# **Praise on the Threshing Floor**

## **I. Threshing Floors**

There is a place called the Threshing Floor. Separating the chaff from the seeds of greatness.

Luke 3:16 ESV John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

- **A.** It's a place of separation: The past from the future!
- **B. Life Cycle of wheat** Plant, Sprout, Green grass, Harvest, Threshing, Winnowing

**Chaff:** Necessary, beautiful in its time: Support, Nourish, Protect. No longer needed.

**Weeds:** The tares or weeds: toxic seeds — Pride, insecurity, etc. Dysfunctional parts separated from the great and precious Promises, Seeds of greatness.

**C. Everyday Threshing:** What we think is a bad break, might be a threshing floor.

Stuck in Traffic; THAT person at work that always gets on your nerves

The situation may not change, but you will. You're getting better. You're being refined.

### D. The Key is to stay in PEACE

Don't fight it. Work with God, and let the situation change us.

- If God has me here, I must need it. I'm coming out more refined, more valuable.
- **Stay in peace.** God is not going to harm anything you need. The trial will burn off anything that's not needed.

#### **D. Transformed by Threshing Floors:**

- Peter's denial led to bitter weeping. Under pressure, the impurities come out. 3000 on Pentecost, healing in his shadow. Prison doors!
- **Gideon** The angel met him on the threshing floor. (Judges 6) No more will your harvest be stolen. **Shake off** disappointments, bad reports. The Lord is WITH you! Mighty man of valor, mighty warrior.
- Not because you're being punished. You're being prepared for a new season. Greater trust, greater confidence.

#### The THRESHING FLOOR is not defeating you, it's promoting you!

David – The oxen stumbled at Nachon's (that which is established)
Threshing Floor. A bump in the Road.

David was depressed for 3 months.

Something dies, so something new can be born.

The loss, the divorce, the child that's breaking your heart, the sickness.

Not just separation, but also preparation. Separating from past, preparing for the future.

David went and **PREPARED** a place for the ark.

2 Sam 6.17 ESV And they brought in the ark of the LORD and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it. And David offered burnt offerings and peace offerings before the LORD.

Don't get stuck!

### **II. Gateways to Your Future**

#### A. Temple Built on a Threshing Floor

2 Chr 3.1 ESV Then Solomon began to build the house of the LORD in Jerusalem on Mount Moriah, where the LORD had appeared to David his father, at the place that David had appointed, on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.

#### **B.** Access to Creative Possibilities

Thanksgiving & Praise and the Gates – ACCESS to PRESENCE

Gates to Heavenly Jerusalem are **PEARLS** (Rev 21:21)

JEWELS formed by irritation.

An offering of thanks. A gate is a place of entrance and access.

An offering in a moment of difficulty. **Violating the enemy's suggestion**.

Go through the gates -- the sacrifice of thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving is a sacrifice, Praise is a sacrifice, Worship is a response!

Ps 50.23 NIV He who sacrifices thank offerings honors me, and he **prepares the way** so that I may show him the salvation of God."

Heb 13.15 NKJ Therefore by Him let us **continually** offer the **sacrifice of praise** to God, that is, the fruit of *our* lips, **giving thanks** to His name.

Thanksgiving and praise shifts the atmosphere.

## **B. Releasing Creative Energy**

Phil 2.14 NIV Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe 16 as you hold out the word of life — ...

Holding forth the creative word of life!

Praise is **place of refuge and safety** in the midst of darkness.

Phil 4.4 ESV Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ lesus.

**PEACE** crushes the enemy!

Rom 16.20 ESV The <u>God of peace</u> will soon <u>crush</u> Satan under <u>your</u> feet. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

## The Father is seeking WORSHIPERS