

Gratitude — Thanking, Shouting, Praying

I. Gratitude — Laughing, Thanking, Singing, Shouting, Praying

A. Give Thanks - For Deliverance

1. Experience a great deliverance ... AWAKE

What happened **Tuesday**, connected to 4 years ago... connected to the prayers of the last 4 years.

I am convinced that the verdict was given on October 12. A Million Esthers and Mordecai's, a great altar, praying FROM a heavenly position.

[Ephesians 2](#) (ESV)

⁴ But God, being **rich in mercy**, because of the **great love** with which he loved us,⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, **made us alive together** with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶ and raised us up with him and **seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**,⁷ so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God for a decisive result in the presidential contest and for pro-life victories in Florida, Nebraska, and South Dakota.

Thank you for the **desperation** and **AWAKENING** of your people!

[Psalm 126](#) (ESV)

¹ **When** the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

² **Then** our **mouth** was **filled with laughter**, and our tongue with shouts (songs) of joy; then they said **among the nations**, “The LORD has done great things **for them.**”

³ The **LORD has done great things for us**; we ARE **GLAD!**

NIV filled with joy. Heb. hayinu samekhim

B. Give Thanks - for heroes who have given themselves for breakthrough

ARISE!

To all who *wept* and *prayed*, to all who *voted*, to all who *worked* — Thank you!

As a nation, we averted going off the cliff... you were part of the rescue

Kim Clement — who spoke of the “roaring 20’s.” Will America have a return?

For the sake of families, children and the future of our nation

C. Give Thanks - When our Only Hope is God

COUNT IT ALL JOY!

[2 Chronicles 20](#) (ESV)

¹ After this the Moabites and Ammonites, and with them some of the Meunites, came against Jehoshaphat for battle. ² Some men came and told Jehoshaphat, “**A great multitude is coming against you** from Edom, from beyond the sea; and, behold, they are in Hazazon-tamar” (that is, Engedi).

³ Then Jehoshaphat **was afraid and set his face to seek the LORD**, and **proclaimed a fast** throughout all Judah. ⁴ And Judah **assembled...** from all the cities ... they came **to seek the LORD**.

⁵And Jehoshaphat stood in the assembly ... in the house of the LORD, ... ⁶ and said, “O LORD, God of our fathers, ... *You rule over all the kingdoms of the nations*. ... none is able to withstand you... ⁹ ...we will stand before ... you... and cry out ... and you **will hear** and **save**.”

¹² O our God, will you not execute judgment on them? For we are powerless against this great horde that is coming against us. **We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.**”

¹³ Meanwhile all Judah stood before the LORD... ¹⁴ And the **Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel** ...

¹⁵ And he said, “**Listen**, ... Thus says the LORD to you, ‘**Do not be afraid** and **do not be dismayed** at this great horde, for **the battle is not yours but God’s**. ...

¹⁷ You will not need to fight in **this** battle. **Stand firm, hold your position, and see the salvation of the LORD on your behalf**. O Judah and Jerusalem.’ **Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed**. **Tomorrow** go out against them, and **the LORD will be with you.**”

¹⁸ Then Jehoshaphat **bowed his head** with his **face to the ground**, and **all ... fell down...**, **worshipping** the LORD. ¹⁹ And the Levites... stood up to **praise the LORD**, the God of Israel, **with a very loud voice**.

Jehoshaphat's Call to Faith

²⁰ And they rose early in the morning and went out into the wilderness of Tekoa. And when they went out, Jehoshaphat stood and said, "Hear me, Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem! ***Believe in the LORD your God, and you will be established; believe his prophets, and you will succeed.***" NET — and **you will win (prosper, thrive, press through, be profitable)**

Praise Releases Victory

²¹ (NIV) After consulting the people, Jehoshaphat appointed men to ***sing to the LORD*** and ***to praise him*** for the ***splendor of his holiness*** as they went out at the head of the army, saying: "Give thanks to the LORD, for ***his (faithful, steadfast) love*** (*chesed*) endures forever."

NO EYE HAS SEEN!

²² And ***when they began to sing and praise***, the ***LORD set an ambush*** against the men of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah, ***so that they were routed.***

²³ For the men of Ammon and Moab rose against the inhabitants of Mount Seir, devoting them to destruction, and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, ***they all helped to destroy one another.***

²⁴ When Judah came to the watchtower ... and ***behold***, there were dead bodies lying on the ground; none had escaped. ²⁵ When Jehoshaphat and his people came to take their spoil, They were ***three days in taking the spoil***, it was so much.

²⁶ On the fourth day they assembled in the ***Valley of Beracah***, for ***there they blessed the LORD.***

Hope restored ... a unique season of restoration...

II. Be Aware of the Opportunities

A. Walk in the Spirit (in Love)

[Galatians 5:](#)(ESV)

¹⁶ But I say, ***walk by the Spirit***, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

²² But the ***fruit of the Spirit is love***, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Fruit of the Spirit is LOVE (agape, self-donating, non-transactional)

B. Redeem the Time

[Ephesians 5:16](#) (NIV) making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.

[Colossians 4:5](#) (NIV) Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity.

III. God is Looking for Partners

Call to action:

[2 Chronicles 16:9](#) (NKJV) For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of *those* whose heart *is* loyal to Him....

Commission to Go...

1) Give thanks. Our nation was given an undeserved mercy last night, and it is a window for repentance (more on that later).

No Christian anywhere should've supported the policy platform that was (mercifully) defeated last night and saying that should never have been controversial. In fact, it should prompt *deep* reflection about what happened to the US church in the last ~20 years that made it controversial for a pastor to say that.

It is not wrong to celebrate and give thanks today for being spared from something our rebellious nation deserved. If you have kids, they need to see you celebrate because it trains their hearts! "When wicked things perish, there are shouts of joy" — [Prov 11:10](#)

2) Pray. Not only because we are commanded to pray for our governing leaders ([1 Tim 2:1](#)), but because of the situation.

We elected Jehu (a flawed leader who defeated a greater evil) not Josiah (a righteous leader who led national revival), and that comes with risks.

The command "Do not put your trust in princes" ([Psalm 146:3](#)) means there is **Someone** 10 trillion times greater than a President and **something** 10 billion times greater than an election that we should ache and hunger for — **an outpouring of the Spirit in our generation.**

[Psalm 20](#) (ESV) TO THE CHOIRMASTER. A PSALM OF DAVID.

¹ May the LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect (set you securely on high) you!

² May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion!

³ May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! *Selah*

⁴ May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans! (all your plans succeed)

⁵ May we **shout for joy** over your salvation, and **in the name** of our God **set up our banners!** May the LORD fulfill all your petitions!

⁶ **Now I know** that the LORD saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand.

⁷ Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we **trust* in the name** of the LORD our God.

*** think (about), meditate (upon); remember; declare, recite, proclaim, invoke, boast in, confess**

⁸ They collapse (bowed down, brought to their knees) and fall, but we rise and stand upright.

⁹ O LORD, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

Early Wednesday morning, President elect Trump called for Americans to ‘put the divisions of the past behind us,’ and he presented a warm and inviting vision of America’s future. He spoke of God saving his life when a shooter tried to assassinate him — and came so very close to doing so.

In the course of his campaign, he has often spoken with far less graciousness. The American people have given him the rarest of gifts: a second presidency. So much now rests on his shoulders.

We need Donald Trump to live up to the spirit of his words presented early Wednesday morning.

He has an opportunity to change history.

He was elected with great hopes and expectations and giant challenges.

He has often proved to be his own worst enemy.

We need Donald Trump to be as strong as he sees himself to be and to be a statesman equal to these demanding times.

As believers, our task is now to pray for President-elect Trump and for our nation. We know that much before we know anything else. The American electoral system worked and produced a clear winner.

3) Be the adult in the room. Politicians last four years; friends and family last lifetimes. Do not lose a lifelong relationship over a short-term leader. Obviously without compromising your convictions, be a **unifier** ([Eph 4:3](#)) and **peacemaker** ([Matt 5:9](#)) today. Walk in LOVE.

4) Throw yourself into the purposes of God in our generation.

Absent a **spiritual awakening** in our country, it will not matter in the long run if there are politicians who will propose godly laws.

There won’t be enough godly people to vote for them.

More importantly, Judeo-Christian values can keep a nation out of chaos,
but they cannot keep a person out of hell.

Only the blood of Jesus Christ can do that.

The **main thing** is still the main thing: **making disciples** of all nations.

Reformation and revival for a resurgence of the purposes of God in our generation.

It feels like we're on the verge;

The tall grass is rustling everywhere, and we're waiting to see where the Lion of Judah will pounce.

IV. Blessed to Be a Blessing

Come to me, all who are thirsty... I will give you drink.

[Numbers 6](#)(ESV)

²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

²⁷ "So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them."