

Apostolic Alignment ***October 2011***

The word “alignment” means, “arrangement in a straight line, or in correct or appropriate relative positions, a position of agreement or alliance”. The New Testament apostles taught alignment relative to Kingdom advancement in at least three areas that will result in personal and organizational breakthrough. We don’t actually see this word “alignment” in the New Testament, but the principle is certainly there. Another way we in the Apostolic Reformation refer to alignment is, “getting in divine order”. The word “order” is also used relative to an “arrangement” as well. Here are three areas that need apostolic alignment in our lives and ministries.

LINING UP WITH THE PRINCIPLES OF THE WRITTEN WORD OF GOD. It is the responsibility of all five “ministry gifts” listed in Ephesians 4:11, to teach people how to live according to Biblical principles. When Jesus taught the Sermon On The Mount, he was teaching the Principles of Kingdom Living. As Warren Wiersbe says in his great commentary on Matthew Chapter Five, “Jesus the King is teaching others how to be kings”. Kings live by principles as we read from King Solomon who knew quite much about being a “king”. “Loyalty and truth preserve the king, and he upholds his throne by righteousness”, Proverbs 20:28 NAS. The King of Kings operates by principles Himself and never deviates from them, “I am the Lord, I change not”, Malachi 3:6. God’s people need to be aligned with Biblical principles such as Mercy, Integrity and Loyalty. Such “righteousness” upholds the King’s throne, in other words, “his position cannot be successfully challenged”. The Church of Jesus Christ needs to be in such a position in this hour which can only come by proper alignment to principles.

LINING UP WITH SPIRITUAL PARENTS. Apostolic teaching reveals God’s order (alignment) of Fathers and Sons (1 Timothy 4:15-17; Philippians 2:19-23; Hebrew 1:1-14). The truth of “spiritual parenting” is still “soaking into the ground” of the Church, resulting in more people coming to spiritual maturity in Christ. God uses our “earthly fathers (natural and spiritual) to teach us how to properly align ourselves with the Heavenly Father. All of God’s children have some of the “orphan spirit” in them due to Adam’s sin which separated him from Father God. All men born in Adam are orphans in that regard and must be “born again” into the Family of God and receive the “spirit of sonship” (John 1:12). After Jesus spent three years “fathering” his chosen disciples, he promised them that they wouldn’t be “left as orphans again” when he departed (John 14:15-18), but the Holy Spirit would come to “reveal the Father” to them, (John 16:24). As God connects us in relationship to a “spiritual parent” in our lives, we immediately begin to discover how much orphan/independent spirit we have (you can obtain Freedom From An Orphan Spirit at www.johnpolisministries.com) in us. Some people are willing to accept and identify these issues of heart while others are not. Those who recognize the traits of an orphan spirit and will work them out within the relationship will go on to make great progress as “mature sons” who will come into greater glory, eventually becoming successful spiritual parents themselves (Hebrews 2:10). Others become “sifted sons” (Luke 22:28-32) who break relationship for fear of rejection or loss of respect when the issues come to the surface. Apostolic alignment involves this area

or intimate relationship with the people God places in our lives to help us come to maturity. Coming to maturity is the “hard thing” Elijah was referring to with his spiritual son Elisha (2 Kings 2:14), and can only be achieved with freedom from a orphan spirit.

LINING UP WITH PROPHETIC DESTINY. Apostolic people are also “prophetic” people, although not all “prophetic people” are apostolic. Some that have embraced the prophetic restoration have not yet fully understood the apostolic restoration. Revelation will come! Each of us has a “prophetic destiny” that we must align ourselves with, and it can only be revealed by the Spirit of God to the individual. This is what makes it a “prophetic destiny” in that it must be “revealed”, it cannot be “read” in a book. Staying in alignment with God’s will for our lives requires a “prophetic anointing” to be operative within us, because the “wind bloweth where it listeth” (John 3:8) and there is an ever changing direction that God will lead us into as we move toward completion of our destiny on earth. We may have “planned” to continue doing what we have been doing, and the “wind may blow in a different direction”. Apostle Paul maintained a strong prophetic spirit and was sensitive to each changing direction in his life, as when he was not permitted by the Spirit of God to go to Rome, or when he “received a Macedonian call”. We can keep the prophetic anointing strong by “praying in the spirit”, “feeding on the Word” and being in a “prophetic atmosphere” often (1 Samuel 10:1-10). Apostolic alignment will bring powerful results to our life and ministry.