set that up. Yet he saw ahead to what it was supposed to be!

So here we are in this space (The Wave) We've come above ground and full-circle we're in the sort of space that Joshua had a vision for from the start. I'm thankful for that!

Arrested by Hope

On May 24th of this year I woke up and I was arrested by hope. I wanted to be in the Word but seemingly all I could do is dream. The Bible actually says we are prisoners of hope! Dave Crone has a book called Prisoner of Hope. Hope started stirring in my heart that morning. I kept asking myself the question “what would it look like if _____” about a number of things. I believe the Lord was stirring me to hope.

See what I wrote that morning about our church space! (I am just giving you some prophecies fulfilled about this space!):

- What would it look like to have a building that is ABOVE GROUND!
- What would it look like to have a building that was perpetually clean and easy to keep nice!
- What would it look like to have a building that we could meet in at 10:30am on Sunday morning!
- What would it look like to have a building that was easily visible, easily accessible, and delightful to look at?
- What would it look like to have a building that gave glory and honor to God ... that showed off to God?
- CREATIVE IDEAS BE RELEASED!
- What would it look like to have a building that could host visiting ministers???

2 weeks later Joshua texted me and said “I have just the space for you guys.” This space is definitely a creative idea and 2 weeks after I declared “creative ideas be released” God moved on Joshua with an idea and connection for us! PRAISE GOD!

Thanks to Everyone else!

The Board has been amazing helping through this whole process. Brad has helped me step by step with the details of the whole process. Thanks to all those who have given prophetic words throughout the church’s history. Thanks also to the entire intercessory team. I’m also very thankful for The Wave (the ministry we are sub-letting from). They’ve prepped a space where we were able to just step right into it! And of course thanks to Joshua for making this connection for us! It is so like God that the first pastor of the church ends up finding our space for us!

“This charge I commit to you”

1 Timothy 1:18 says *“This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare ...”*

Our church has been charged with a charge. There is a charge on Agathos. “This charge I commit to you Agathos.” What’s the charge? The charge is “according to the prophecies previously made concerning you (concerning our church).” Do you see it? The charge that we have is according to the prophecies previously made concerning our church - and that charge has been committed to us in the sense that we are now stewards of that charge!

My goal is to charge you with the charge that I believe our church has been charged with so that as we start as we start to do the work of exploring what it looks like to walk that charge out that you may wage the good warfare to do that work.

Highlighting a few prophecies previously made concerning us!

Do you remember at the beginning of this year when I shared that my friends Mark, Chris, and I believe this is a year of convergence where old prophetic words are going to come together - the pieces are going to come together? Thank You Lord. So let me remind you of some prophetic words spoken concerning Agathos. This is important as we need to steward both our personal and corporate prophetic histories. We need to steward the prophetic histories of our families and our children and nation. We need to guard those histories so that we can wage the good warfare with the prophetic words concerning you.

In prayer on December 3rd 2016, I saw Jesus speaking to our congregation and I could hear word-for-word what He was saying. He said: “You are a precious body to me because of your purity & wealth of knowledge about who I am. ***I am calling you to go out - to reach out ... to deliver to your neighbors what I’ve delivered to you.*** You do not need to be afraid. ***The World is ready and waiting for you. I am with you. As I look over this congregation, I see leaders and I see influencers.*** I see those who will stop the advancement of evil. I see those who will set captives free & mark a standard for Godly Christian character. You are called! You have a purpose! I have not forgotten about you - ***my secret weapon & hidden gem.***”

I don’t think we are going to be so secret much longer. I think our church will probably grow in numbers. I actually kind of don’t care. I kind of do / I kind of don’t. It WILL grow in influence.

Here’s a longer word from Mark Crawford in 2013:

The destiny of this church is to be a prototype church that is going to equip and send people. People are going to go out into society, into places, and are going to make a difference. They’re

going to bring the Kingdom into places. So, you gather together in a time such as this, you encourage one another, you hear what God is saying, you come together, you worship together, and the gifts are operating, but its a training place, because all of those things (the gifts) will actually happen on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at a greater intensity than in here ...Can I tell you, (and I don't know if I can communicate this. I'm going to try.) you have an incredible privilege as a group of people. You have a privilege in the days that are ahead of you to display something that a group of people do as a church of the Kingdom, the Kingdom coming. God has not called you to play church. God has not called you to be a people where you are just talking. He's called you to be a people who ARE the church. He's called you to be a people who are a people of action. He's called you to be a people where you'll see the Kingdom come, and you'll see His will being done on earth, unlike any other place. There is such an amazing calling and destiny around you guys, where it won't just be one or two of you, but there'll be a whole group of you-- all of you, all of you moving together. I can see it so amazingly, it's like in formation, but yet you're going in different places, but you're still in formation. It doesn't quite make sense, because if you're not in formation and you're going different places... it's a paradox. But that's what it will be.

Do you know why I have a woodshop at my house? Because I want one! A lot of you don't want a woodshop because you don't want one! It's not because God's not providing for you; it's because you don't want one! I'm here to tell you I don't want a church of 5,000 people with 100 programs in it. I don't want one. I do want a woodshop. I do want a church like this. I don't want a church like that. Some people want a church like that just like some people want to have a pottery studio in their house - which I don't want. My point is: God has wired me to be a prototyper. That's a really good thing because He said Agathos is going to be a "prototype church." For a lot of pastors that would not be something they want. For this pastor it's something I want. If you are going to be in this church you are going to learn to want that too.

Notice that Agathos is going to equip and send people as priorities. Notice that it didn't say we are going to gather people as a priority.

I believe the "days that are ahead of you" that Mark spoke of in 2013 are NOW. The sons of Issachar were prophets who not only knew what Israel was to do but also the season they were to do it in. Many times you have prophetic words that haven't activated because you don't know the timing of them. For years the intercessors have been feeling that the church is pregnant with something but that were needed to be careful to not birth it too quickly. Wait until you hear the word I share in a minute about it being "time to come out."

“A church of the Kingdom” Do you remember my message from Feb - May? What was my point? Ekklesia is about the Kingdom. The church is NOT the central thing. The Kingdom is the central thing. “Peter I need a verse for that.” OK, “seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these other things will be added to you.” The church serves the Kingdom.

There is a unique call upon us. Not all of you are supposed to have a woodshop. I am not supposed to have a pottery studio (no interest!) You can't do everything. There are a lot of churches that are not called to do what we are about to do. But we're called to do it. “Unlike any other place ...”

Do you remember that I had a vision of one rake with one message (one handle) and many tines?

We've been charged with a calling.

This charge will require a New Wineskin

This calling will require a new wineskin. I am probably going to keep coming back to this “new wineskin” thing over and over because you are in charge of shepherding your heart about the new wineskin.

Hear what I just said: we need to be tending to this new wineskin. I am not just saying “we” meaning “me” or “me and what I teach you.” I am saying “you, each of you” needs to tend your heart as it relates to this new wineskin. Today I want to give you 2 teachings as it relates to operating in a new wineskin and stepping into a new wineskin.

There is an emphasis on me right now saying “train about the new wineskin - how to operate in a new wineskin.”

Remember Matthew, Mark, and Luke talk about a new wineskin and Luke 5:36-39 says “*Then He (Jesus) spoke a parable to them: “No one puts a piece from a new garment on an old one; otherwise the new makes a tear, and also the piece that was taken out of the new does not match the old. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine will burst the wineskins and be spilled, and the wineskins will be ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins, and both are preserved. And no one, having drunk old wine, immediately desires new; for he says, ‘The old is better.’ ”*

There is so much to unpack here in terms of the practical walking out of a new wineskin in the Lord. Today I am just going to focus on 2 things but first let me give you some prophetic perspective about what I believe is going on a bit more broadly:

Revolution and Reformation

A couple of years ago (while Trump was still a presidential candidate) Mark said that the Lord had been speaking to him about “revolution and reformation.”

Remember of October 2016 (before President Trump was elected) I told you all that I had a dream and as I was falling asleep the bridge I was on in this dream collapsed after a big shaking and after then the Lord told me “tell My people not to be shaken by the shaking that’s coming.” We’ve been in revolution. Revolution 1.0 was Trump being elected. Revolution 2.0 was Kavanaugh being confirmed.

There was a major shaking going on recently in the spiritual realm. Did you feel that? It was intense! Revolution.

Reformation - do you know that we are in the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation? The Lord is reforming the church right now as we speak. It has started. It has started. I am saying at a very global level right now there is a reformation coming to the Church (Ekklesia) of God. It needed the revolution first and now the reformation is released.

Reformation - do you remember what I was speaking on all spring? “What is church?” I recently received a CD from Joseph Prince entitled something like “what good is the church to the world?” I’ve listened to Joseph Prince for years and have never heard him teach on the church in that way. Why all of sudden teach on it? Francis Chan just released a book called “letters to the churches.” He is asking questions like “what is church? What does the Word of God say about church? When we look back 50 years from now will we feel like we did what we saw the church do in the Word?” Just this past week Mike Bickle (who leads IHOP out of Kansas City) just wrote an open letter to the prophetic and prayer movements in which he said IHOP is doing a RESET. They have totally revamped their plans for their major annual conference with only 3 months left. He is saying we need to listen closely to the Lord to hear what He’s wanting to do in this season and succumb to pre-conceived structures. All of this is fresh this year!

Ed Silviso (who for decades has been a major thought leader as it relates to the Kingdom of God being expressed throughout society) recently (in 2017) released an entire book called Ekklesia.

There is a reformation that’s coming to the church.

Let me give you a bit more of the prophetic lineage of the church: Joshua Weir (our first pastor) was driving down the road more than 15 years ago and had an open vision. The Lord spoke to him out of that open vision and said “I am going to change the face of the church in a generation.” The implication was “some of the church is not going to come with Me.” The final part of the implication was “and they will be left behind.” It’s not harsh; it’s just the reality.

Get “Ekklesia” by Ed Silviso

I would encourage you to buy the book “Ekklesia” by Ed Silvano for this season of our church. It will be a tremendous resource to you and will likely fill in some gaps for you. That said, I am not saying to get it because I am going to be directly teaching out of it or something.

A side note ... some believers read lots of great books (like this one by Ed Silvano) and I notice that they become “ping pongy” in their walk. “I read this book and it said this and this and this and this and this!” Then 3 weeks later “I read THIS book and it said this and this and this and this and this!” Just have one Holy Spirit and one Book - please!

I am telling you that you can read a book like Ekklesia by Ed Silvano and it will open doors of understanding to you and fill in dots that you might take 20 years to get otherwise. I am saying to read the book WITH Holy Spirit; don't make their revelation your Holy Spirit!

Operating in the New Wineskin: (1) Revelation is both Progressive and Positional

Revelation is both progressive and positional. Stepping into the things of God is a progressive process and a positional process. The progressive part means that it is “bit by bit.” Why didn't we figure this thing out in 2013 ... after all Mark gave us the word then! We are meeting in a space that is pretty non-conventional now. This is our “normal” service and next week we do house churches. I don't think we were ready for that in 2013 - I don't know about you. So revelation is progressive. You get it bit by bit.

A thing you need you need to guard against when you are operating in a new wineskin is the tendency to want more than your daily bread. Joshua confirmed a word I had received through Derrick and Erin. He called and said “go slow slow slow and keep your hands off off off.” It turns out Renee has been praying the same sort of thing - that we would not turn the new thing into a familiar thing.

You have to get the revelation bit by bit.

When want the whole revelation now - that aren't fine with the daily bread process - I believe we are thinking in our hearts that in moments of particular anointing we can hear God but don't we don't believe we can hear Him little by little. If, on the other hand, we believe we can hear Him day by day we will take it little by little. Sometimes we get a more major download but mostly we just gather our bread day by day because our Dad is the baker!

We as a body EACH need to guard our hearts not to demand the full manifestation of what God's doing straight away. In doing that we would be inserting the arm of the flesh into the equation - which will bring death into something that was only supposed to be life and peace. It will be by the Spirit. I of course need to guard my heart about that most of all. What I don't need to do is invite a

few of you to have a brainstorming session to figure out every little thing that we are going to be doing at this new space! Some of you are going to have a tendency to feel “yeah, but what is it? What are we going to do?” I don’t know! That’s the nature of exploring. That’s the nature of being a prototyped organization instead of a replicated organization.

Kris Vallotton says R&D culture is about innovation. Manufacturing is about no defects. The core goal of manufacturing is to “not screw anything up.” But if Apple’s innovation department was afraid of making mistakes you would never get an iPhone 11! So we just need to be willing to try some new things and it’s going to be a bit by bit sort of incremental type process. Revelation is progressive. The further you go, the more you know.

Aside ... Revelation is Relational!

By the way, the nature of revelation is relational. If anybody thinks that he knows something, he doesn’t yet know as he ought to know. You are supposed to know Someone!

I had this encounter when I was at the Mission Church in California in May of this year. My friend’s brother who is a prophet there walked up to me and said “you are a seer aren’t you.” I said “yes, that’s what I’ve been told.” He said “well you are going to start to see in the Heavenly realms.” I said “OK, that’s interesting because that just happened to me yesterday more strongly than ever before.” Let me tell you what happened:

I was in this worship time at the Mission in a small group of prophetic folks and I was taken into Heaven in my mind’s eye. I was there and I was outside this room that is called the Patent Library. Jesus was there with me and I was invited to go into the Patent Library. Inside there were all these binders with things written on the spine. There was an invitation for me to take any off the shelf that I wanted to. So I took some binders off the shelf and sat down in a chair in the library. As I am sitting in the chair, I open up a binder and the binder is empty ... all that’s inside of it is a mirror. Standing over my shoulder looking into the binder is Jesus and inside the binder therefore is the face of Jesus that I am looking into!

Can I give you a scripture for this? Col. 1:15-17 *“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, **and in Him all things consist.**”* All creativity is THROUGH HIM!

If you think you know something, you don’t yet know as you ought to know. You are supposed to know SOMEONE. All of the wisdom of God dwells in SOMEONE. If we feel any relational disconnect with the Lord it will cause us to want to GET revelation in order to TAKE revelation to

go DO revelation apart from connection. That sort of wisdom puffs up but love builds up. You cannot steward revelation apart from relationship.

Operating in the New Wineskin: (1) Revelation is both Progressive and Positional (continued)

Revelation is progressive - bit by bit. Why? Well, why do we need it to be more than bit by bit? We don't.

Revelation is also positional. Part of the word Joshua recently gave me was that there are going to be some things in our mindsets that shift once we are in this space. In other words, don't try to design anything yet. You don't know what you don't know yet. Sometimes you have to get in a certain space and then you get new revelation. I believe that's what we are going to experience here. So I am telling you that you have to guard your heart to take it bit by bit here.

Operating in the New Wineskin: (2) Rules for Reformation

I had another heavenly encounter recently. These are new for me and I am part excited to share these with you guys because I believe they will open up some territory in the Lord for some of you and for others it will be confirming to some of the sorts of experiences that you've had.

Sometimes when I'm in prayer - real quiet - I will hear things like other people are talking. (You may be thinking "yep we've known you're crazy but now we have proof!") Well recently that was happening to me again and I've always wondered "is this just a distraction?" Then I thought well a lot of people have told me that I'm a seer and I've experienced that a lot but usually I've seen in the natural, but I did have that word recently that I'm going to start seeing in the Heavenly realms and I had that encounter in California in May.

So about 3 weeks ago or so I was in prayer and I started hearing these things and I thought "OK, I've got the Holy Spirit, let me just track this down." So I got out a pencil and started writing down what I was hearing and what I was seeing. I was thinking "at the end this will either be gibberish or it will be something!" I knew that if I didn't record it and track it down I definitely wouldn't know. This is one of the keys to the prophetic: you need to record your words and see if they come to pass. It will start to let you know if you hear correctly. And don't be afraid if you don't because God loves you. He's not loving you because you are hearing correctly; He's loving you because you are you and He's Him!

I'm going to share my recording of this encounter. Some parts I will share an interpretation for. Some parts I have an interpretation but am not sharing it and other parts I don't have an interpretation for yet (maybe you will have one?) ... and some of it might be worthless. But I think

some of it is very powerful for this message about the other thing we need to guard our hearts with in terms of stepping into this new wineskin.

"It's your world" I heard.

I then sensed / saw a deformed, contorted child seemingly waiting in the wing. As I looked closer, I saw it was actually an adult stuck in the birth canal. Then I heard "your birthday is supposed to be your earth day." It was clear to me this was about how all creation is waiting for the revealing of the sons of God and that when we are born again (our birthday) is supposed to be the day we begin releasing Heaven to the earth (our earth day).

I then heard the adult / child speak "I feel so stifled" I then saw the hands of a clock at 3:00pm and heard someone say "it's time to come out."

The scene then changed for me to what appeared to be a court hearing / congress type setting. I heard someone call the "session / case" into order with the phrase "everyone here has a reason." It was clear to me that the announcement was as if to say "you are all here for a reason and what you are about to see / hear pertains to you ... don't think this doesn't apply to you."

I then heard this phrase "highly weighted hostility and programs" or this phrase "highly rated hostility and programs" (I couldn't make out what I heard - "weighted" or "rated." The sense of the scene then became more clear and it occurred to me that this was an internal-to-the-church court-martial type hearing. Two rulings (not condemnations or convictions) were then passed:

(1) hostility toward the church = being held in CONTEMPT OF CHURCH

(2) Programs = being held in CONTEMPT OF THE BODY

This explanation came to me: "the church is a multi-faceted living body, not a program, machine, or robot." A mandate then came alive in my heart "the organic church needs to partner with the traditional church to bring forth the body of Christ to impact the world."

I then asked God "Father, why are there courts convened over this?" The Father responded without delay "I will not have dissension in my ranks."

I then saw two individuals in a workshop as though they were looking for nuts and bolts.

"Did you see any?" one of them asked?

"I didn't see any EXTRAS" the other responded.

EXTRAS caught my ear in the Spirit and this phrase burst forth in my heart "There are no EXTRAS in the body of Christ!"

Then I saw a bicycle pump gauge and the tire it was trying to inflate couldn't take it anymore and the hose burst off! Then I saw a mother with her young son showing up for school late and checking him in at the front desk. She said "I thought he was done (because he's been here - to school - before)."

Around this time I heard the phrase "TAG TEAM" in the Spirit.

Next I saw grass-covered Nike's or Air Jordan tennis shoes walking into the school's doors. These are the sort of fancy sneakers children often wear to school as a fashion statement (not a basketball shoe to be played in). Yet these shoes were covered in what looked like wet, freshly cut grass and it was clear that the student wearing these shoes was going to school after hard work - perhaps mowing a lawn.

The interpretation I have is this: The body of Christ has been stifled. The weighted or rated programs of the church are being held in heavenly contempt of the body. (The heavy emphasis on programs is being held in contempt of the body - they are stifling the body). The would be reformers of the church who are hostile to the church are being held in contempt of the church.

I believe we are approaching or have recently entered a season of Reformation in the church and the Father is establishing "Rules for Reformation" as seen in this heavenly court scene / military tribunal gathering. The Father will not have dissension in His ranks but instead is summoning the church leaders to "tag team." The organic church needs to partner with the traditional church to bring forth the body of Christ to impact the world. Each believer's born-again birthday is to become their "earth day." The world is ours and the world is eagerly waiting for us - for everyone one of us since there are no extras in the body of Christ!

We've been in Revolution; the Reformation is being released.

We have an incredible privilege as a body of believers to explore what it looks like to be a church that is not playing church but is bringing the Kingdom into every sphere of society.

So, how do you do operate in exploring a new wineskin? First, walk it out progressively and positionally. Little by little. The second thing you do is you don't get sideways with the old wineskin.

Sarah's Word (told from her voice)

"I just want to share something I got during worship. I felt the Lord was saying to us that we have to pray for the collective church in Columbus to WAKE UP to the truth of God's Word in terms of the lies that they are believing. As we pray we are sending out warring angels to cut down the lies that they are believing about politics and abortion and about racism - about all the lies they are believing. These warring angels that we send out as we pray collectively ..."

“Father God we lift up the church of Columbus and the Nation. We lift up that church and we send out warring angels to cut down and cut the chains of deception. We cut the chains of the lies. We tell those demons to leave now in the Name of Jesus - they will not have any power of the church anymore in Jesus’ Name! We thank you Father for teaching us and leading us in your Truth and we pray that Truth over the church now - that we would be led by you, guided by you, and that this church would rise up and wake up now in the Name of Jesus!”

Guliver (the sleeping giant / the Body of Christ) is waking up!

Erin shared: “What that just brought up in my heart ... do you remember the prophecy about the man laying across the nation - and the part of it that had to do with Columbus, Ohio? I saw a tent pole rising up and the heart of the Lord was released in Columbus, Ohio!”

That whole prophecy was about Guliver - the sleeping giant / the Body of Christ - being awakened. I was just reading an article the other day on The Daily Wire (Ben Shapiro’s media outlet) and on that article it said “The giant has been awakened.” It was a single line as it’s own paragraph. I was like “Oh My God!”

There is a now-ness to the things of God and we are in the now-ness of something. It’s time for it to be birthed.

Remember Brenda kept saying “we don’t want to birth it too soon.” I had felt that too. But here, I had a vision where there was an adult child stuck in the birth canal saying “I feel so stifled.” Then I saw the hands of a clock at 3pm and heard someone say “it’s time to come out!” It’s time. It’s time.

I pray a sealing over this word and I pray Father you would begin to charge every member of this congregation with the charge us each with the commission You’ve commissioned this church with. It’s a unique commissioning and we receive it by faith and we thank You that this space is part of the positional revelation process of walking into it. In Jesus’ Name, amen!