

Apostolic Alignment

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Many who are in the Apostolic movement, in the body of Christ, and the five-fold ministry have been out of proper alignment. Some are living in ignorance and in outright rebellion, being self-willed and stiff-necked toward God's divine Apostolic order. God's severity and correction have dealt with some, but the final judgments of God came because many would not align themselves with His purpose and plan.

The truth of God's Word never changes. The new birth of Acts 2:38 is the only plan of salvation. The doctrine of holiness and separation will never change, no matter what new cart comes along. These are Apostolic absolutes that can never be compromised. The smoke and mirrors of sensationalism, hype, and trickery of a Jacob and an Esau spirit will never bring a true anointing. We have seen these expressions on platforms that have produced nothing more than a Hollywood show of Pentecostal performers who have learned the mechanics of worship and have all the calisthenics of an Apostolic-Pentecostal. However, the glory has departed, and Ichabod is over the door. It's merely emotional hype from the pulpit to the pew and is nothing more than showmanship. There is an appearance of hearts being stirred, but they're not changed. We call it "good church."

Isaiah 1:2 says, "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me."

Rebels ruin everything they touch

- It is like cancer.
- Rebels breed rebels.
- Parents are fools if they allow their children to become companions of rebels.

Apostolic alignment can only happen through the work of His spirit, the preached word, and the five-fold ministry. Many need to once again align themselves under Apostolic authority, the five-fold ministry and have an elder in their life to preach to them so that they can be saved. We want the double portion but don't know how to give double honor. Many have lost their Apostolic authority because they have not aligned themselves with the elder or pastor assigned to their life.

I Tim 5:1-17 is the scripture that specifically advises us to give double honor to the man of God. The story of Elijah and Elisha has always intrigued me because of the alignment he had with his man of God. The man called Elisha, a farm boy wasn't called from the seminary. God bypassed the school of the prophets and found himself a successor. The mantle fell to a young man that was aligned and walked with his man of God. He never got out of order. Unfortunately, what I have seen over the years are people that resemble a Pepsi machine that says out of order. There should be no room for a maverick or a lone ranger because God is a God of divine order.

The five-fold ministry is for the perfecting of the saints to be equipped for service in the Apostolic Pentecostal Church of the living God. We must align ourselves with the man of God, elder, and pastor in our life. Many are not aligned and are not under Apostolic authority, and that's why there is fear, anxiety, and confusion in their lives. No matter how spiritual you think you are or how much you pray and fast, it is God who has set the church in order and uses the five-fold ministry (see Eph 4:11-13) to keep us in perfect alignment.

He has given you a pastor to preach, teach, and to set the church in order so that we can live our lives in perfect harmony and unity and have the peace of God to rule in our hearts (see Col 3:15-17). Many have no peace or joy. They live in disorder and disunity because they fail to become properly aligned with the pulpit and with the preaching of the Word of God. They fail to live and practice what's preached from the Word of God. As James says, "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only..."

The Bible also says in Hebrews 13:17, "Obey them that have the rule over you..." Not selective submission, but submission to God's authority in your life. Stay under God's authority. The authority of God is established in His church, and the five-fold ministry has authority from God to rebuke and correct.

As we see in the Old Testament church, rebellion was present in the wilderness. Numbers 16 and 17 confirm that the judgment of God fell upon those that rebelled against Moses. God had established His authority in Moses His prophet and gave him the assignment to bring deliverance to the church in Egypt. This is a lesson for us to remember—that when you get out of alignment and touch God's anointed, you risk God's judgment.

Paul, the apostle, wrote in his epistle in 2 Tim 3:8, that Jannes and Jambres withstood Moses with resistance and lack of respect and honor for the man of God and the authority that God gave him (see 2 Tim 3:8-10; 2 Tim 2:17-19).

Definitions of HY-me-nae'us and Philetus:

Hymenaeus: "belonging to marriage." A heretic, one of the opponents of the Apostle Paul.

Philetus: "beloved." A heretic and a disciple of Hymenaeus (see 2 Tim 2:17-19).

Saul was disobedient when he disrespected the prophet and authority that was in Samuel; he thought he knew better and selected his submission to his own revelation of what he interpreted to mean and he did not do it according to the word of the LORD.

1 Sam 15:26 says:

And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, and the Lord hath rejected thee from being king over Israel.

What was the cost to Saul for his rebellion? He lost the anointing; he lost his position of authority as king; he got oppressed by an evil spirit. And the last result of not being aligned with God's authority in his life was a shameful death.

Absalom was the third son of David and Maacah, daughter of Talmai (2 Sam 3:3). The Bible describes him as the most handsome man in the kingdom (2 Sam 14:25). After some time, Absalom led a rebellion against his own father and was killed in a battle in the wood of Ephraim.

An "Absalom Spirit" is named after Absalom, the third son of David, who was in open rebellion against his father. Those who believe in a vast array of oppressive demons apply the label "The Spirit of Absalom" to temptations such as defiance against spiritual authority, forming cliques within a church, or a lack of proper submission. Others blame the "Absalom Spirit" for gossip, criticism of a pastor, or church divisions. Still, other views ascribe flattery, false humility, or hunger for power to this specific demonic presence.

Of course, since the idea of an "Absalom Spirit" is based mainly on speculation, with very little truth, it comes with a confusing range of interpretations. Two people who believe in an "Absalom Spirit" might have identical or entirely contradictory views of what it means and how this spirit operates. The same traits blamed on a "Spirit of Absalom" are often associated with other demons (assigned names) such as Ahab, Leviathan, Jezebel, and Delilah. Scripture gives no reason to think there is a demonic entity named "Absalom" or that Christians have the power to identify it or rebuke it. Nowhere does the Bible imply that there are "specialty" demons responsible for specific sins or attitudes. The Bible does not mention a category of evil spirits corresponding to the historical Absalom. The teaching of an "Absalom Spirit" goes well beyond what the Bible says.

Demonic oppression and possession occur, but whether or not a demonic presence affects someone, inventing jumbled folklore of demons and spirits is unhelpful. Prayer, discipleship, and obedience to God are the only meaningful answers to spiritual problems.

The root of rebellion is in its creator, the devil, Lucifer, the Father of lies, who first came against God's authority. He wanted to sit upon the throne to be God, but there can only be one God, and His name is Jesus!

The following speaks to the fall of Satan (Luke 10:17-19, Isa 14). Let us consider the five "I WILLS" of Lucifer as found in Isaiah 14:13-14:

1) "I WILL ASCEND INTO HEAVEN." Lucifer wanted to mount up or scale to the heavens. He desired to occupy the highest heavens: to probe and to penetrate the kingdom of the infinite God. He wanted to have a very HIGH position!

2) "I WILL EXALT MY THRONE ABOVE THE STARS OF GOD." Lucifer's position and service before God's throne were not enough. He wanted a throne to exercise final authority and make decisions pertaining to the angelic host ("the stars of God"). He wanted to rule over all the angels. God had made him an exalted angel, but Lucifer wanted to be exalted even more. (He was not content to shine as the "morning star"; he wanted to shine as the star of stars with a brilliance that would far outshine all the other stars (even as the sun's brightness makes all the other stars fade away so that you cannot even see them during daylight hours)).

3) "I WILL SIT ALSO UPON THE MOUNT OF THE CONGREGATION." He desired to sit or be enthroned in the highest place having all the angelic assemblies in submission to him. He wanted to be the center of attention. He wanted to be IDOLIZED by all.

4) "I WILL ASCEND ABOVE THE HEIGHTS OF THE CLOUDS." "Clouds" are often used in the Bible to speak of the glory of God (see Matthew 24:30; Acts 1:9; Rev. 1:7). Lucifer coveted God's glory for his own. He failed to acknowledge that his glory and beauty all came from and were dependent upon God. In his sinful pride, Lucifer wanted a glory that would impress and dazzle all creatures.

5) "I WILL BE LIKE THE MOST HIGH." He wanted to be EQUAL with God and to take God's place as Possessor and Ruler of all. He wanted to become a completely independent creature, responsible to no one.

(Pastor George F. Parsons created this helpful diagram to show Lucifer's five haughty "I WILLS").

We are asked many times just what is the problem we encounter most often in our work with strife-torn congregations. In general, I can put it into one word: PRIDE.

- Pride causes us to put self on the throne instead of Christ our Savior.
- Pride causes us to not own our sin, nor be broken over it and the damage it causes others in and out of the church.
- Pride keeps us from apologizing to those we have offended.
- Pride keeps us from authentic biblical repentance and restoration.
- Pride is deadly to our personal and spiritual life, and to the life of the church.
- Pride is as ancient as the fall of Satan, and is still one of his favorite tools.

"Pride [goeth] before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall."
(Proverbs 16:18)

"Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all [of you] be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble. Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time: Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."
(1 Peter 5:5-8)

A Cain spirit: the spirit of control and rebellion against God, a murdering spirit against God.

The First Murder

When God rejected Cain's sacrifice, he was insulted and got mad at God. "And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted [by God]? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door..." (Genesis 4:6-7). If you don't please God, it's because sin lies at the door; and Cain was full of sin. He allowed devils to completely take him over which led him to commit the first murder and kill his own brother. And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel, and slew him (see Genesis 4:8). Cain resented God, and he was jealous of Abel; but because he couldn't kill God, he killed the one who was the most like God—Abel.

After the murder, Cain was so full of arrogance that he tried to deceive God; but no one can deceive God. "And the LORD said unto Cain, Where *is* Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: *Am* I my brother's keeper? And he [God] said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground (Genesis 4:9-10). Today, many cries come up from the ground from people who have been murdered; and God hears every single one. God is aware of every person who has ever committed murder as well as all those who have murder in their hearts.

God was very angry with Cain; and He cursed him saying, "*And now [art] thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand; When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment [is] greater than I can bear.*" (Genesis 4:11-13)

Cain got out of alignment with God and would not bring a blood covenant offering. He knew the law of God but robbed God of his first fruits (in this case it would have been a spotless lamb.) His sacrifice didn't meet God's requirements. He brought an offering of rebellion to God and God rejected it. In his own self-righteousness Cain grew wroth with God. He thought his pride and ego knew better than what God's requirements and law demanded—a blood covenantal offering. He was living outside of a relationship with God. He lost respect for God's authority and because of that became the first murderer.

He got mad at God and became jealous of his brother who fulfilled a covenantal relationship with God. Abel brought the firstling of the flock; he brought the tithe and paid his tithes through a blood covenant relationship with his God and God was pleased and blessed him. The rebellion and jealousy in Cain caused him to murder his own brother and his blood cried unto God. Satan kills what he cannot control and possess. The Bible says, that Satan is the father of lies and was a murderer from the beginning, Satan possessed Cain:

Cain = "possession"

1. eldest son of Adam and Eve and the first murderer having murdered his brother Abel **n pr gent** Kenite = "smiths"
2. the tribe from which the father-in-law of Moses was a member and which lived in the area between southern Palestine and the mountains of Sinai

Cain's name in Hebrew means possession. When you're not in divine Apostolic Pentecostal order, you will let spirits in your home that will oppress you, depress you and suppress you which will eventually possess you. God marked Cain. Many have been marked in the church. Paul marked the rebellious in the church of the living God.

17 Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them.

18 For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly; and by good words and fair speeches deceive the hearts of the simple. (Rom 16:17-18)

The authority to correct, rebuke, and exhort has been given to the Apostolic Pentecostal church (Matt 16:18-19.) He has given us the power and authority through the new birth Acts 2:38 message. We are in the church, baptized by one spirit and one name: the name of Jesus. He has given us the keys to the kingdom to bind and loose. He has given us power and authority through baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 1:4-8).

4 And, being assembled together with [them], commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, [saith he], ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. (Acts 1:4-8) (See Acts 2:1-4, KJV 1900; Acts 2:1-4, NIV.)

The Holy Spirit Comes at Pentecost

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” (Acts 2:1-4)

We have power and authority through the Holy Ghost, Christ in you the hope of glory, to be a witness. The witness or evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost is speaking in tongues and the ongoing fruit of the Spirit and power of God flowing through you like a violent river. Speaking in tongues is the evidence. If there're no tongues, then there's no Holy Ghost. We have the power to cast out devils, heal the sick, raise the dead, remit sin in Jesus name baptism, and have the power and authority over all the power of the enemy (see Luke 10:19.) It's called the Apostolic Pentecostal experience of Acts 2:38, the new birth.

Nobody has the power or authority over you to hurt you or harm you unless you get out of Apostolic alignment and get out of your assignment and backslide. Don't get into rebellion against your pastor or elder in your life and touch God's anointed. You will bring a curse upon your life, lose your divine favor and God will try to bring you back into alignment through His Word and five-fold ministry. God will chastise and correct those who are His sons and daughters that get out of His will and backslide. Let's take a look at the rebellion in Jonah. God used a strong wind, then a whale and finally a worm which devoured the tree that provided him shade in order to get his attention.

"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you"

(Luke 10:19).

The Rebellion of Uzzah

Uzzah was smitten for touching the ark, Obed-edom blessed. Uzzah was struck dead for touching the ark probably because God saw presumption and irreverence in Uzzah's heart. Familiarity, even with that which is most awful, is apt to breed contempt. If it were so great a crime for one to lay hold on the ark of the covenant when one had no right to do so, what is it for those to lay claim to the privileges of the covenant that come not up to the terms of it? Obed-edom opened his doors without fear, knowing the ark was a savour of death unto death to those only who treated it wrong. The same hand that punished Uzzah's proud presumption, rewarded Obed-edom's humble boldness. Let none think the worse of the gospel for the judgments on those that reject it, but consider the blessings it brings to all who receive it. Let masters of families be encouraged to keep up religion in their families. It is good to live in a family that entertains the ark, for all about it will fare the better (see 2 Sam 6:12-19).

Uzza or Uzzah = "strength"

1. a man slain by Jehovah for touching the sacred ark
2. a Benjamite of the sons of Ehud
3. ancestor of a family of temple slaves who returned from exile with Zerubbabel
4. a Merarite Levite **n pr loc**
5. the garden where kings Manasseh and Amon of Judah were buried

Touch not my anointed and do my prophets no harm. Uzzah touched God's established authority, he did it in rebellion, he did it in self-will; he did it in direct disobedience to God. One thing we must realize is that there are consequences for touching the anointing and the established authority God has put over your life. When Aaron and his sister, Mariam spoke against Moses, they put themselves on the same level as their man of God. They learned a hard lesson that almost cost them their lives. God does the choosing in whom he calls, giving the authority to them to operate and to manifest His plan, purpose and will upon the earth. God gave this kind of authority, not to Aaron and Miriam, who touched God's anointed and payed a price for it. It was not Moses, but it was the God that was with Moses and the authority and power of God that they touched. Uzzah crossed the line and he died for his contempt because he got out of the divine alignment.

There is spiritual leprosy in many churches that have left the old paths. They have brought up a compromised new cart. Many are preaching another gospel. Paul said in his writings to the Galatians, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal 1:8). In other words, anything that does not line up with the Apostolic Doctrine (which is the message of Acts 2:38, the Oneness of the Godhead, holiness within and holiness without and separation from the world), we better run from it! This church of relativism, is full of compromise and has led many down the slippery slope to hell. It has taken them out of alignment with Apostolic doctrine into misalignment. The end result is that this type of church becomes blinded and will not receive correction from an elder or the pastor it is under. Many of them have also been plagued with divorces, sicknesses, diseases, and death because they crossed the line. Also, their children's lives are delivered into bondage and their kids to drugs, alcohol, and perversion. This was all due to the fact that they could not come under the rod of Aaron, which represents the rod of living life under authority and under the cover of the Lord. It all did not have to end that way.

Over the thirty-eight plus years of my experience in the ministry, I have seen many men and women rebel against the man of God. They live as hypocrites, refusing to live the Apostolic-Pentecostal life of victory (more specifically, these are those that want to live a double life, straddle the fence, do not submit to the Word and the devotion of their local church). Those who rebelled, came against me on social media and gossiped to others in and out of the church. They were two-faced, appearing to be one way in front of their man of God and another way behind my back. It is not the man of God who is so special, nor is it his education or dedication. It is the anointing and the authority in the man. When people decide to touch this authority, the lines have been crossed.

Example of Acts 5:1-10

"But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And kept back [part] of the price, his wife also being privy [to it], and brought a certain part, and laid it at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back [part] of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? and after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things. And the young men arose, wound him up, and carried [him] out, and buried him. And it was about the space of three hours after, when his wife, not knowing what was done, came in. And Peter answered unto her, Tell me whether ye sold the land for so much? And she said, Yea, for so much. Then Peter said unto her, How is it that ye have agreed together to tempt the Spirit of the Lord? behold, the feet of them which have buried thy husband [are] at the door, and shall carry thee out. Then fell she down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and, carrying [her] forth, buried [her] by her husband."

The Lord tries to deal with rebellion through correction. However, when correction is not heeded, the result is that we become stiff-necked. Having a stiff-neck ends in death. Just consider these individuals in the Bible:

Absalom (2 Sam 15:1-11, 18:9-10)
Saul (1 Sam 15, 31:3-6)
Cain (Gen 4)
Michal (2 Sam 6:18-23)
Shimei (2 Sam 16:5-14, 19:16-23)
Pharaoh (Ex 8-14)
Adam and Eve (Gen 3)
Judas (Matt 27:3-5, Mk 14:44-46)

If they could do it all over again, do you believe they would have any regrets or would they repeat the same mistake? In all of these cases, the result of their rebellion was spiritual and/or physical death.

Divine Alignment

According to Oxford Languages, the definition of alignment is:

1. arrangement in a straight line, or in correct or appropriate relative positions, "the tiles had slipped out of alignment"
2. a position of agreement or alliance, "the uncertain nature of political alignments"

Some of us need a front-end alignment in our life! When the front end of a car is aligned, it operates more smoothly while driving. We have seen many in the Bible that died untimely deaths due to a lack of being aligned properly with the Lord Jesus Christ. Many also have suffered through trials and tribulations to bring them into correction.

“And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him.” (Hebrews 12:5)

“For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected [us], and we gave [them] reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened [us] after their own pleasure; but he for [our] profit, that [we] might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.” (Hebrews 12:6-11)

When Do I Need an Alignment?

The most common signs of misalignment are the pulling to one side of a vehicle while it is being driven, unusual tire wear and/or a steering wheel that's off-center even though the vehicle is pointed straight. These symptoms can have other causes, sometimes simpler and sometimes not. A pull on your steering wheel can be caused by road conditions. Out of balance tires need to be brought back into balanced alignment. Many suffer the consequences of spiritual misalignment and blame it on the devil. However, all they need to do is check the balance of their spiritual tires to see if they are in alignment or misalignment.

We need to regularly do a self check-up to see if we are out of balance. Ask yourself am I aligned with the elder/pastor that God has placed in my life? Do I believe, live and practice what he teaches and preaches? Or do I do what I want and live the life of a hypocrite?

What Are the Signs of a poor Alignment?

You may notice one or more of these alignment issues when driving your car:

- Uneven or rapid tire wear
- Steering wheel being crooked when you are driving straight
- Noisy steering
- Pulling to the right or left
- Squealing tires

Ask yourself if you are in need of a front-end spiritual alignment. In order to take spiritual inventory, we need to quit looking at the splinter in our brother's eye and look deep within our own spirit. Through prayer, fasting, and repentance we need to ask God to align us in every area of our lives. We do not want to miss our next season because of disobedience in our lives.

Rebels need to realize that it may be too late!

- Esau sold his birthright and never did get it back.
- Hebrews 12:17 "For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears."

Brother Walker