## 33-Day Prayer and Fasting



For the care and cleansing of the Church to come into maturity as the Lord's Ekklesia and the beauty of the Bride of Christ

## October 10, 2024 -November 11, 2024

## **Ephesians 5:25-27, 29** *NASB 1995*

...Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her, so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless. . . for no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ also does the church."

This period of prayer and fasting is a time for individual believers in Christ to pursue a place of purity and holiness in Him, to come to a place of full surrender and dedication to the Lord Jesus, of giving our lives fully to Him as He did for us, and pursuing a place of maturity and beauty in Him as His bride, so we will be holy and blameless at His coming. It's also a time to rise as His ekklesia and demonstrate His kingdom in our families and to those around us, and to come together with our brothers and sisters in Christ under His governing authority as He leads.

It's 33 days, remembering the year Jesus died and all the He did for us. It covers the period of time from just before the Day of Atonement—a day of humbling ourselves before the Lord, through periods which are typically times of increased demonic activity at the end of October, through the election on November 5<sup>th</sup>, and six days afterward. Use the Scriptures and thoughts for each day as a guide to seek the Lord for yourself and hear what He is saying to you.

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November										
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## October 10: Out of the Mouth of Babes

A little background: From November 2022-August 2023 the Holy Spirit had me pray and intercede concerning the conceiving of parents. (I know it sounds weird) but there was a spiritual forming of parents going on, in a womb-like place—a sheltered place in the Lord. This was a preparation for both natural and spiritual parents, for *both types* of parents are fathers and mothers in the faith.

After revival, a new convert needs spiritual parent(s) to guide them in the ways of the Lord; and after a physical birth, a child needs natural (or adoptive) parents to teach and raise them in the ways of the Lord. So there has been a creation, a forming or sculpting, of godly parents going on—parents becoming who God intended them to be. Even *parenthood* becoming what God intended all along.

Then on 12/21/2023 I had a dream where I heard the Holy Spirit say, "The Lord is visiting the Psalms." And I saw Psalm 8, as if Jesus was *in* the Psalm.

#### **Psalm 8:2:**

"From the mouth of infants and nursing babes You have established strength because of Your adversaries, to make the enemy and the revengeful cease."

Jesus quoted this Psalm in Matthew 21:16 after the chief priests and scribes were telling Him to make the children in the temple stop shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David." He said to them, "...have you never read, 'Out of the mouth of infants and nursing babies You have prepared praise for Yourself." So we see, the praise of babes is a strength established by God to make the enemy and the revengeful cease.

Then, on February 18, 2024, I dreamt about the date—September 23, 2024. In the dream I knew that what would be birthed on or around that day had been conceived around Christmas 2023, (which is when I had the dream about Psalm 8).

So, when September 23, 2024 arrived, it turned out that the global prayer theme for that day (which was a part of the Global Day of Prayer for America on September 22, 2024), was to pray for the children—Generations Z and Alpha—which covers birth through age 27. How fitting.

During times of prayer regarding Psalm 8, the Holy Spirit showed me that the sounds, laughter, cries, etc. of the babies would be *intercession* in the ears of God and that they would stop the enemy's plans, as it says in Psalm 8:2. But it's not just their sounds, it's their *movements*, in fact their very *life itself*, is a praise and an intercession toward God to stop the enemy. **The life of babies and children is the perpetuation of human life, created to praise God and to silence and stop the enemy.** 

The *very existence* of human life overcomes the enemy. This is why satan tries so hard to murder, corrupt, transform, or deceive whoever he can; even recruiting people to side with him in accusations against God or His church.

- Pray that the babies and young people of today arise as a force that stops the enemies of God, and the revengeful who are looking to punish or take revenge.
- Pray that the generations alive today offer praise to God, strongly establishing His ways in our nation and throughout the earth.
- Pray that the Church is alerted to, and remains aware of, the enemy's schemes.

## October 11: The Atonement of Jesus Christ

The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) begins at sundown and ends on October 12 at nightfall.

#### Leviticus 23:27-28:

"... it shall be a holy convocation for you, and you shall humble your souls and present an offering by fire to the Lord. <sup>28</sup> You shall not do any work on this same day, for it is a day of atonement, to make atonement on your behalf before the Lord your God."

To atone for sin is to perform an act which brings a reconciliation with God. Before Jesus' sacrifice, the priests would offer atonement (an animal sacrifice) on behalf of the people. The shedding of blood was required to atone for sin. Without it, there could be no forgiveness (Leviticus 17:11, Hebrews 9:22). However, these sacrifices only temporarily atoned for sin. But Jesus' sacrifice—the holy blood of the spotless Lamb of God—atoned for our sin once and for all.

## Hebrews 9:11-15:

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ appeared *as* a high priest of the good things to come, *He entered* through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; <sup>12</sup> and not through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, He entered the holy place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh, <sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? <sup>15</sup> For this reason He is the mediator of a new covenant, so that, since a death has taken place for the redemption of the transgressions that were *committed* under the first covenant, those who have been called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

The sacrifice of Jesus Christ not only forever atoned for our sin before God, it provides for the cleansing of the conscience of those who believe in Him. It cleanses us "from dead works to serve the living God." There are no good works we can do to earn our salvation, it's through His grace alone, by faith in Him. Jesus paid the price in full.

#### Romans 5:8-11:

<sup>8</sup> But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. <sup>9</sup> Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath *of God* through Him. <sup>10</sup> For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by His life. <sup>11</sup> And not only this, but we also exult in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received the reconciliation.

We exult—we leap for joy and rejoice in triumph before God, because of what Jesus has done for us!

- Come before the Lord with thanksgiving for His eternal sacrifice for you. Tell Him of your gratefulness and, if possible, tell someone else as well.
- If you have not confessed or verbally acknowledged your faith in Him before, resulting in forgiveness, atonement, and salvation, do so now.

# October 12: Humility Before the Lord

Day of Atonement began at sundown on October 11 and ends on October 12 at nightfall.

#### **Leviticus 23:27-28:**

"... it shall be a holy convocation for you, and you shall humble your souls and present an offering by fire to the Lord. <sup>28</sup> You shall not do any work on this same day, for it is a day of atonement, to make atonement on your behalf before the Lord your God."

As Christians, we acknowledge that the atonement for our sin came through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. He became our High Priest who sacrificed Himself on the cross for our sin, and still intercedes for us today.

## Hebrews 7:22-25:

<sup>22</sup> so much the more also Jesus has become the guarantee of a better covenant.

<sup>23</sup>The *former* priests, on the one hand, existed in greater numbers because they were prevented by death from continuing, <sup>24</sup> but Jesus, on the other hand, because He continues forever, holds His priesthood permanently. <sup>25</sup>Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Jesus is our eternal High Priest. Under the old covenant, the priesthood was passed down from generation to generation so the sacrifices for sin could continue to be offered. However, Jesus instituted a better covenant and holds His priesthood permanently. He "always live to make intercession" for us. He is our great High Priest, who was tempted in all ways like we are, yet never sinned (Hebrews 4:15).

- Come before the Lord, with other believers if possible, in a solemn attitude of humility.
- Take words with you and return to Lord, (Hosea 14:2), repenting of sin as needed.
- Take communion to remember the sacrifice Jesus offered for you. Examine your heart, and ask Him to examine it as well (1 Corinthians 11:23-34, Psalm 139:23-24).

## October 13: Passionate Love

#### James 4:5 AMPC:

<sup>5</sup> Or do you suppose that the Scripture is speaking to no purpose that says, The Spirit Whom He has caused to dwell in us yearns over us *and* He yearns for the Spirit [to be welcome] with a jealous love?

Our Father in heaven has caused His Holy Spirit to dwell in those who believe in His Son, Jesus Christ; and He yearns for His Spirit to be welcomed, by us, with a jealous love. Your heavenly Father longs for you to welcome Him, by His Spirit, into your life! His love is a desire—a strong desire over you. He's jealous—passionate—for you to welcome Him, to long for Him as He longs for you.

His love for you contains both desire and purpose; it has will and intelligence. To receive God's love for you means that you receive *His desire* for you. You receive His purpose, His plan, His hope, or His will for you. When you do, the destiny seed of His desire is implanted in you, and by faith it germinates in your heart to bring about His desires and purposes in your life. Amazing.

#### John 16:27:

<sup>27</sup> for the Father Himself loves you, because you have loved Me and have believed that I came forth from the Father.

## John 14:23:

<sup>23</sup> Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our abode with him.

The more fully we submit to Jesus as Lord, keeping His word, the more fully we receive the love of God. When we love Him back with His love, we are saying *yes* to HIS desires for us, in us, and through us; and the Father and Son come and make Their abode with us. Our desires become His, for our desires are not pure without Him.

Initially, we receive His love along with its comfort, its cleansing, healing, and delivering. It intensifies as we realize that this love contains His will and desires for us.

It brings more of His presence and power into our life,

We feel the power of His passion.

It can feel scary at fist—yielding to Him.

We may put up a hand to resist. We may back away a bit.

But as we surrender and yield to His love, His strong desires for us, we receive the Light—His presence and His power to do His will.

And it's all good—exceedingly good.

Our desire for Him increases,

He has fully won us over.

- Let the Holy Spirit know that you welcome Him into your life.
- Let Him know that you accept His desires—His will—for you and by faith receive it.
- Ask Him to help you keep His word, and to guide you in your study of it.
- Pray that people throughout the nation come to know God's love for them, and receive His destiny for them.

# October 14: Family Authority

## Genesis 1:26-28:

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup>God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup>God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

The first governing unit God established on earth was the family. He gave authority to the man and woman, told them to reproduce and to rule over the earth and all the creatures in it. Direct authority from the Creator is a highest level of authority, under Him. God's intention was for the parents to raise up children under God, passing on His command to them.

#### **Genesis 18:19:**

"For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice, so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham what He has spoken about him."

Abraham was chosen by God to become a father of many nations because God knew he would command his children and his household in the ways of the Lord. It's vitally important to God that we raise our children in His ways. He is not God over just one generation. He is God over all generations.

Abraham became the father of the Jewish nation, and God promised he would be a father of *many* nations. Those who receive Jesus Christ as Lord are "grafted in" as children in the family of God (Genesis 17:1-5, Romans 11, Romans 4:17). The Lord told him all the *families* of the earth would be blessed in him.

## Genesis 12:1-3:

Now the Lord said to Abram,
"Go forth from your country,
And from your relatives
And from your father's house,
To the land which I will show you;

2 And I will make you a great nation,
And I will bless you,
And make your name great;
And so you shall be a blessing;

3 And I will bless those who bless you,
And the one who curses you I will curse.
And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

- Pray that the family authority and rule under God is re-established in our nation.
- Pray that parents make it a priority to raise their children in the ways of the Lord.
- Ask the Lord to give us fire on our family altars, and a multi-generational revival!

# October 15: Restoring the Family

#### Joel 2:25:

"Then I will make up to you for the years
That the swarming locust has eaten,
The creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust,
My great army which I sent among you.

The enemy has stolen our children and scattered our families, but God will restore! He will make up for those lost years that the locust has eaten away—the last 40+ years, if we pray and repent before Him.

## Then in Joel 2:28-29 it says:

<sup>28</sup> "It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions. <sup>29</sup> "Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Sons and daughters are the *children* of today. Old men (and women) are the *parents of that day*—the day when the locusts consumed the land. You could say they are today's grandparents. Young men (and women) are the *parents of today*.

The enemy goes after the parents of today heavily because he knows if he can take the children away from the family, from sound biblical teaching, and a loving family home atmosphere, he can destroy a nation for generations to come.

It's the time of the parents! We need parental revival to gain victory over the enemy and bring the restoration of the family. May we realize that our duties at the birth of our children are just beginning. May we realize that it's not just about forgiveness for what we've neglected, aborted, etc. but the *restoration* of what was lost.

#### Malachi 4:5-6:

<sup>5</sup> "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> He will restore the hearts of the fathers to *their* children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

- Ask God to pour out His Spirit on our families, to send Elijah to restore the love within our homes, and to remove the curse on the land.
- Ask Him to release a "parental" anointing, restoring the family altars, making our children a top priority, never again neglecting those He's entrusted to us.
- Ask that we tear down the idols which interfere with loving our children—Mammon, careers, money, and worldly prestige.
- Ask Him to restore our patriotism, our stewardship, over the land He has given us to raise our families in.

# October 16: Idols of Technology

## **Daniel 12:4:**

<sup>4</sup>But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase."

## 2 Timothy 3:1-7:

But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. <sup>2</sup> For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, <sup>3</sup> unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, <sup>4</sup> treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, <sup>5</sup> holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. <sup>6</sup> For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, <sup>7</sup> always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Ever learning but never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. This has never been more true than it is today. Knowledge has increased. Technology has exploded. Yet in the wrong hands, with a wrong heart, it creates serious problems. The more dependent a person becomes on things outside their grasp, the more indebted they are to those who control them. Who are you indebted to through the technology you use, and what is their intent? How much does that debt enslave you, and how much does it own you?

Technology, unchecked, becomes a false god, an idol. Just because we have fancier idols today (something other than a carved pole) doesn't mean it is not an idol. Where do you go for everyday help, for insight, for direction, for entertainment? Your phone?

#### Habakkuk 2:18-20:

18 "What profit is the idol when its maker has carved it, Or an image, a teacher of falsehood?
For its maker trusts in his own handiwork
When he fashions speechless idols.

19 "Woe to him who says to a piece of wood, 'Awake!'
To a mute stone, 'Arise!'
And that is your teacher?
Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver,
And there is no breath at all inside it.

20 "But the Lord is in His holy temple.
Let all the earth be silent before Him."

Anything we look to for guidance or instruction or as a "good luck charm" other than God is an idol. Anything that perverts God's creation is idolatry that is a direct slap in the face to God—the Creator. A path that leads to the worship of creatures, or the creation rather than the Creator, opposes God's order of things, the balance of nature, seedtime and harvest and so on. Included in this would be transhumanism and crossbreeding (Leviticus 19:19, Job 38-41, Romans 1:18-32). Those who destroy the earth, God's creation, will themselves be destroyed (Revelation 11:18).

- Ask the Lord for truth to protect this generation from the idols of technology in their many forms, and for all knowledge to be kept in check and in line with His will.
- Pray for revival that breaks deception and returns worship to God alone.
- Ask the Lord for His truth and heavenly wisdom, not the "wisdom" of this world.

# October 17: The Wisdom of God

#### James 3:13-17:

<sup>13</sup>Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. <sup>15</sup>This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. <sup>16</sup>For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy.

The word *pure* means pure in the sense of holy, or sacred. The two wisdoms described here are the difference between the enemy's game and God's game.

The enemies of America have said they will use our own laws against us. In other words, they will beat us at our own game. But if they don't know our God, they don't know our game. And if we refuse to play their game, by their "rules," then it will be impossible for them to win over us. Let's not play their game. Their game is not our game.

Our "game" is God's way. Pull out of their game. We may have been tricked into it for a while, but pull out! As believers in Christ, we play by His rules, His wisdom—His skill, insight, and intelligence. Don't get drawn into the enemy's "game."

## 1 Corinthians 1:25-29:

<sup>25</sup> Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men. <sup>26</sup> For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; <sup>27</sup> but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, <sup>28</sup> and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, <sup>29</sup> so that no man may boast before God.

God's wisdom may look foolish to the world, but that doesn't matter. He is the Almighty. The Creator of heaven and earth. He is sovereign over all. His rules are the rules that apply. His rules are truth. Yet He chooses the foolish things, the weak things, the base things, that which the world despises, in fact He chooses things that don't even exist yet to bring to nothing the things that exist.

- Humble yourself before the Lord to prepare your heart for His wisdom.
- Ask the Lord for wisdom, and discernment to be alerted to the enemy's schemes.
- Pray that God pour out His wisdom on the Church, so we avoid the enemy's traps, so when the cleansing flood comes (as in the days of Noah) we will be in the ark of God's wisdom, will not fall into their pit, or be swept away.
- Determine not to fall into the enemy's schemes—his games.

# October 18: Reigning Ekklesia

## Matthew 16:19 TPT:

"I will give you the keys of heaven's kingdom realm to forbid on earth that which is forbidden in heaven, and to release on earth that which is released in heaven."

Peter had received revelation from the Father as to who Jesus was, and told Him so. This type of revelation is the rock that Jesus is building His governing authority on. However, we must position ourselves to hear from Him in order to take our place in His kingdom as He desires.

This blows away the idea that the Church is to sit back and let the world run wild. That we hibernate in church and let the enemies of this nation take over us, and the world. We are supposed to be IMPACTING the culture. How? We preach the Word of God without compromise.

Jesus was already reigning in the earth when He was here. He was reigning as King, yet many of the people didn't recognize it. They kept expecting Him to conquer the Romans, but He wanted to conquer their heart first! They didn't understand what the Kingdom would look like, so He showed them. However, many still didn't get it.

Jesus "conquers" us in our heart first, so we can "conquer" or win the world for Him. Jesus demonstrated the Kingdom of God and told us to do the same thing. He said, "as YOU go. . ." Where you are SENT, demonstrate the Kingdom of God by doing the same things He did (Matthew 10:1-8, Matthew 28:16-20, Mark 16:14-20, Luke 10:1-9, John 14:12, John 20:21).

We're not reigning in the tyrannical sense, but in love. We are releasing His love into the lives of those around us so His good will can be done. We don't go out as a religious duty, but as His ekklesia, as His ambassadors.

## Matthew 18:18-20:

<sup>18</sup>Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."

Jesus has given us authority as His Church—His governing body on the earth—to forbid and permit things on earth, as they are in heaven. By gathering together in His name, in agreement, He is in our midst, and our prayers are answered. We reign through kingly decrees that we hear from Him. As His ekklesia we declare His Word and decrees over a region. That region could be your life, your family, your city, nation etc. It's interesting that He says, "two or three." Two or three so perfectly describes a family—parents and a child/children. Once again, the authority of the family is the first and foremost authority God established in the earth (Genesis 1:28).

- Pray for Jesus Christ to be revealed throughout the nation,
- Pray for revival, and the complete surrendering of hearts to Jesus throughout the nation, even in His Church.
- Pray that people seek for, and the Holy Spirit reveals, where they are "sent," and to whom.
- Pray that the Church understands what it means to be the ekklesia of Christ—His governing body in the earth, and that families become ekklesias in their community.

# October 19: Ambassadors for Christ

## 2 Corinthians 5:15-20:

<sup>15</sup> and He died for all, so that they who live might no longer live for themselves, but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore from now on we recognize no one according to the flesh; even though we have known Christ according to the flesh, yet now we know *Him in this way* no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore if anyone is in Christ, *he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

<sup>18</sup> Now all *these* things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, <sup>19</sup> namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup> Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

We are ambassadors for Christ! Ambassadors live in an embassy, and in an embassy, the laws of the nation they represent apply, not the laws of the nation they are located in. So as ambassadors for Christ, the laws of the Kingdom of Heaven apply, not the laws of earth. (Of course, I am not saying you should disobey civil laws for the Word of God tells us to obey those laws unless they violate His (Romans 13:1-7, Acts 4:19, Acts 5:29).

The Passion Translation (TPT) gives an excellent note on what it means to be an ambassador for Christ:

"to be ambassadors for Christ means that we are his diplomatic agents of the highest rank sent to represent King Jesus and authorized to speak on his behalf. We are the voice of heaven to the earth, invested with royal power through the name of Jesus and authority of his blood."

The Passion Translation, note on 2 Corinthians 5:20

Our purpose as ambassadors of Heaven is to appeal, even beg, others to be reconciled to God. We are to go after the harvest of souls, populating the Kingdom of Heaven. We do this through representing Jesus in the earth, speaking on His behalf and moving in His power to demonstrate the Kingdom.

- Pray that the Church accepts the ministry of reconciliation given to us by God, and that individual members of the body see themselves as the ambassador for Christ that they are.
- Pray that the Church seeks God for how they are to demonstrate the Kingdom in their sphere of influence.

# October 20: His Voice Shakes the Earth

## Hebrews 12:25-29:

<sup>25</sup> See to it that you do not refuse Him who is speaking. For if those did not escape when they refused him who warned *them* on earth, much less *will* we escape who turn away from Him who *warns* from heaven. <sup>26</sup> And His voice shook the earth then, but now He has promised, saying, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth, but also the heaven." <sup>27</sup> This *expression*, "Yet once more," denotes the removing of those things which can be shaken, as of created things, so that those things which cannot be shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup> Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; <sup>29</sup> for our God is a consuming fire.

The writer of Hebrews is contrasting the old covenant with the new. He spoke of the "terrible" sight of God on the mountain when He spoke with Moses and gave him the ten commandments (Exodus 20). The voice of God shook the earth then and fear gripped the hearts of the people (Exodus 20:19). The point is made, that if His voice shook the earth in such a way *then*, when He was warning them to keep His commandments, with a voice spoken on the earth, and through the Law given to them at the time, how much less of a chance will we have in escaping Him when He warns as a voice from heaven—Christ Himself—speaking to us through the Gospel today.

So, God shook the earth on Mount Sinai, and promised He would shake it once again. (It appears that this occurred when the Mosaic Law and Jewish state ceased to function when Jerusalem was destroyed in 70 A.D., yet it seems the complete fulfillment of this will occur when Jesus returns to earth).

The removal of that which can be shaken is performed in order for the eternal to remain. The kingdom of God that Jesus Christ brought to earth cannot be shaken. The kingdom of God, which we enter as born-again members of His body, is an eternal kingdom which cannot be destroyed through earthly means. It is a kingdom tried by fire, purified, and refined. Because of this, he says to show gratitude, and offer our service to God with reverence and awe.

## Haggai 2:6-9:

<sup>6</sup> For thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. <sup>7</sup> I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord of hosts. <sup>8</sup> 'The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,' declares the Lord of hosts. <sup>9</sup> 'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts, 'and in this place I will give peace,' declares the Lord of hosts."

There was a shaking at Sinai when the Law was given, there was a shaking when Jesus came and instituted His kingdom on earth, there is a shaking in the earth as Jesus' ekklesia—His ambassadors—declare His Word in the earth, and there will be a shaking when He comes again and finalizes His kingdom. Let us be grateful we are a part of His unshakable kingdom.

- Pray that the Church stay faithful to the Word of God so as to remain in the unshakeable Kingdom of the Lord.
- Pray that the Church preach the Word of God boldly, shaking loose that which opposes Him.
- Offer reverential gratitude to God for enabling you to have a place in His unshakable Kingdom.

# October 21: No Weapon Formed Against You

#### Isaiah 54:15-17:

<sup>15</sup> "If anyone fiercely assails *you* it will not be from Me.

Whoever assails you will fall because of you.

<sup>16</sup> "Behold, I Myself have created the smith who blows the fire of coals

And brings out a weapon for its work;

And I have created the destroyer to ruin.

<sup>17</sup> "No weapon that is formed against you will prosper;

And every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn.

This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord,

And their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord.

God says that He has created both the smith who blows the fire of coals—the one who creates weapons of war—as well as the ones who use those weapons to destroy. In other words, His protection over you can come through either manipulating or destroying the weapons themselves, even prohibiting them from being created at all, or it can come through Him doing the same to the "destroyer"—the one who would use the weapon. He could stop both the smith and the destroyer in a heartbeat, but He wants OUR heart.

#### 2 Chronicles 16:9:

<sup>9</sup> For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars."

He will strongly support those whose heart is completely His, yet we're in this for the long haul, not just until He rescues us. There is nothing to fear, God will not allow any weapon formed against you to prosper, even the tongue that would arise in judgment against you, you will condemn—you will win a judgment that the accuser brings against you. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord.

As servants of the Lord, this promise remains, and our vindication is from Him. Do not fear, God will protect and vindicate. This passage of Scripture itself is a weapon, the Word of God being the sword of the Spirit (Ephesians 6:17).

#### Isaiah 55:11:

So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding *in the matter* for which I sent it.

Speak His Word over your life and situation, it will accomplish what God intends.

- Pray that the Church understands the power of the spoken Word of God.
- Pray that the Church does not fear, but turns to the Lord in all situations.
- Pray that the Church actually does speak and declare God's Word over their lives, situations, families, states, and nation.
- Pray that the Church runs to the Lord because of His love, giving Him her whole heart, not
  just out of fear of the Smith and the Destroyer.

# October 22: Taming the Tongue

#### James 3:7-12:

<sup>7</sup> For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. <sup>8</sup> But no one can tame the tongue; *it is* a restless evil *and* full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless *our* Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; <sup>10</sup> from the same mouth come *both* blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. <sup>11</sup> Does a fountain send out from the same opening *both* fresh and bitter *water*? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor *can* salt water produce fresh.

If we desire to have more of God's authority and power backing our words, they must agree with His Words. If we speak both blessing and cursing out of the same mouth, how much power do you think God will make available to our words? For our own protection, and the protection of others, God's mercy may limit the power of our words. Yet, God wants us to learn and grow to be like Him, which means not be careless with our words. He's called us to speak and declare His Word in the earth. He needs us to do that.

Our words do have power, and not only will we reap the consequences of what we speak, but our words reveal what is in our heart.

#### Matthew 12:35-37:

<sup>33</sup> "Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. <sup>35</sup> The good man brings out of *his* good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of *his* evil treasure what is evil. <sup>36</sup> But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

The mouths speaks out of that which fills the heart. What is in your heart is what will come out of your mouth, and by your words you will be justified or condemned. Careless words will need to be accounted for. Sobering thoughts.

Yet rather than constantly struggling to control your words, seek for purity of heart. The heart is where the words come from. Seek the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit and the washing of the water of the Word of God to cleanse your soul (2 Thessalonians 2:13, Ephesians 5:25-26, John 15:3). Fully surrender to Jesus, and as your heart is purified, your words will reflect that.

- Pray for the Church to take notice of their words which reveal impurities of heart.
- Pray that the Church repent of careless and harmful words, words which oppose God's Words and His ways.
- Pray for the Church to receive sanctification by the Spirit of God and cleansing of the Word
  of God so their words are spoken with righteous intent and motivation.

# October 23: Give Jesus the Seed

## Luke 9:12-17:

<sup>12</sup>Now the day was ending, and the twelve came and said to Him, "Send the crowd away, that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside and find lodging and get something to eat; for here we are in a desolate place." <sup>13</sup> But He said to them, "You give them *something* to eat!" And they said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish, unless perhaps we go and buy food for all these people." <sup>14</sup> (For there were about five thousand men.) And He said to His disciples, "Have them sit down *to eat* in groups of about fifty each." <sup>15</sup> They did so, and had them all sit down. <sup>16</sup> Then He took the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, He blessed them, and broke *them*, and kept giving *them* to the disciples to set before the people. <sup>17</sup> And they all ate and were satisfied; and the broken pieces which they had left over were picked up, twelve baskets *full*.

The disciples came to Jesus with a need. They wanted Him to make it go away, yet He surprised them by telling them to meet the need themselves. We can summarize this way:

- The disciples presented a problem to Jesus. They asked Him to make it go away. Have you ever said, "I can't deal with this Lord, just make it go away"?
- Jesus told them to take care of it themselves. He put it back on them. He is training them (and us) how to handle situations.
- They said they couldn't. It didn't seem possible. They didn't have enough—either enough food or enough money to buy food for everyone. They told Him what they had. How was this need to be met with what little they had?
  Impossible situations are not impossible if you hear from the Lord. There is always a way, for Jesus is the way. You don't need to try and figure it out yourself, but you do need to stay in communication with Him—ask how, and/or what you are to do. How many times do we complain to Him, but never really ask what to do? Or sit still long enough to hear?
- Jesus told them what to do to get ready to take of the situation—position the people to receive. Get ready. Did they know what He would do at this point? They still may not have.
- They did what He said. They looked to Him, not the people, not themselves, and not at what they lacked. In faith, give what you have to Him. With His blessing it becomes enough, not just for yourself, but for others as well.
- Jesus did a miracle, and the disciples assisted Him in dispersing it. He is the miracle worker, and we are His servants.

If what you have doesn't seem to be enough to meet the need, look to Jesus, talk to Him about it and receive from Him that which is lacking.

- Is there a need you can't meet? Is there a situation too impossible for you? A nation that seems on the verge of collapse? Are you tempted to ignore it or wait for it to just "go away?" Take it to the Lord and present it to Him.
- Clear your mind of your own solutions and listen for His. Sincerely, listen for His answer. It might come through Scripture, or through instruction which might not make sense or seem like "enough."
- Whatever it is, do what He said, keeping your eyes on Him, looking for His blessing, not at what is lacking.
- Make yourself available to serve Him. Let Him know you are His servant, willing to do what He says, and do it.

# October 24: Our Many Titles

We have many "titles" in our relation to the Lord and His Kingdom. It's worthwhile to take a look at them and ponder them every so often.

- **His Body** (1 Corinthians 12:27)
  - Each believer in Christ is an individual member of the body of Christ, with gifts given by Him and differing according to our place and function.
- His Ekklesia (Church) (Matthew 16:18)
  - We are a member of the governing body of King Jesus who has given us authority to forbid and permit things on earth as it is in heaven.
- **His Disciples** (Matthew 10:24, Luke 14:26-33)
  As disciples of His we are called to forsake all, taking up our cross daily to follow Him.
- **His Bondservants** (Revelation 1:1, Acts 4:29, 2 Timothy 2:24, Revelation 7:3, 11:18,15:3) As bondservants, we willingly choose to become enslaved to Christ, acknowledging His complete ownership of us. Our life is not our own.
- Ambassadors for Christ (2 Corinthians 5:20)
  - As ambassadors for Christ we have the ministry of reconciliation, pleading for the lost to be reconciled to God and representing Him to the world.
- Soldiers of Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 2:3-4, Ephesians 6:10-18)
  As a soldier of Christ, we are willing to suffer hardship and keep ourselves from becoming entangled with the everyday affairs of life so we may please the One who enlisted us.
- **Kingdom of priests** (or kingdom and priests) (Revelation 1:6, Revelation 5:9-10, 1 Peter 2:5, 9, Romans 12:1)
  - We are a holy, royal priesthood who offers spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God, presents ourselves as a living sacrifice to God, and who do, and will, reign upon the earth with the Lord. We proclaim the excellencies of the One who brought us from darkness to light.
- Children of God (Romans 8:14-17, Galatians 4:28, Ephesians 5:1, 8, Philippians 2:15, 1 Peter 1:14, 1 John 3:1-2, 1 John 5:2)
  - As children of God we are heirs of God and fellow-heirs with Jesus Christ. We are imitators of God, children of Light, blameless, innocent, obedient, loved by God, and love like God.
- **Sons of God** (Galatians 3:26, 4:6, Romans 8:14, Matthew 5:9)
  - We are sons of God by faith in Christ. He has sent His Spirit into our hearts, and we are led by His Spirit; we are peacemakers.
- **His Friends** (John 15:13-15)
  - As friends, we know what the Father is doing, we do what Jesus commands, we lay down our life for Him as He did for us.
- **His Bride** (Revelation 19:7, Ephesians 5:25-27)
  As the Bride of Christ we are prepared for the Lord at His coming, sanctified and cleansed by the washing of water of the Word, without spot or wrinkle.

- Pray that the Church becomes aware of and considers the various titles given to her in the Word of God.
- Pray that we humbly know our place in His body, yet boldly take our stance in defense of His Kingdom when necessary.
- Pray that we do not seek glory for ourselves or to build our own kingdom.
- Pray that we keep the secrets of His heart near and dear to us as He reveals them to us.
- Pray that we become mature in Christ, developing into the pure Bride of Christ who is prepared for His coming.

# October 25: Anointing the Body

Anoint yourself with oil as a representation of the whole body of Christ being anointed, as Christ was, with the Holy Spirit and power of God in order to go about and do good, and heal all who are oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38).

- I anoint my head to submit completely to You, Jesus, for You are my Head (Colossians 1:18).
- I anoint my heart and thank You that You always cause me to triumph in You, and manifest through me the sweet aroma of the knowledge of You in every place (2 Corinthians 2:14).
- I anoint my eyes to see You, and what You are doing, so I will do the same in like manner (John 5:19), and to see all things from Your perspective (Ephesians 2:4-6).
- I anoint my ears to hear Your voice, and follow You, for I will not follow another (John 10:3-5).
- I anoint my mind (temples) to understand all things as You do. I cry out for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding (Proverbs 2:1-13), and I bring every thought captive to Christ. I tear down strongholds of thinking, belief systems, and thought patterns that oppose You (2 Corinthians 10:5).
- I anoint my nose for discernment, to know good from evil, right from wrong, and to discern what is from the Spirit of God and what is from the enemy; and to discern what is from the soul of man and what is from the Spirit (1 Kings 3:9, Hebrews 5:14, Hebrews 4:12).
- I anoint my voice box (throat) to speak only in alignment with You and Your words (James 3:10, Ephesians 4:29).
- I anoint my lungs (chest area) and breathe in the breath of the Spirit to saturate every cell of my being (John 20:22) and to breathe out Your words (Luke 6:45).
- I anoint my belly (stomach area) for out of my innermost being flows rivers of living water (John 7:38).
- I anoint my spine for backbone and courage (Romans 1:16), for strength and stability (Ephesians 3:16, 6:10, 2 Thessalonians 3:3), and to be fully aligned with You—spirit, soul, and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23).
- I anoint my shoulders as I come to You, Jesus, and take Your yoke upon me and learn from You, for You are gentle and humble in heart, and I will find rest for my soul (Matthew 11:28-29). I take up my cross today and every day and follow You (Luke 9:23), and present myself a living sacrifice to You, a bondservant, holy and acceptable unto God (Romans 12:1), knowing that I am a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in me, whom I have from God, and I am not my own, I've been bought with a price, and I will glorify God in my body, which belongs to You (1 Corinthians 6:19).
- I anoint my hands to do Your work in the earth (Ecclesiastes 9:10, Colossians 3:17).
- I anoint my feet to go where You are, where You lead, and to preach Your Word (Romans 10:15).
- I anoint myself all over for healing, strength, and provision so I am able to do all You've called me to do in the earth (1 Peter 2:24, Romans 6:13, Matthew 6:32-34).

## **Prayer Points:**

• Pray that the Church completely submits to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

# October 26: Your Heart, not Your Sacrifices

#### Psalm 51:14-17:

<sup>14</sup> Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, the God of my salvation;

Then my tongue will joyfully sing of Your righteousness.

<sup>15</sup>O Lord, open my lips,

That my mouth may declare Your praise.

<sup>16</sup> For You do not delight in sacrifice, otherwise I would give it;

You are not pleased with burnt offering.

<sup>17</sup>The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;

A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

What God really wants is your heart, not just your "sacrifices." He wants us to reject those things which He hates. He wants us to grieve over our sin.

Yes, He accepted the sacrifices offered under the Levitical priesthood to atone for their sin, but He preferred that they would not look at that as just a payment for sin, like you would purchase something from a store. Sin is not a product for us to purchase with repentance, it is something we are to reject and have no desire for at all.

He delights in those who are broken over their sin, who grieve when they hurt His heart by falling into that which displeases Him.

#### Isaiah 66:1-3:

Thus says the Lord,

"Heaven is My throne and the earth is My footstool.

Where then is a house you could build for Me?

And where is a place that I may rest?

<sup>2</sup> "For My hand made all these things,

Thus all these things came into being," declares the Lord.

"But to this one I will look,

To him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.

<sup>3</sup> "But he who kills an ox is *like* one who slays a man;

He who sacrifices a lamb is *like* the one who breaks a dog's neck;

He who offers a grain offering is like one who offers swine's blood;

He who burns incense is *like* the one who blesses an idol.

As they have chosen their own ways,

And their soul delights in their abominations,

God will look to the one with a humble and contrite spirit as a place of rest. He will come dwell with those who tremble at His word—those who fear Him, who honor Him, who don't take His forgiveness, or the sacrifice of His Son, for granted.

- Pray that the Church delights in pleasing the Lord. That our heart's desires turn away from sin, and all that displease Him, and looks to Him with an eager heart instead.
- Pray that the Church becomes humble and contrite of spirit, and trembles at the Word of God.

# October 27: Come Out and be Separate

#### James 4:1-5:

What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? <sup>2</sup>You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup>You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

#### Matthew 6:24:

<sup>24</sup> "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

We cannot serve two masters. We cannot embrace friendship with the world, or we make ourselves an enemy of God. God is jealous over us. A divided, compromised heart is corrupt. Lust and envy corrupt the motives of our prayers. Greed and mammon (an extreme desire for wealth) will cause us to compromise and ultimately turn against God and His ways. It's time to decide. The fence is rising, and we don't want to be caught on the wrong side.

## 2 Corinthians 6:14-18:

<sup>14</sup>Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? <sup>15</sup>Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever? <sup>16</sup>Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said,

"I will dwell in them and walk among them;
And I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

17 "Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate," says the Lord.

"And do not touch what is unclean;
And I will welcome you.

18 "And I will be a father to you,
And you shall be sons and daughters to Me,"
Says the Lord Almighty.

God is preparing us to be a pure and spotless bride, ready for Him at His coming. He is calling us out from among idolatry and lawlessness, and to Himself. Separate yourself unto Him. Unite your heart—your whole being—to Him. Not only do we separate ourselves unto Him, but we stand in support of those who do, contrary to those who approve of sin (Romans 1:32).

- Pray that the Church turns from the temptations of the world and rejects the lusts and envy which compromises and corrupts our heart.
- Pray that the Church comes out from the world and separates from it, pursuing God instead, and His Fatherhood over us.
- Pray that the Church welcomes His Spirit and yearns for Him, as He does for us.

## October 28: Psalm 101

## **Psalm 101:**

I will sing of lovingkindness and justice, To You, O Lord, I will sing praises. <sup>2</sup>I will give heed to the blameless way. When will You come to me?

I will walk within my house in the integrity of my heart.

<sup>3</sup>I will set no worthless thing before my eyes;

I hate the work of those who fall away;

It shall not fasten its grip on me.

<sup>4</sup>A perverse heart shall depart from me;

I will know no evil.

<sup>5</sup>Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy;

No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure.

<sup>6</sup> My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me;

He who walks in a blameless way is the one who will minister to me.

<sup>7</sup>He who practices deceit shall not dwell within my house;

He who speaks falsehood shall not maintain his position before me.

<sup>8</sup> Every morning I will destroy all the wicked of the land,

So as to cut off from the city of the Lord all those who do iniquity.

In this Psalm we see the heart of King David—a man after God's own heart. We also see the heart of God, revealing whom He will allow to dwell with Him, in His house, to minister to Him, and maintain their position before Him.

## **Prayer Points:**

• Pray this prayer as a psalm of dedication for yourself, and for the Church, as well as for it to become the heart of those in our government.

# October 29: Not Rejecting God's Rule

## **1 Samuel 8: 4-20** (portions)

<sup>4</sup>Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah; <sup>5</sup> and they said to him, "... appoint a king for us to judge us like all the nations." <sup>6</sup>But the thing was displeasing in the sight of Samuel...and Samuel prayed to the Lord. <sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Samuel, "Listen to the voice of the people in regard to all that they say to you, for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me from being king over them... <sup>9</sup>Now then, listen to their voice; however, you shall solemnly warn them and tell them of the procedure of the king who will reign over them."

<sup>10</sup>So Samuel spoke all the words of the Lord to the people who had asked of him a king. <sup>11</sup>He said, "This will be the procedure of the king who will reign over you: he will take your sons and place *them* for himself. . . <sup>13</sup>He will also take your daughters for perfumers and cooks and bakers. <sup>14</sup>He will take the best of your fields and your vineyards and your olive groves and give *them* to his servants. <sup>15</sup>He will take a tenth of your seed and of your vineyards and give to his officers and to his servants. <sup>16</sup>He will also take your male servants and your female servants and your best young men and your donkeys and use *them* for his work. <sup>17</sup>He will take a tenth of your flocks, and you yourselves will become his servants. <sup>18</sup>Then you will cry out in that day because of your king whom you have chosen for yourselves, but the Lord will not answer you in that day." <sup>19</sup>Nevertheless, the people refused to listen to the voice of Samuel, and they said, "No, but there shall be a king over us, <sup>20</sup>that we also may be like all the nations, that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles."

After being brought out of Egypt, and into their Promised Land, Israel had come to a point where they did not want God's government to rule over them the way He had been. They wanted to be like other nations. They didn't realize the blessing they had been under. They thought it would be better to be like the other nations.

The government of the United States was patterned after the Bible. Our Constitution was written after prayer (*Benjamin Franklin*, *Constitutional Convention*, *June 28*, *1787*). Our founding fathers realized we needed limited government and a strong Church. Yet it seems many Americans, and unfortunately Christians included, have put off our responsibility as the ekklesia of God, and want our government, to be the one who decides what to "forbid and allow" over our nation, when it is the Church's responsibility to do so. (Matthew 18:18-20, Matthew 16:18-19).

We need an administration elected and seated, who understands that. In this election, it is clear who that choice is—who the one is who will allow the Church to take their place, while getting the government out of the way. However, not only do we need the Trump administration in the White House to do this, we need the Church to rise and take her place in the public square—and impact the culture as God has called us to. He said GO into the world. Because we have not done this to the extent we are called, a vacuum of power has been created and the government has filled it.

- Pray that the Church, and all Americans, accept God's form of government over us.
- Pray that the Church, and all Americans, heed the warning of what being like other nations, globalism, really means.
- Pray that the Church, and all Americans, see the blessing and wisdom of our U.S.
   Constitution.
- Pray that the Church takes her place as the ekklesia and does not hand over that responsibility to the government.

## October 30: How Jesus Dealt with the Devil

#### Matthew 4:1-11:

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup> And after He had fasted forty days and forty nights, He then became hungry. <sup>3</sup> And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." <sup>4</sup> But He answered and said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God."

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'He will command His angels concerning You'; and 'On *their* hands they will bear You up, So that You will not strike Your foot against a stone." <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, "On the other hand, it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test."

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory; <sup>9</sup> and he said to Him, "All these things I will give You, if You fall down and worship me." <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, "Go, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only." <sup>11</sup> Then the devil left Him; and behold, angels came and *began* to minister to Him.

What did Jesus do when the devil came to Him, at a vulnerable time, and tempted Him? Jesus had just gone forty days and nights without food and was hungry. The devil, called the tempter, came to tempt Him. He tried appealing to a physical need—hunger, to get Him to use the power of God, in response to a suggestion from the enemy, to meet a physical need. When he saw that Jesus used the Scripture to resist him, then he tried using Scripture himself to get Jesus to throw Himself off the temple so angels could catch Him. But Jesus, knew the *intent* of Scripture, not just the letter of the law, and He appropriately applied it once again, resisting him.

Finally, the devil tried to get Him to take the easy way out, while committing the ultimate act of rebellion against the Father. He (the liar) said he would give Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their glory if He would just fall down and worship him. Jesus was not tricked. He would follow the path the Father had laid out for Him, no shortcuts, no detours, and definitely no compromise. He would not join the devil in his rebellion against God. Thank God He didn't.

But what did Jesus do? He spoke the Word of God to the devil, and he could not stand against it. That is the same example we are to follow today. When the tempter comes—whether its temptation to give in to the flesh, we fail because of our ignorance of the Word, or we're tempted to compromise and go off God's path—when we know the Word and resist him with our sword of the Spirit, the Word of God, we speak and stand our ground.

- Pray that the Church is not tricked by the enemy's temptations.
- Pray that the Church studies the Word of God—the Bible—and understands the true meaning and intent of Scripture.
- Pray that the Church remain true to the Lord and does not compromise what God has said, or the path He has for us.

## October 31: Resist the Devil

## 1 Peter 5:6-9:

<sup>6</sup>Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, <sup>7</sup> casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>But resist him, firm in *your* faith, knowing that the same experiences of suffering are being accomplished by your brethren who are in the world.

#### James 4:6-8:

<sup>6</sup>But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, "God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble." <sup>7</sup>Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup>Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you doubleminded.

Is today a day in which the devil is more active than at other times of the year? Many say, including former satanists, that Halloween is a satanic "holiday," and that it is the most prominent holiday in their cult. I've often wondered, since it's so close to our election day, to what extent it has influenced our elections to try and prevent godly people from being elected.

November 1<sup>st</sup> is remembered by Catholics as *All Saints Day*. As I looked up where its origins lie, I found some interesting things, and conflicts. Some say that *Halloween* on Oct. 31, *All Saints Day* on Nov. 1, and *All Souls Day* on Nov. 2 are connected. They say Halloween was originally connected to *All Saints Day* and *All Souls Day* as all three were to remember the dead in some way. <a href="https://www.britannica.com/topic/All-Saints-Day">https://www.britannica.com/topic/All-Saints-Day</a>.

Yet, a Catholic source says that *All Saints* and *All Souls Day* weren't originally connected to Halloween, but that paganism, which arose from the Celts who sacrificed to false gods and so on, blurred these days together because all three have to do with the dead.

https://catholicstraightanswers.com/what-are-the-origins-of-all-saints-day-and-all-souls-day-are-these-linked-with-paganism-and-halloween/

On *All Saints Day* Catholics remember and honor martyrs—Christians who have died for their faith. *All Souls Day* came about to remember deceased Christians whom the Catholic church (unscripturally) prays for because they believe they are in "purgatory" (a place where they are held until someone on earth prays them out—not a Scriptural concept).

https://www.gotquestions.org/praying-for-the-dead.html

So what we consider Halloween today, seems to have begun from a mingling together of the erroneous practice on *All Souls Day*, (normally held at cemeteries to pray for the dead), and the paganistic sacrifices offered to false gods on November 1, the Celtic day *Samhain*. They believed that on the eve of Samhain (Oct. 31) the souls of the dead were allowed to return to earth, so they dressed up in costumes to keep the departed souls from tormenting them on this day.

If satan is more active on these days, it may be because the Church has unknowingly participated in unscriptural and demonic activities—such as Halloween and the practice of praying for the dead.

## **Prayer Points:**

 Pray that the Church remains holy on all days, and is not deceived into participating in unscriptural, and even demonic, activities.

## November 1: Remember their Stories

## Hebrews 11:13-16, 39-40

<sup>13</sup> All these died in faith, without receiving the promises, but having seen them and having welcomed them from a distance, and having confessed that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. <sup>14</sup> For those who say such things make it clear that they are seeking a country of their own. <sup>15</sup> And indeed if they had been thinking of that *country* from which they went out, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better *country*, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; for He has prepared a city for them. . . <sup>39</sup> And all these, having gained approval through their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> because God had provided something better for us, so that apart from us they would not be made perfect.

I would encourage you to read the entire chapter of Hebrews 11 which tells the history of so many who have suffered and died for their faith to pursue that which God had promised them. Through them, God provided something better for us, so that "apart from us they would not be made perfect." God connects the ages together for His ultimate purpose.

Throughout the Old Testament, we see the telling and re-telling of what God did for His people Israel. God wanted them to be sure and tell their children what He had done for them, so they would come to know Him too. We read an example of this as soon as they crossed the Jordan River to begin their entrance into the Promised Land.

## Joshua 4:19-24:

<sup>19</sup> Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth of the first month and camped at Gilgal on the eastern edge of Jericho. <sup>20</sup> Those twelve stones which they had taken from the Jordan, Joshua set up at Gilgal. <sup>21</sup> He said to the sons of Israel, "When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What are these stones?' <sup>22</sup> then you shall inform your children, saying, 'Israel crossed this Jordan on dry ground.' <sup>23</sup> For the Lord your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed, just as the Lord your God had done to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed; <sup>24</sup> that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the Lord is mighty, so that you may fear the Lord your God forever."

History is retold so our children know who the Lord is and hear the great stories of His deliverance and provision. But something more than just an impartation of knowledge occurs when we retell history. When we give testimony of what the Lord has done for us, we are releasing the same power into the present. This is why we overcome satan by the blood of the Lamb and the *word of our testimony*. (Revelation 12:11).

## **Prayer Points:**

- Read Hebrews 11 to remember what the Lord has done in the lives of so many of His people.
- Take a moment to remember what the Lord has done for you in your life, and in the life of your family line.
- Ask Him to show you what place you have in fulfilling what was begun for His Kingdom in prior generations.
- Pray that this generation completes the purposes God has established for it.

For more on this amazing power of history and testimony see Dutch Sheet's post on this here: <a href="https://www.givehim15.com/post/september-7-2021">https://www.givehim15.com/post/september-7-2021</a>

# November 2: The Ephesians Prayer

## Ephesians 1:15-22, 3:14-21

<sup>15</sup> For this reason I too, having heard of the faith in the Lord Jesus which *exists* among you and your love for all the saints, <sup>16</sup> do not cease giving thanks for you, while making mention *of you* in my prayers; <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. <sup>18</sup> *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, <sup>19</sup> and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might <sup>20</sup> which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, <sup>21</sup> far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. <sup>22</sup> And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, <sup>23</sup> which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

<sup>14</sup> For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup> from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; *and* that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup> and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.
<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, <sup>21</sup> to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

In these verses we see how the Apostle Paul prayed for the saints at Ephesus. He said he continually prayed for them, asking for wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of God, and so on as we read here.

Much of what he prayed is a revelation of who Jesus is, what He has done for us, where He is seated now above all rule, authority, power and dominion, above every name and in all ages, as well as His great love, and His great power that works within us.

## **Prayer Points:**

Pray this prayer for yourself, for your family, your church, and the nation.

# November 3: God's Precious Thoughts

## Psalm 139

<sup>13</sup> For You formed my inward parts;

You wove me in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made;

Wonderful are Your works,

And my soul knows it very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from You,

When I was made in secret,

And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes have seen my unformed substance;

And in Your book were all written

The days that were ordained for me,

When as yet there was not one of them.

<sup>17</sup> How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God!

How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand.

When I awake, I am still with You.

<sup>19</sup> O that You would slay the wicked, O God;

Depart from me, therefore, men of bloodshed.

<sup>20</sup> For they speak against You wickedly,

And Your enemies take Your name in vain.

<sup>21</sup> Do I not hate those who hate You, O Lord?

And do I not loathe those who rise up against You?

<sup>22</sup> I hate them with the utmost hatred:

They have become my enemies.

<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart;

Try me and know my anxious thoughts;

<sup>24</sup> And see if there be any hurtful way in me,

And lead me in the everlasting way.

Oh, that we would understand the precious thoughts God has toward us! How much easier would it be to open our thoughts up to Him, and to ask Him to search our heart, so we could be healed and follow His way?

- Meditate on the love of God for you until you understand that He desires good for you.
- Pray that the Church, as well as unbelievers, in America, wake up to the reality of the love of God toward them.

# November 4: The Broken Bread of Communion

#### 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

<sup>23</sup> For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; <sup>24</sup> and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>25</sup> In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." <sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

## Luke 22:14-20

<sup>14</sup>When the hour had come, He reclined *at the table*, and the apostles with Him. <sup>15</sup> And He said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; <sup>16</sup> for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup> And when He had taken a cup *and* given thanks, He said, "Take this and share it among yourselves; <sup>18</sup> for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup> And when He had taken *some* bread *and* given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." <sup>20</sup> And in the same way *He took* the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.

At the Lord's Supper, Jesus broke the bread, saying it represented His body which was sacrificed for us. When He broke the bread while feeding the multitude, He blessed the food and broke the loaves (Matthew 14:19, Mark 6:41, Luke 9:16). The breaking of the bread signifies the breaking of His body, which is the blessing of God. His suffering brought unfathomable blessing to us.

During our times of taking communion, which we do to remember Him, we thankfully remember Jesus BREAKING HIMSELF so we can be presented to the Father holy and acceptable. As Jesus was lifted up and broken (blessed), He became "enough" for the multitudes, the whole world, to partake of Him and be saved.

We give our lives to Him, as they gave what little bread and fish they had, as a seed. Our seed-life, broken and blessed by Him yields more than enough for us to be brought into His Kingdom by faith. In Him, we too are lifted up, as we take up our cross daily to follow Him. We are broken (blessed) away from our old, sinful nature, our identification now being found in Him.

## John 12:23-26

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him.

## **Prayer Points:**

• Take communion in remembrance of what Jesus has done for you by dying on the cross, paying the price for your sin, and reconciling you to Your Father in heaven.

# November 5: Rejoice and Believe

## Psalm 118:24-25

<sup>24</sup>This is the day which the Lord has made;
 Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
 <sup>25</sup>O Lord, do save, we beseech You;
 O Lord, we beseech You, do send prosperity!

## Acts 17: 24-28

<sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; <sup>25</sup> nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all *people* life and breath and all things; <sup>26</sup> and He made from one *man* every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined *their* appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, <sup>27</sup> that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; <sup>28</sup> for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

On this Election Day 2024, we rejoice, for it is a day the Lord has made. We will rejoice in it, and we ask for the Lord to save and send prosperity to America.

He is Lord of heaven and earth. He is the One who made, from one man, every nation on the earth. He also has appointed the times and boundaries of mankind and the nations. His purpose is for the people to search for Him, and ultimately find Him. When we keep His purpose in mind, it's comforting to know that His intentions are for the salvation of the nations.

When the angel Gabriel came to Mary to tell her that she would conceive and give birth to the Son of the Most High, she asked how it could happen and he told her that the Holy Spirit would come upon her and the power of the Most High would overshadow her. She just had to believe, and nothing would be impossible with God (Luke 1:26-38, Mark 9:23).

He only requires us to do what He asks of us. Yet, we are to ask.

- Take some time to rejoice over this day that the Lord has made to accomplish His purposes in the earth.
- Ask the Lord to save America, to send prosperity, and ask what part you have to play in His plans for this nation.
- Ask for the Holy Spirit to come upon this nation and the power of the Most High to overshadow us.
- Verbally acknowledge your faith in the Lord's plans.

## November 6: Rest for Your Soul

## Matthew 11:28-30

<sup>28</sup> "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

## Matthew 11:28-30 The Passion Translation (TPT)

"Are you weary, carrying a heavy burden? Come to me. I will refresh your life, for I am your oasis. Simply join your life with mine. Learn my ways and you'll discover that I'm gentle, humble, easy to please. You will find refreshment and rest in me. For all that I require of you will be pleasant and easy to bear."

Often, we think we've, "Come to Him," when we haven't. We think we've presented our problem to Him, but we've just thrown complaints up into the air, in despair, not settling in with Him closely enough to hear His heart. But when we finally do, fear melts away, our minds settle, and we can hear His heartbeat, as well as His gentle voice.

Come and rest. We often don't realize we've been carrying more than what He's asked. His yoke is easy, and His burden is light. When we are yoked with Him, we learn from Him, we discover His gentle and humble heart. Our rest is found in this place of joining with Him. He is not a tyrant, and He is not unreasonable.

Turn the attention of your soul to Him.

#### Psalm 103:1-5

<sup>1</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul,

And all that is within me, bless His holy name.

<sup>2</sup>Bless the Lord, O my soul,

And forget none of His benefits;

<sup>3</sup>Who pardons all your iniquities,

Who heals all your diseases;

<sup>4</sup>Who redeems your life from the pit,

Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion;

<sup>5</sup>Who satisfies your years with good things,

So that your youth is renewed like the eagle.

- Spend some time resting in the presence of the Lord
- Ask Him any questions you have, without an anxious heart, hearing His gentle voice
- Command your soul to bless the Lord, and remember His goodness

## November 7: His Power in Weakness

## **2 Corinthians 12:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.

## **2 Corinthians 12:9-10** The Passion Translation (TPT)

But he answered me, "My grace is always more than enough for you, and my power finds its full expression through your weakness." So I will celebrate my weaknesses, for when I'm weak I sense more deeply the mighty power of Christ living in me. So I'm not defeated by my weakness, but delighted! For when I feel my weakness and endure mistreatment—when I'm surrounded with troubles on every side and face persecution because of my love for Christ—I am made yet stronger. For my weakness becomes a portal to God's power.

Paul was speaking about a "thorn in the flesh" sent to torment him. It was given to keep him from exalting himself because of the great revelations he had received. He wanted it to leave, but the Lord explained to him how valuable this was for him. God's grace was more than enough to get Paul through whatever it was he had to deal with, for the mighty power of God would live in him and strengthen him in the face of this weakness. His weakness became a "portal to God's power."

- Whatever situations you're faced with, receive the indwelling strength of God's grace to overcome and deal with them.
- Pray that the Church, and the nation, overcome any weaknesses by drawing on God's gracious strength.
- Pray that the Church, and the nation, doesn't respond to the taunts and troubles of the enemy, but instead looks to the Lord.
- Pray for a fresh release of God's strength and grace throughout America.

# November 8: The God of Peace

## 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24:

<sup>23</sup> Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup> Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.

No matter what goes on in the world around us, God is working in us to bring us to a point of completion and blamelessness so we will be preserved as such at the coming of the Lord. Notice when Paul said this, he called Him, "The God of peace." God is not worried.

## Romans 16:20:

<sup>20</sup>The God of peace will soon crush Satan under your feet.

He is the God of peace, but His peace does not come through compromising with evil. It is peace through the *overcoming* of evil. He is not One to tolerate satan, and He most definitely has the power to crush him under OUR feet.

#### Romans 12:18-21:

<sup>18</sup> If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. <sup>19</sup> Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath *of God*, for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. <sup>20</sup> "But if your enemy is hungry, feed him, and if he is thirsty, give him a drink; for in so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

As much as possible, we are to be at peace with all men. We're not to take our own revenge, but trust in the Lord to avenge us. In fact, we are to meet the needs of our enemy if he's hungry or thirsty. In so doing, we are not overcome by evil, but we overcome evil with good. When we squash the temptation to take revenge on our enemies, or laugh at them in their distress, we are eradicating evil out of our own hearts, and in so doing, weakening it in our nation.

- Pray that the Church sees God as the God of peace and allow that to comfort their own souls.
- Pray that the Church yields to God's work within us of preparing us to be blameless at the coming of His Son.
- Pray that the Church understands the God does not compromise with evil, nor should we.
- Pray that the Church does not take revenge on our enemies, but overcomes evil with good.
- Pray that the Church puts off any temptation to laugh at the distress of her enemies, but rather keeps a door open for those who would repent.

# November 9: The God of Hope

## **Romans 15:13**

<sup>13</sup>Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you will abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

#### Romans 5:5

<sup>5</sup> and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Not only is God the God of peace, He's also the God of hope. Paul prayed that God would fill them with all joy and peace as they believed. When this happens, hope abounds through the power of the Holy Spirit. Through the Holy Spirit, given to us by God, the love of God has been poured out within our hearts. For this reason, we can hope with a hope that will not bring disappointment.

#### Proverbs 13:12

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, But desire fulfilled is a tree of life.

Without hope, our hearts become sick, but when our hopes are realized, when the thing we desire comes, it's like a tree of life. When our hope is in God, we will not experience disappointment. Not to say there are not trying times, or periods which stretch our patience, but all of this works together for our good (Romans 8:28). And once we persevere under trial, we will receive the Lord's promise of the crown of life (James 1:12).

#### 1 John 3:2-3

<sup>2</sup>Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

When our hope is fixed on Jesus, we become purified, just as He is pure. This may be why Jesus said, the pure in heart will see God (Matthew 5:8). Don't place your hope in anything else but Jesus. All else is subject to fail. He is our Rock and our fortress, our deliverer, and the one we take refuge in (Psalm 18:2).

## Isaiah 40:31

<sup>31</sup>Yet those who wait for the Lord will gain new strength; They will mount up *with* wings like eagles, They will run and not get tired, They will walk and not become weary.

- Pray that the God of hope fills the Church, and America, with joy and peace; that they
  believe in Him and receive this gift, to abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that the Church draws from the love of God within them through the Holy Spirit.
- Pray that the Church, and America, put their hope in God alone, and persevere under any trying times.
- Pray for the revelation of who Jesus is, so the Church, and America, see Him for who He is.
- Pray for the purification of the hearts of the Church, and America.
- Pray that the Church, and America see Jesus as our Rock, our fortress, and our deliverer, and take refuge in Him.

# November 10: Blessed by our Heavenly Father

#### Ephesians 1:3-6

<sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ, <sup>4</sup> just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we would be holy and blameless before Him. In love <sup>5</sup> He predestined us to adoption as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will, <sup>6</sup> to the praise of the glory of His grace, which He freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

We are blessed, by God, with EVERY spiritual blessing in the heavenly place in Christ. This is an amazing statement. He has already done it. He has already blessed us. He chose us to be in Him, holy and blameless before the foundation of the world—before the world was even made.

Not only did He choose us, and bless us, He predestined us to become His sons (and daughters) through Jesus Christ—His own children. Our heavenly Father planned this all out before He laid the foundation of the world, including the grace which He would freely give to us in the Beloved Christ.

## The Passion Translation (TPT) says it like this:

Every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realm has already been lavished upon us as a love gift from our wonderful heavenly Father, the Father of our Lord Jesus—all because he sees us wrapped into Christ. This is why we celebrate him with all our hearts! And in love he chose us before he laid the foundation of the universe! Because of his great love, he ordained us, so that we would be seen as holy in his eyes with an unstained innocence. For it was always in his perfect plan to adopt us as his delightful children, through our union with Jesus, the Anointed One, so that his tremendous love that cascades over us would glorify his grace—for the same love he has for the Beloved, Jesus, he has for us. And this unfolding plan brings him great pleasure!

- Meditate on the blessings that your heavenly Father has lavished on you.
- Meditate on His great love for you—the love which brings you into His family, cleanses you of all sin, and glorifies His grace in you.
- Ask Him to reveal this great plan of His to your heart.
- Ask Him to reveal this great plan to your family, your church, and throughout the nation.

## November 11: Psalm 33

## Psalm 33

Sing for joy in the Lord, O you righteous ones;

Praise is becoming to the upright.

<sup>2</sup>Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre;

Sing praises to Him with a harp of ten strings.

<sup>3</sup>Sing to Him a new song;

Play skillfully with a shout of joy.

<sup>4</sup>For the word of the Lord is upright,

And all His work is done in faithfulness.

<sup>5</sup>He loves righteousness and justice;

The earth is full of the lovingkindness of the Lord.

<sup>6</sup> By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,

And by the breath of His mouth all their host.

<sup>7</sup>He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap;

He lays up the deeps in storehouses.

<sup>8</sup>Let all the earth fear the Lord;

Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

<sup>9</sup> For He spoke, and it was done;

He commanded, and it stood fast.

<sup>10</sup>The Lord nullifies the counsel of the nations;

He frustrates the plans of the peoples.

<sup>11</sup>The counsel of the Lord stands forever,

The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

<sup>12</sup>Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

The people whom He has chosen for His own inheritance.

<sup>13</sup>The Lord looks from heaven:

He sees all the sons of men;

<sup>14</sup> From His dwelling place He looks out

On all the inhabitants of the earth,

<sup>15</sup> He who fashions the hearts of them all,

He who understands all their works.

<sup>16</sup>The king is not saved by a mighty army;

A warrior is not delivered by great strength.

<sup>17</sup> A horse is a false hope for victory;

Nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength.

<sup>18</sup> Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear Him,

On those who hope for His lovingkindness,

<sup>19</sup> To deliver their soul from death

And to keep them alive in famine.

<sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the Lord;

He is our help and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> For our heart rejoices in Him,

Because we trust in His holy name.

<sup>22</sup>Let Your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,

According as we have hoped in You.

## **Prayer Points:**

Proclaim this psalm over the nation.