

July 7th, 2019 – Prayer Meeting

This Sunday we had a prayer meeting and Pastor Richard shared these insights and scriptures. We start out by reading from **2 Chronicles 7:12-22** where God appears to King Solomon for the 2nd time when he was dedicating the temple he had just completed. We know that God does not dwell in temples built by man's hands any more as He did with the Israelites, but he dwells in the human heart to all that receive Him to be Lord of their lives. These are always parallels or types and shadows though to us as New Testament born again Christians. This a good example as to how we dedicate our bodies to Christ for His work in us.

It says this; "12 Then the Lord appeared to Solomon by night, and said to him: "I have heard your prayer, and have chosen this place for Myself as a house of sacrifice. 13 When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. 16 For now I have chosen and [d]sanctified this house, that My name may be there forever; and [e]My eyes and [f]My heart will be there perpetually."

Do you know that the Lord also appeared to you the first time under the anointing of the Holy Spirit when you were born again? He revealed Himself to you which brought conviction that you were a sinner who needed to be saved. But to many who receive Him, there is also a second powerful appearance of the Holy Spirit when you are baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in other tongues or languages. Just as King Solomon had two clear visitations from the Lord under the old covenant, now, as a born again Christian, the Lord appeared to you once in your salvation experience, and if you're baptized in the Holy Spirit, that's the second time. It may not have been something visible, but very authentic just the same.

Can the Lord say that you too have been chosen as a temple or house of sacrifice unto Him? Is He pleased with you to be able to dwell in you? When there is repentance of sin, the Holy Spirit has been sent to us under the new covenant to heal us individually and the land. As we pray in the Holy Spirit, in tongues, and as we humble ourselves before God in a generation and time where the Holy Spirit is not being revered, respected and allowed to move in the church as He should; then we too can see the healing of the land. That healing will come by the power of the Holy Spirit.

What Solomon experienced is not even as powerful as what you and I have under the new covenant by being born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. If the glory and power was so strong and tangible in the temple then, how much greater should it be on us? Jesus says in both **Matthew 13:17** and **Luke 10:24** that the saints of old longed to see and hear what we have now. Those in the Old Testament experienced and had it in part, now we have the full manifestation of God's presence with us in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Christians, as we humble ourselves and pray and receive the Holy Spirit into our temples, we too will see the healing of the land, the community and He will be poured out on all flesh. A sanctification in our lives takes place and His Holy Spirit will come and live in us also, forever, perpetually, flowing out into the lives of those around us to bring health and healing to them.

So, what King Solomon experienced in the dedication of the temple, the New Testament believers, you and me, experience when we're born again and then receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. What Solomon experienced was a type and shadow for us. Even as Solomon had wisdom, we too have wisdom because of the Holy Spirit in us.

Jesus says this in **John 14:12-13**; “*12 Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*”

What a powerful and awesome inheritance we have in Jesus to be able to do what He did! Why? So the Father would be glorified. All that we do is to glorify our heavenly Father.

The Apostle John says this profound statement in **1 John 5:14-15**; “*14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*”

When we know what the Father’s will is, we pray it and He answers us. When we’re not sure what His will is, we pray in tongues and the Holy Spirit who is praying through us and who knows what the perfect will of the Father is, prays through us that perfect will. That’s awesome!

Jesus also says this in **Mark 11:24-26**; “*24 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them. 25 “And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. 26 [a]But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses.*”

Answers to prayers then are conditional. If you don’t forgive, God won’t hear your prayers. How many struggle with unanswered prayer because of being unforgiving? Jesus gives the clear answer right here. Forgive and your prayers will be answered.

The Apostle Paul says this in **Philippians 4:5-7**; “*5 Let your [a]gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be anxious for nothing, 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 minds through Christ Jesus.*”

Anxiety, which is rooted in fear, hinders prayer. Why? Because it quenches faith. When you pray then, repent of anxiety and fear and allow faith to arise. Perfect love casts out all fear!

Finally, in **Jude 20-21** it says this; “*20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, 21 keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.*”

This scripture is so powerful on prayer. Pray in the Holy Spirit, in tongues. It is perfect prayer as **Romans 8:26-27** say; “*26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession [a]for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.*”

You have the advantage when you’re filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. Those tongues pray down God’s perfect will for you when you’re in prayer. You pray with authority in Jesus name.