

# GOD'S HOUSE OF PRAYER IS A HOUSE OF INTIMACY

J.S. Boegl • House of Prayer Series #02

- A. By establishing Houses of Prayer within various communities God means to cultivate *Intimacy with God* as the vital priority of a believer's heart. He means for all worship, all teaching and training, all fellowship, and all ministry to be geared to encouraging and empowering every believer into first-commandment love for Jesus Christ. (Matthew 22:37-38)
- B. Beyond everything else, the House of Prayer is about offering individuals intentional, first-person encounters with the living God. Through these encounters, we cultivate a worship-filled dialogue with the Spirit that brilliantly goes with us and empowers every other aspect of our life: the marketplace, vocation, missions, church-life, family-life, community-life, economics etc... These encounters with His heart forge an inspirational heart-passion that revels in Jesus everywhere we go.
- C. This is the wisdom Jesus exhorted His disciples into when He said: "**Abide in My love.**" (John 15:9)
- D. Jesus calls the bridesmaids of Matthew 25:1-3 **wise**. Encountering God in a lifestyle of corporate prayer, is how wise bridesmaids **buy oil** (Matthew 25:6) and prepares their own hearts to more fully engage the Bridegroom with joy and celebration.
- E. There are a few realities that may not be immediately apparent to most of us as we begin to think about intimacy with God:
1. Most of believe we can cultivate intimacy with God on the run.
  2. Most of us believe we can have intimacy with God at little cost.
  3. Most of us believe that intimacy with God is optional in the Kingdom.
  4. Most of us believe we'll have all the intimacy we need when we want it most.
  5. Most of us undervalue how deeply the enemy prizes stealing our intimacy with God.
  6. None of us know just how much God wants us to enjoy intimacy with Him.
  7. All of us value intimacy with God less than He does.
- F. Beloved, we're about to go through the most tumultuous era in human history in order to receive the greatest promise in human history. Today the Holy Spirit is preparing the Bride for our Bridegroom's physical return and a transition into a new age when we live under His glorious, earthly leadership.
- G. Knowing that when He returns, He will declare: "**Depart from Me. I never knew you..**" (Matthew 7:21) to many who were engaged in all types of religious activities, it's supremely wise to cultivate close, intimate familiarity with Him today, so that we're among those "**who love His appearing.**" (2 Timothy 4:8)
- H. One day soon, billions of people will hear the cry: "**Behold the Bridegroom! Let's go OUT to meet Him!**" (Matthew 25:6)  
Today, it's so vital that those who have ears to hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church, prioritize our many activities in order to heed the cry: "**Behold the Bridegroom! Let's go IN to meet with Him!**" (Exodus 33:11)