## Prayers in the Trench - #4 – May 28th, 2023

Together with our worship and prayers, church was also a day of celebration – Pentecost Sunday. Yes, Pentecost is still celebrated by Christians around the world. For the early church, it was important to continue to celebrate Pentecost and we read in Acts 20, that it was significant even for the Apostle Paul that he wanted to be in Jerusalem for this momentous celebration, (Acts 20:16). It's not only limited to a day in history, but continues to be celebrated and embraced every day by Spirit-filled Christians who have the baptism of Holy Ghost power in their lives and the evidence of speaking in other tongues. **Acts 1:4-8**; "<sup>4</sup> And being assembled together with them, He commanded them <u>not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the</u> <u>Father</u>, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup> for John truly baptized with water, <u>but you shall be</u> <u>baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now</u>." <sup>6</sup> Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup> And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. <sup>8</sup> <u>But you shall receive power when</u> the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be <sup>[c]</sup>witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 2:1-4 continues saying; "When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all <sup>[a]</sup> with one accord in one place. <sup>2</sup> And <u>suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Then there appeared to them <sup>[b]</sup> divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."</u>

This Holy Spirit power is what enables Christians to overcome and to pray with authority. There's not a demonic weapon formed against you can prosper if you're in Christ. Jesus defeated the devil at the cross and made a public spectacle of him, triumphing over him with His blood, (Colossians 2:15). He's given you authority over him and his demons, to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you, (Luke 10:19). Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, (Matthew 16:19).

These scriptures are very important to keep front and centre in prayer. We do not wrestle against people, but against demonic entities (Ephesians 6:12), so when we pray, we're taking our Jesus given authority to bind the demonic that influences people to do the devil's dirty work and evil schemes. **John 10:10** says; *"the thief does not come except to steal, and to kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."* 

May has been a month of prayer and this Sunday we prayed specifically for Pastor Artur Pawlowski. A name very familiar with Albertan's and Canadian's as he's been at the forefront of many court cases, jail time and persecution for his stand against the tyranny that reigned Alberta during the Conservative Party lockdowns for almost 3 years. An underdog in many people's opinion yet a Holy Ghost warrior with a fight unparalleled to many pastors and leaders in this province. He formed his own party, the Solidarity Movement of Alberta. His party has taken a significant and moral stand against the unrighteous works of darkness that are plaguing our province.

We prayed over the voting systems, that all corruption and bribery would be exposed. We prayed that those who were in authority that influenced the persecution of Christians specifically during the lockdowns, would not be re-elected. Jesus loves His church and comes to the defence of those who are being persecuted. The Lord says in **Romans 12:19**; "*Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written,* "*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*" says the Lord." And also **Deuteronomy 32:35**; "*Vengeance is Mine, and* 

recompense; Their foot shall slip in due time; For the day of their calamity **is** at hand, And the things to come hasten upon them.'"

Those who persecute the body of Christ, and those who targeted Christians specifically, we prayed that the Lord's vengeance would take place and that they would be plucked up and uprooted. We prayed that whistleblowers would come forth to tell the truth of the court cases with the Pastors, that everything that is being hidden would be brought to light.

**Daniel 2:20-21** says; "20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. 21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding."

We believe we will see the Lord work to move and raise up those He wants in authority. **Jeremiah 17:9-10** says; "<sup>9</sup> "*The heart is deceitful above all things, And* <sup>[d]</sup>*desperately wicked; Who can know it?* <sup>10</sup> <u>I.</u> <u>the LORD, search the heart, I test the</u> <sup>[e]</sup>*mind, Even to give every man according to his ways, According to the* <u>fruit of his doings.</u>"

We prayed for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the body of Christ across Alberta, that even as the Holy Spirit came on the Day of Pentecost almost 2000 years ago, that same fire would fall throughout this land, on towns and cities and that this province would be known as a Pentecostal Province, full of the Holy Ghost and power. We prayed for repentance on the church for rejecting the baptism in the Holy Spirit and that they would know the true rest and refreshing in the Holy Spirit that Isaiah prophesied about in **Isaiah 28:11-12;** "<sup>11</sup> For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, <sup>12</sup> To whom He said, "<u>This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest," And, "This is the refreshing</u>"; Yet they would not hear:"

We continued to pray for all in authority over us, specifically that the political realm would be shaken and filled with the Holy Spirit and fire. That they would govern righteously and not in the flesh, that God would send Spirit-filled Christians into their lives to pray for them, lay hands on them and see them saved, healed, delivered and baptized with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

We closed our church service with communion as we do every week. There is power in communion, the breaking of bread and the cup of wine. Mark 14:22-26 says; "<sup>22</sup> And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them and said, "Take, <sup>[I]</sup>eat; this is My body." <sup>23</sup> Then He took the cup, and when He had given thanks He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. <sup>24</sup> And He said to them, "This is My blood of the <sup>[g]</sup>new covenant, which is shed for many. <sup>25</sup> Assuredly, I say to you, I will no longer drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> And when they had sung <sup>[h]</sup>a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

This is the new covenant that Jesus has made with His church, His body, to all who are called by His name. This covenant brings health, healing, deliverance, provision and all the blessings of heaven to each Christian.

To view Pastor Artur Pawlowski's victory speech after the elections, click here.