

# **The Mercy of God and the Authority of the Church**

**Ephesians 2:4-10**

**July 29, 2007**

# Revelation 1:12-16

Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lamp-stands, and in the midst of the lamp-stands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest. The hairs of his head were white like wool, as white as snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters. In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength.

## Hebrews 2:5-8

Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honor, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

## Key Question:

How will God the Father take the not yet and make it into the already?

What means will God use to subject those things to Christ that are not yet subjected to Christ?

# Answer...

You are the primary means by which  
God the Father will subject to Christ  
what is not already subject to  
Christ!

The church, worldwide, is the  
instrument in the hands of God that  
he uses to subject the un-subjected  
to Christ!

# Two Realities for Christians:

1. We live with Christ in God
2. We live on this earth, emptied out like Christ for the glory of God

# How does this affect us?

- Obedience
- Taking up our Cross
- Welcoming Strangers
- Healing the Sick
- Clothing the Naked
- Feeding the Hungry
- Visiting those in Prison
- Living for the Glory of God!

# A Key Thought:

As we go in the name of Jesus Christ, we go with the authority of Jesus Christ, for he has said, “Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”