

## *Prayer that Restores*

### I. IN TIMES OF TURNING

#### A. Moments on Which History Pivots

Ever feel like God chose the wrong person? "I can't do that." Or "I could do that better than him/her."

#### **The INADEQUATE to do the IMPOSSIBLE**

**Luke 6:12** In these days he went out to the mountain **to pray**, and **all night** he continued in prayer to God. **13** And when day came, he called his disciples and **chose from them twelve**, whom he named apostles:

**Mark 3:13** And he went up on the mountain and called to him **those whom he desired**, and they came to him. **14** And **he appointed twelve** (whom he also named apostles) **so that they might be with him** and he **might send them out to preach** **15** and **have authority to cast out demons**.

Never did **12 men change the course of history** like they did, yet the reasons Jesus chose them are not obvious. 3 years of one-on-one mentoring. They failed.

Then something changed.

**Acts 2:17** I will pour my Spirit on all flesh.

**When** Holy Spirit clothed them with power, they see results!

**God chooses people that we wouldn't!** We wonder if he is serious!

**This is**

**Col. 1:27** The mystery hidden for ages and generations now revealed... **Christ in you, the hope of glory.**

**Christ in YOU**

An assignment for each of us.

## B. Clay Vessels carrying the Promises

**I was least likely to become a preacher** from my High School graduating class! Wise guy. Arrogant. First time I spoke, dry mouth, quivering voice. As a young preacher, I would trip climbing up onto the platform, As a worship leader, couldn't hit the note. AND YET.... 40 years

A little over a month ago, I was at a beautiful outdoor wedding, with amazing people. There were some challenges, the flower girls had dropped their empty container on the ground. I carefully got in out of the center, and moved it next to the step. Later, stepping off the step, I almost lost my balance!

**Jamie Buckingham** was a great preacher & author, whose books sold in the millions. Pastor of The Tab in Melbourne, FL, - some hilarious experiences. At a **formal wedding**, he came into the sanctuary directly from the restroom. He didn't realize until he was standing in front of all the people, that stuck to his shoe and trailing behind was an **8 foot stream of toilet paper**.

Even funnier is the time he baptized a very large woman on an **East-er** morning. She displaced far more water than he had anticipated. The overflow rushed in & filled his **chest waders** to the brim. Thee woman came up. The water went down, leaving him with **400 pounds** of water in his boots. He was stuck to the bottom of the baptistery and could not budge! Before an entire Easter congregation he had to **lower his suspenders** and crawl out of his boots in his underwear.

**He doesn't choose us based on our RESUMÉ, he chooses us for His PURPOSES!**

## II. IN HIS PURPOSE WE HAVE ACCESS

**The spiritual dimension is now accessible to everyone.**

John 14:2 NASB "In My Father's house are many **dwelling places**;...  
a) I go to prepare a **place\*** for you.

\* *topos* - a space or **dimension**; **task**, a **role** of activity and **responsibility**; **position**, **rank** of a person in a group; **possibility**, **opportunity**

You've been given a task, responsibility, a position, a rank, an assignment, a possibility

## PRAYER DIMENSIONS

### 1. Secret Place –

2. **Council of the Lord** – ( As a FRIEND) We **stand** in authority.

3. **Courtroom of Heaven** – (JUDGE) Decisions are made.

4. **Throne of Grace** – come boldly. **obtain mercy** and **find grace** to **help** in **time of need**. THE RIGHT TIME

5. **Rest** – A whisper can shift nations. “Sit .., **until** I make your enemies your **footstool**.”

6. **Mount Zion** (Co-Rule) **from the house of prayer..**

Is. 56:7 **my holy mountain**, and **make them joyful** in **my house of prayer**; \_\_\_ God's authority over nations.

7. **Mysteries** - What's sealed is decoded **Praying in the Spirit**.

8. **Trading Floors** – powerful place of exchange

## III. CRISIS! PERFECT TIMING

### A. **Times of Crisis** – House of Prayer

2Chron. 7:1 As soon as Solomon finished his prayer, **fire came down** from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the **glory of the LORD filled the temple**.

#### ONE WEEK OF FEASTS AND SACRIFICES – FINISHED

2 Chron 7:12 Then **the LORD appeared to Solomon in the night** [slide 1] and said to him: “**I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself** [slide 2] as a **house of sacrifice**.\*

**WE ARE THE TEMPLE** <Heb 13:15 Through Jesus we **CONTINUALLY** offer the **sacrifice of praise**, the fruit of our lips giving thanks {**confessing**} to his **name**. > [slide 3].

13 **When I shut up the heavens** so that there is **no rain**, or command the **locust** to devour the land, or send **pestilence** among my people, <times of **crisis**, turning>

14 if **my people** who are **called by my name** <identity, access>

- (a) **humble themselves**, and <subdue, submit> [slide 4]
- (b) **pray** and <judge, execute, expect *palal*> [5]
- (c) **seek my face** and <desire, inquire, require, look for> [6]
- (d) **turn from their wicked ways**, <leave inferior, diseased, harmful> [7]

## THEN

- (a) I will **hear from heaven** and *SHEMA*
- (b) will **forgive their sin** and *REMOVE SHAME, SORROW* [8]
- (c) **heal their land.** *RESTORE the INHERITANCE* [9]

15 **NOW** my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place. 16 For **NOW** I have **chosen** and **consecrated** this house that my name may be there forever. **My eyes and my heart will be there for all time.** [10]

God APPEARS to answer Solomon's Prayer!

2 Chron. 6:36 "If they sin against you—... **carried away captive**, ... 38 **if they repent** ... 39 **then hear** ... and **forgive** your people.

## PRIEST - KING - IMAGE BEARERS in Everything we DO or SAY

We stand as the **IMAGE** and **LIKENESS** of the Creator within the Temple of Creation.

## B. We are NOW House of Prayer Judge, execute, expect

1Tim 2:1 **First of all**, then, I urge that [11]

- (a) **supplications**, (entreaties, requests) [12]
- (b) **prayers**, (reverent & worshipful conversation) [13]

(c) **intercessions**, and (confident & familiar meet to talk) [14]

(d) **thanksgivings** be made <sacrifice of praise> [15]

**for all people, [16]**

2 **for kings** and **all** who are in **high positions**,  
that we may lead a **peaceful** and **quiet life**,  
**godly** and **dignified** in **every way**.

3 This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior,

4 **who desires all people to be saved** and to **come to the knowledge of the truth**.

### III. CONCLUSION

It's deadly to get distracted in a kairos moment.

1. PRAY - FAST

2. VOTE for LIFE **EKKLESIA**

3. STAY IN LOVE no Matter What! **LIGHT OF THE WORLD**

1Jn 4:16 NIV And so we know and rely on the love God has for us.  
God is love. **Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in him.**

4. OVERFLOW WITH HOPE! NO NEGATIVITY!! Effective Prayer

Ro 15:13 NIV May the **God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust (in believing)** in him, so that you may **overflow with hope** by the **power of the Holy Spirit**.

Prayer for Restoration of the Purposes of our Nation!

A City on a Hill. A Beacon of Hope