

Embracing a *Shavuot Vision*

Renewing our *Focus* as Laborers in God's Harvest

A. By *Personally committing ourselves* to *diligent labor* in the ongoing “spiritual” harvest that began on the Feast of Shavuot almost 2,000 years ago

Then He (Jesus) said to His disciples,
“The harvest truly is plentiful, but the *laborers* are few.

Therefore *pray* the Lord of the harvest
to send out *laborers* into His harvest.” (Matthew 9:37-38)

So when they (His disciples) had come together, they were asking Him (Jesus), saying, “Lord, is it at *this time* You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”

He said to them, “It is *not for you* to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;

but you will receive *power* when the *Holy Spirit* has come upon you;
and you shall be My witnesses both in *Jerusalem*,
and in all *Judea* and *Samaria*, and even to the *remotest part* of the *earth*.”
(Acts 1:6-8)

When the day of Shavuot had come, they were all together in one place...

...Peter, standing with the *Eleven*, raised his voice and addressed them:
Fellow Judeans and all who are staying in *Jerusalem*,
let this be known to you, and pay attention to my words...

“...let the whole house of Israel know for *certain*
that God has made Him—this Yeshua whom you had *crucified*—
both Lord and Messiah!”

So *those* who received his message were immersed,
and that day about *three thousand souls* (“firstfruits”)
were *added*. (Acts 2:1, 14, 36, 41)

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's *building*.
(I Corinthians 3:9)

B. By “*Planting*” faithfully the “seed” of the word of God by the preaching of the gospel, and the teaching of the word

“Now the parable is this: the seed is the word of God.” (Matthew 8:11)

...for you have been born again

not of **seed** which is *perishable* but *imperishable*, that is,
through the **living and enduring word of God**. (I Peter 1:23)

How then will they **call on Him** in whom they have **not believed**?

How will they **believe in Him** whom they have **not heard**?

And **how** will they **hear** without a **preacher**?

How will they **preach** unless they are **sent**? Just as it is written,

“How **BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE WHO BRING
GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS**”. (Romans 10:14-15)

What then is **Apollos**? And what is **Paul**? **Servants** through whom
you believed, even as the **Lord** gave **opportunity** to each one.

I **planted**, **Apollos watered**, but **God was causing the growth**.

(I Corinthians 3:5-6)

C. By *Participating* in the ongoing “**commission**” of making
disciples of **Messiah**, and *establishing* them in the **faith**. As
new believers grow and *mature*, they become “**co-laborers**” in
the **harvest**—the “**sowing**” of the **word of God**, and the “**reaping**”
of “**fruit for life eternal**.” (John 4:36)

And **Jesus** came up and spoke to **them (His disciples)**, saying,..

“Go therefore and **make disciples** of **all the nations**,

baptizing them in the name of the **Father** and the **Son** and the **Holy Spirit**,

teaching them to **observe all that I commanded you**;

and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the **end of the age**.”

(Matthew 28:18-20)

And **He gave some (gifted people)** as **apostles**, and some as **prophets**,
and some as **evangelists**, and some as **pastors** and **teachers**,

for the **equipping** of the **saints** for the **work of service**,

to the **building up** of the **body of Messiah**;

until we all attain to the **unity** of the **faith**,

and of the **knowledge** of the **Son of God**, to a **mature man**,

to the **measure** of the **stature** which belongs to the **fullness of Messiah**.

(Ephesians 4:11-13)

The **things** which you have **heard from me**

in the presence of many witnesses, **entrust these** to **faithful men**

who will be **able** to **teach others** also. (II Timothy 2:2)

D. By **Praying fervently** for an **outpouring** of **God's Spirit**, and for a **great "spiritual" revival** and **harvest** among *both Jews and Gentiles*

Therefore **pray** the **Lord of the harvest** to **send out laborers** into **His harvest.**" (Matthew 9:37-38)

Then **he** (the angel) said to me,...
"This is the **word of the LORD** to **Zerubbabel** saying,
'**Not** by **might** nor by **power**, but by **My Spirit**,'
says the **LORD of hosts.** (Zachariah 4:6)

...you will receive **power** when the **Holy Spirit** has come upon you;
and you shall be **My witnesses** both in **Jerusalem**, and in all **Judea** and **Samaria**,
and even to the **remotest part** of the **earth.**" (Acts 1:8)

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love;..
rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer,
(Romans 12:10a, 12)

"It will come about after this (**end times**)
that **I will pour out My Spirit** on all mankind;..

and your sons and daughters will **prophecy**,
your old men will **dream dreams**,
your young men will **see visions**...

And it will come about that **whoever calls** on the **name of the LORD**
will be **delivered;**" (Joel 2:28, 32a)

E. By **Patiently** and **faithfully laboring**, even when times are **difficult**,
and the **harvest** is "**scarce**"

Let us **not lose heart** in doing **good**, for in **due time**
we **will reap** if we do not grow **weary**.
(Galatians 6:9)

Therefore be **patient**, brethren, until the **coming of the Lord**.

The **farmer** waits for the **precious produce** of the **soil**, being **patient**
about it, until it gets the **early** and **late rains**.

You too be **patient**, strengthen your **hearts**,
for the **coming of the Lord** is **near**.
(James 5:7-8)

Communion