I Believe Apostles Are Leaders In The Kingdom Of God

<u>Ephesians 4:8-16</u> tells that God appointed Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, and Teachers as anointed and appointed leadership to assist the saints in completing their kingdom assignments.

What is an Apostle? The word Apostle means a "sent one" or a "delegate" or "messenger". In the New Testament an Apostle is an ambassador with a specific assignment from God. He is sent forth to do the Father's will. Jesus was the Apostle of the Father. The bible says, "God so loved the world that He gave....". Notice also Galatians 4:4; Hebrews 3:1. Just as Jesus was sent form God to inhabit a body, He also raised up Apostles to give leadership to His church. Jesus was the Apostle of the Father. He later established and anointed an Apostolic ministry to provide leadership for the church on earth. As Jesus released spiritual gifts into the lives of men and women chosen for leadership, He also placed them under His own anointing.

You can see the connection with Jesus and the Apostles He sends in the following texts: **Ephesians 2:19,20**; **Corinthians 12:27-29**.

Why do we need Apostles? We need Apostles because Apostles come with particular spiritual gifts and authority to get the job done. Apostles have the gift of Generalship in the Kingdom of God. We need good generals to win the war. While it is true that the weakest believer has enough power and authority to win over the strongest demon, in our fight against the devil we often need assistance, training and extra help to defeat the enemy. The Apostle is like the general in the army who lays out the best plan of battle. The Apostle will add to your weapons. He will add to your anointing. He will increase the power and focus of your actions. Romans 1:11; 2 Timothy 1:6.

Apostles have a ministry of impartation. The help release churches and believers into new dimensions of the Spirit. Apostles help churches have a greater impact on their communities and nations. We need Apostles because Apostles can do what the local leadership is unable to do. They will come into a local church and release the purpose of God for that local church by providing a spiritual covering over that church.