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## **Ariel Gate International**

## A New Wineskin for a New Era

For I am about to do something new. See, I have already begun! Do you not see it? Isaiah 43:19 (New Living Translation)

We have declared since Rosh Hashanah 2011 that a new era has begun. God is doing a new thing in the earth-and if He is doing a new thing, there needs to be a new wineskin to hold it. This implies that God is looking for us to change to accommodate the new thing that He is doing. So this year has been all about CHANGE. Not simply talking about it, but actually CHANGING!

At Rosh Hashanah last year, Apostle Tim Carscadden prophesied to us that in 8 months, Ariel Gate would go through a massive change or transition. We all applauded and were excited and then God actually started requiring us to change!

During our April convention, God impressed upon Apostle Natasha that He wanted to enlarge and increase Ariel Gate. The challenge was that the present wine skin would not be able to hold the new wine that He wished to pour out. We laid Ariel Gate before the Lord and gave Him permission to do with it as He pleased (many of you will remember doing this in the morning intercession at the convention). The result was that we closed the House from after the convention until Pentecost.

In this time, God directed us to re-structure Ariel Gate and add the word International to our name. This was significant because God was saying that what He wishes to accomplish through Ariel Gate is international and not limited to Africa only. During this same period, we finalized the purchase of a new property for Ariel Gate as well.

Everything came together in 'God-Timing' so that we re-launched ARIEL GATE INTERNATIONAL from our new premises on Pentecost 2013. Dr Richard Heard (our spiritual father) was with us for the launch. He, too, is very excited as we step into this new structure and season.

Ariel Gate International now consists of 3 non-profit companies that are the vehicles or structures through which we will carry out the vision God has given. Ariel Gate International House of Strategy (AGIHOS) is the structure which facilitates the intercession of the House. (If you were not at the launch, I recommend that you get a copy of the DVD or CD so that you can hear the full presentation of the new structure of Ariel Gate International.)

We also own 18 hectares of land on the outskirts of Johannesburg. We have moved our offices and all our operations to this land- God has indeed enlarged us and stretched our tent pegs. It has been daunting, challenging, nerve-wracking and VERY stretching -but doesn't that sound like everything in the Kingdom of God?

The exciting part is that, according to His instruction to us, we are making ready a new wineskin into which He can pour new wine. This fillis us with expectation and hope for the future.

The challenge is letting go of the old, familiar structure and ways of doing things. In these past 2 months since we closed down the old Ariel Gate, many of us have been in a place of mourning. Ecclesiastes 3:1 says, *To everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven.* There has been a time of mourning for the old, which has been good. God makes provision for us to mourn. But when that time is over, we must ensure that we rise up from our place of mourning, wash ourselves, change our garments and continue to move with God.Once God declares that something is over, and He moves on, we must move with Him. Our future and our hope is with God, where He is.

The time of mourning for the old Ariel Gate is over. While we will always honor the old wineskin, we must begin to operate in the new. God is doing a new thing and if we continue to cling to the old, we will find ourselves in a place of death and not life. If we continue to linger in the place of mourning when the season for mourning is over, a spirit of death comes to rest on us. Then we are no longer mourning, but we start to die.

We need to learn from David, who, when his son died according to the word of the Lord, arose from the ground, washed and anointed himself, and changed his clothes; and he went into the house of the Lord and worshiped. Then he went to his own house; and when he requested, they set food before him, and he ate. (2 Samuel 12:20) David understood that God was moving on. God had ended a season and David could not continue to mourn when God has said it was over.

David gets up from the place where he has been mourning. He changes his position. He physically stops lying where he has been lying.

He washes himself. He cleans away the tears and the grime which would have collected on him while he was mourning. This speaks of allowing the water of the Word to cleanse away all the pain and sadness.

He anoints himself. He does not run around looking for someone to pray for him, he lays hold of the grace of God to help Him move into the new.

He changes his clothes. He no longer wears mourning garments. He puts on a new mantle, he begins to speak differently. He wears a garment that displays his readiness to continue in what God has called him to.

Then he goes to worship in the House of The Lord. He goes to lay himself afresh on God's altar. He lays down his life again in service to The Lord. He recommits himself to God and to the new season.

Lastly, he returns to his house and he eats. He does not try to be alone, but goes to the community where he will be encouraged and strengthened to continue in his calling.

Directly after this we see God gives David a son, Solomon, who goes on to be son through which David 's house is established to a thousand generations.

We need to be like David. We need to put the past in the past and continue on with God. Ariel Gate International is a new structure for a new era. God is creating a multiple-generational house with a global vision and we have the privilege of being part of its birth!



Sunday Meeting at AGIHOS

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