

Between the rumor that 'it will fail' and the promise that 'they will work'

peter · June 15, 2026

AI summary

Two Voices in the Fellowship Room After the June 3 Local Elections, A Christian Perspective on the Crisis
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Then, a congregant quietly but firmly responded. *"No. I think differently. God is currently working to purify the Korean church further, so that it may experience a true spiritual revival in 10 years."*

This short conversation encapsulates the great crossroads that the Korean church faces today. **One is an eye that sees reality, and the other is an eye that sees the Word.** With what eyes are we reading this era now?

The Identity of the 'Crisis Theory': A Warning or a Stratagem?

Decreasing church membership, the departure of the next generation, and rock-bottom social trust. The crisis felt by pastors and congregants on the ground is an undeniable reality. However, there is something we must calmly examine. **That is, what is the source and purpose of that spell-like statement, "It will collapse in 10 years"?**

If that statement is a prophetic warning urging the Korean church to painful repentance, then we should certainly heed it. However, if that statement only breeds discouragement, distrust, and resignation within the community, then the situation is different. A discouraged congregant does not kneel in prayer, and a resigned church does not shed tears for the next generation. To fall into

helplessness and abandon hope oneself—that is not God's will, but closer to a dark stratagem to bring down the church. The refutation from a congregant that echoed in the fellowship room was not mere optimism. It was a 'declaration of faith' in the faithfulness of the living God.

The Age of Noah, and Today

The Bible diagnosed Noah's era, stating, *"that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually"* (Genesis 6:5). Although today's South Korea may have become materially prosperous, it resembles Noah's time amidst a trend where money and power replace values, families are dismantled, and life is disregarded.

However, amidst this bleak diagnosis, there is a truth we must never miss. **That is the fact that God has never once given up on this land.** Before the flood of judgment came, God sought out Noah, and through him, prepared for a new beginning for humanity. God's intervention was not for destruction, but for 'renewal' and 're-creation'.

"I will not leave you or forsake you." (Joshua 1:5)

After Moses died and the wilderness before them ended, this was the word that came to the community of Israel, trembling with fear as they faced an unknown land. One does not say, "I will not abandon you," to someone they do not love. The bitter crisis that the Korean church is experiencing today is not God's turning away, but 'another name for tough love' to purify us.

When the World Looks at the Church

If Christians become discouraged and collapse, the world looking at the church will also abandon the gospel and hope. If the church also shakes when the world shakes, where will the world see salvation? When Noah built the ark, the world mocked him, but when the rain finally began to pour, the ark was the only way to life.

The person God is looking for now is not a messenger spreading rumors of 'collapse'. Like Noah, who silently built the ark as the world became more corrupt, it is a person who walks with God without being swept away by the currents of the world (Genesis 6:9).

Will we see the fierce waves of reality, or the Lord walking on the waves? Will we succumb to cold statistics, or cling to the unchanging word of promise? The choice is ours. In 10 years, the future of a spiritual revival where the completely purified Korean church kneels before the Lord is by no means an impossible dream. God is still working. And He is looking for 'Noah's of this age' to be used in that history of salvation.

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

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