Seeing God's Power Released Through Worship & Intercession

I. INTRODUCTION

A. <u>I told Pam the other day how glad I was to be doing exactly what God has called us to do</u> – that is, To be involved in the prayer movement and to run a House of prayer. There is nothing I would rather be doing! I have been in big ministries, and I have been in smaller ones, and I feel right at home, right here, right now!

II. THE MYSTERY OF INTERCESSION: AGREEMENT WITH GOD

A. <u>Intercessory worship and prayer is the primary means by which God has chosen to release His power on earth in this age and in the age to come.</u> God's people expressing their agreement with the Lord. <u>In worship</u> we agree with who He is, and <u>in intercession</u> we agree with what He promised to do. Jesus said it this way:

²³The true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. (Jn. 4:23)

B. Worship and prayer flow together before God's throne to release what God does on the earth in the end times. When the "golden bowls of prayer" are full in heaven (Rev. 5 & 8), then Jesus will open the seals or release His end-time judgments against the Antichrist.

"the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders...each having a <u>harp</u>, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the <u>prayers of the saints</u>. ⁹And they <u>sang a new song</u>, saying: "You are worthy to take the scroll, and open its seals...we shall reign on the earth." (Rev. 5:8-10)

"the <u>prayers of all the saints</u> upon the golden altar which was before the throne...

the incense, with the <u>prayers of the saints</u>, ascended before God... Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and <u>threw it to the earth</u> [releasing judgment]... (Rev. 8:3-5)

C. <u>God has chosen intercession as the primary means by which He releases His power.</u> The Bible says that Jesus intercedes forever (Heb. 7:25; Rom. 8:34).

He <u>always [forever] lives to make intercession</u> for them. (Heb. 7:25). "who is he who condemns? It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us". (Rom. 8:34)

D. <u>Through intercession, Jesus releases His power to rule and possess the nations</u> (Ps. 2:7-8).

⁷I [Jesus] will declare the decree: The LORD [the Father] has said to Me, "You are My Son...

⁸Ask of Me [intercession], and I will give You the nations for Your inheritance..." (Ps. 2:7–8)

III. THE PRINCIPLE OF INTERCESSION AT CREATION

A. <u>The principle of intercession was expressed at creation:</u> The Father's plans were spoken by Jesus, and then the Spirit released the power to do it. The Father has many plans in His heart and ordained that Jesus would speak them out in intercession.

- ²The earth was without form, and void...the <u>Spirit was hovering</u> over the...waters. ³God said, "<u>Let there be light</u>"; and there was light. ⁹God said, "<u>Let the waters</u>...be gathered together..." and it was so... ¹¹God said, "<u>Let the earth</u> bring forth grass...and it was so." (Gen. 1:2-11). "in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God, all things were made through him, and without him nothing was made that was made. Jn. 1:1,3)
- B. <u>Jesus sustains and upholds (holds together) the created order by speaking the word of His power to the Father</u> (Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2-3). God "brings us forth" in blessing and power as Jesus speaks His Word over our lives (Jas. 1:18). These are examples of how intercession is expressed by Jesus.
 - ³...who [Jesus]...upholding all things by the word of His power... (Heb. 1:3) ¹⁷And in Him all things consist [hold together.] (Col. 1:17)
- C. When Jesus articulates the Father's thoughts, He functions as the Living Word. One reason why Jesus is called the Word (Jn. 1:1; Rev. 19:13) is because <u>He brings God's ideas into existence in the natural world by speaking.</u> In other words, He acts and rules by speaking the Word of God. You and I are commissioned to do the same. This is why what we do in intercession is so powerful. we are doing what Jesus modeled for us!

IV. SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND INTERCESSION

- A. <u>In spiritual warfare the word of God functions as the sword of the Spirit, striking Satan's domain (Eph. 6:17).</u> The sword of Jesus' mouth refers to His power being released by the commands of His mouth. He uses the sword (or rod of His mouth) to judge and remove all that resists Him (Isa. 11:4; 49:2; Rev. 19:15).
 - ¹⁷Take...the <u>sword</u> of the Spirit, <u>which is the Word of God</u>. (Eph. 6:17) ²And He [the Father] has made <u>My mouth like a sharp sword</u>..." (Isa. 49:2) ⁴He shall strike the earth with the <u>rod of His mouth</u>... (Isa. 11:4)
- B. One aspect of the new covenant is that the Lord puts His words into the mouths of His people so that forever they may "speak in agreement with Him" to release His power on earth—this is a principle of intercession. The Lord has chosen to govern the earth in partnership with His people.

 21"...this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is up you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth...from this time and forevermore." (Isa. 59:21)

V. JESUS RELEASES GOD'S JUSTICE IN RESPONSE TO INTERCESSION

- A. Justice is God making wrong things right and is released in connection to night and day prayer. Jesus, the ultimate social reformer, was the first to connect justice to night-and-day prayer. Prayer confronts the source of injustice in the spirit realm and causes the right alignment to come in the affairs of men. 7Shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who cry to Him day and night? 8He will bring about justice for them speedily." (Lk. 18:7-8;)
- B. <u>Examples of God's justice: Healing</u> God's judgment on sickness. <u>Revival:</u> God's judgment on compromise. <u>Righteous legislation</u>: God's judgment on unrighteous laws.