

Vision 2020

The year of insight?

The year of clear vision and prophecy? 20/20?

- **I don't know about those things** – I do know that the Lord has spoken to me specifically through His Word and His Spirit.
 - This is NOT the morning to share these things
 - This is the morning to:
 - plot direction
 - Set a course through this next year
 - Encourage you to join the crew – let's see even greater things happen this next year!

Leaders' perspective:

Jack Hayford

The next 10 years will bring increasing persecution upon believers in the Western world, where it has been mild at its greatest over the last century.

The spirit of anti-Christ is increasing its intensity. The heat will not only increase against institutional Christianity, but any believer who lives "out of the closet" of silence or reserve—that is, who stands and speaks for Jesus—will face mocking and suffering with rising regularity. **Fires of this persecution will rekindle a purity in the church and will also set aflame the hearts of many who, as with Stephen, will not be able to withstand the wisdom and spirit of those who bear a faithful witness.**

George McKinney

It is reported that committed Christians are being persecuted and killed in greater numbers than in all of history. **I expect this persecution and violence against believers will get worse.** At the same time I expect that God will demonstrate His power to cause "all things to work together for good to those who love God" (Rom. 8:28).

Rick Joyner

America has now fallen to the lowest state of depravity that Isaiah declared, where we call evil good and good evil, where we honor the dishonorable and dishonor the honorable. This is the last state before we are assured judgment will fall. These judgments have been coming in

waves for years, each one seeking to wake up His people. The American church has been like Jonah, running from God and sleeping through the storm. The reason for the storm was the sleeping prophet, not the heathen. The heathen actually had to wake up the prophet and tell him to call on his God. **Will we wake up?**

The Church's Greatest Opportunity

Pat Robertson

These days offer the church what is conceivably its greatest opportunity since its founding. People all over the world are desperately looking for answers to life's problems, and there is a receptivity to the message of Jesus Christ that is unprecedented. Ecclesiastical structures that stood in the way of evangelization are either falling or being more tolerant of the gospel.

Although there is opposition and persecution throughout most of what is called the "Muslim world," the best estimates available to me indicate that as many as 5 million Muslims a year are embracing the Christian message. This is particularly true in Iran, where the youth are completely disenchanted with the oppressive rule of the so-called mullahs. Church historian Vinson Synan tells me that the charismatic expression of Christianity, which dates back to 1905, now can claim 640 million adherents worldwide, **making the charismatic-Pentecostal expression of Christian faith the fastest-growing in the world.**

The Eastern Shift

Joseph D'Souza

By 2020 the church around the world will be distinctly seen as non-Western. Chinese, Indian, African and Latin American Christian leaders will rise in civil society and be accepted with their Christian identity. The Christian-mission agenda will increasingly be set and financed by the non-Western church, particularly as the Indian and Chinese church become major players in global missions. The Christian mission will be more proactive rather than reactive as the church flourishes in the nations of the south. The church will grow and flourish in the midst of poverty, suffering and persecution.

The year of Scriptural Truth

- First, there will be a renewed emphasis on integrity, purity and example—the three pillars of Paul's model.
 - Results will no longer substitute for character,

- Gifts will no longer replace anointing.

Better focus on what is most distinctive about CCSM

Chuck Smith:

I saw that the purpose of the church was for the perfecting of the saints, making the believers strong, bringing them into maturity, feeding them, loving them, strengthening them so that they would be able to be engaged in the work of the ministry, for I realized that God has called all of us and placed us into His body and He has a plan and purpose for each of us.

- **WORD**

- **we will always be a WORD church that teaches the full counsel of God, in an expository manner.**

- **SPIRIT – full equipping**

- **WORLD – sent in power and godliness – effecting change!**

1. The Word of God

2 Timothy 2:15. Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. ¹

1 Timothy 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard **the word of truth**, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, ²

Isaiah 55:7-13

7 Let the wicked forsake his way,
and the man of sin his thoughts.

And let him return to Yahweh, that he may take pity on him,
and to our God, for he will forgive manifold.

8 **“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
and your ways are not my ways,”
declares Yahweh.**

¹ The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Ti 2:15.

² The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Eph 1:13.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, **"I am the way, the truth, and the life.**
No one comes to the Father except through Me.

Daniel 12:4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so my ways are higher than your ways,
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

10 **For just as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and they do not return there
except they have watered the earth thoroughly
and cause it to bring forth and sprout,
and give seed to the sower
and bread to the eater,**

11 **so shall be my word that goes out from my mouth.
It shall not return to me without success,
but shall accomplish what I desire
and be successful in the thing for which I sent it.**

12 For you shall go out in joy,
and you shall be led in peace.
The mountains and the hills shall break forth before you, rejoicing
and all the trees of the field shall clap hands.

13 Instead of the thorn bush, the juniper shall go up;
instead of the brier, the myrtle shall go up,
and it shall serve as a memorial to Yahweh,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." 3

2. The Spirit of God

Luke 11:9–13

9 And I tell you,
ask and it will be given to you;
seek and you will find;
knock and it will be opened for you.

10 For everyone who asks receives,
and the one who seeks finds,

and to the one who knocks it will be opened.

11 But what father from among you,
if his son will ask for a fish,
instead of a fish will give him a snake?

12 Or also, if he will ask for an egg, will give him a scorpion?

13 Therefore if you,
although you are evil,
know how to give good gifts to your children,
how much more will the Father from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those
who ask him?"

3. The Worship of God

a. Spirit and truth

John 4:22–24

22 You worship what you do not know. We worship what we know,
because salvation is from the Jews.

23 But an hour is coming—and now is here—when the true
worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for indeed the
Father seeks such people to be his worshipers.

24 God is spirit, and the ones who worship him must worship in spirit
and truth."