

"Are You On Our Side Or On Our Enemies?" by Kerry Dawn Hansher

We are currently in a season of war and as such, I believe many of us are asking the question, "Are you on our side or on our enemies?" as we tune into daily news reports, podcasts, and social media posts regarding the ever-changing circumstances in the Middle East due to the war with Iran. Holy Spirit actually brought this question to my mind a few days ago when I was praying about a few "back and forth" conversations I had heard while tuning into the daily war updates. I knew this question was actually a verse from Scripture, found in the book of Joshua. I decided to read a few of the surrounding verses to better comprehend what Holy Spirit was saying to me:

When Joshua was near Jericho, he looked up and saw standing in front of him a man holding a drawn sword. Joshua approached him and said, "Are you on our side or on our enemies?" "Neither" he replied. "I have not come *to take sides but* to take charge. I am the Commander of Yahweh's armies." At *once*, Joshua threw himself facedown to the ground and worshiped, and he said to him, "I will do whatever you command, my Lord." (Joshua 5:13-14 – Passion)

I realized in those moments that it would be wise for me to perform a quick "heart check" of my own to ensure that after hearing so many controversial war updates filled with confusion, deception, accusation and contradiction, I was still standing on the Lord's side, instead of "choosing a side" in the natural realm based on what I had heard and/or discerned that day. I can honestly say that reading these verses in Joshua helped to "steady me", with the realization and determination that I was going to stand on God's side, no matter what! I then whispered a prayer asking the Lord to help me clearly discern His heart in these matters so I would be found standing alongside Him at all times, instead of in opposition to Him.

The past few weeks, my heart and spirit have been deeply grieved over several of the conversations that have been made public, clearly indicating a significant rift has developed between President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel. Not only has President Trump publicly humiliated, criticized, and threatened Prime Minister Netanyahu on multiple occasions via social media and in various interviews, but he has also made several proud and arrogant declarations about himself in regard to the existence, safety, security and wellbeing of the nation of Israel.

During President Trump's speech at the G7 summit, he spoke these words: **"Without the United States, there would be no Israel. Without me, there would be no Israel."** As soon as I heard those words, I shuddered and felt an immediate warning from Holy Spirit about the significance of what had just taken place in the spirit realm with this declaration, in which Trump verbally elevated himself into the "seat" and "position" of God. President Trump's bold declaration, that has now been repeated over and over on numerous social media outlets, is in direct opposition to the Word of God. I believe that the message of Psalm 121 is crystal clear as to WHO consistently guards, protects, keeps watch over and deserves honor in regard to Israel and her people.

God Protects Us -

1-2 I look up to the mountains and hills, longing for God's help. But then I realize that our true help and protection *is* only from the Lord, our Creator who made the heavens and the earth. 3 He will guard and guide me, never letting me stumble or fall. God is my keeper; he will never forget nor ignore me. 4 He will never slumber nor sleep; he is the Guardian-God for his people, Israel. 5 Yahweh himself will watch over you; he's always at your side to shelter you safely in his presence. 6 He's protecting you from all danger both day and night. 7 He will keep you from every form of evil or calamity as he continuously watches over you. 8 You will be guarded by God himself. You will be safe when you leave your home, and safely you will return. He will protect you now, and he'll protect you forevermore! (Psalm 121 – Passion)

At the same time that Holy Spirit put a “check” in my spirit over President Trump’s declaration that he was the “savior” of Israel, the Spirit of Truth immediately brought to mind a King from thousands of years ago who was also used by God to accomplish Heaven’s purposes. In that instance, the King was used as an instrument of punishment and judgment against the nation of Israel because they had turned away from pure worship of the One True God. Similarly to what we have witnessed these past few weeks with President Trump, King Nebuchadnezzar allowed his successes, fame and fortune to “boost his pride” to such a degree that he forgot that he himself was not God. Instead, he was simply a man whom God had chosen to work through so that God’s ultimate purposes for the restoration and redemption of Israel could come about. Let’s take a look at Daniel Chapter 4 to be reminded of what happened to this proud and arrogant king as a result of his personal declarations.

Nebuchadnezzar Dreams about a Great Tree

4 “I, Nebuchadnezzar, was content and at peace in my house—thoroughly enjoying a life of luxury in my palace. 5 *One night*, I had a terrifying dream. While I was lying on my bed, frightening visions passed through my head, and I was tormented by what I saw.” ... 8 Finally, Daniel came before me. (I had renamed him Belteshazzar, after my own god.) The spirit of the holy gods resides in him. I then told Daniel my dream:

9 “Belteshazzar, chief of all my wise men, I know that the spirit of the holy gods resides in you and that there is no mystery that you cannot solve. So, listen to my dream and tell me what it means. 10 “While I slept, these visions passed through my mind: I saw a huge tree in the midst of the earth. 11 And the tree grew taller and stronger until its top reached into the heavens, and it could be seen from the far reaches of the land. 12 Its branches and foliage were beautiful, its fruit abundant, providing enough food for all. Animals rested under its shade, and birds found shelter in its sturdy branches. All living creatures were nourished from it.”

A Watcher Angel

13 “While I was still asleep, I saw another vision: I saw a watcher, a holy one, come down from heaven. 14 At the top of his voice, he announced: ‘Cut down the tree, lop off its branches, strip off its leaves, and scatter its fruit.’ ‘Drive away the animals from beneath its shelter and the birds from its branches. 15 But leave the stump with its roots in the ground. Encircle it with chains of iron and bronze, surrounded by the grass of the field. *Night after night*, let him be damp with heaven’s dew. Let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth as his appointed lot. Let him eat the grass of the field. 16 For seven years, let his mind be altered into the mind of a beast. 17 Such is the sentence decreed by the watchers, the decision by the word of the holy ones, so that everyone living may learn that the Most High *God* is sovereign over the kingdoms of men. He can give them to whomever he pleases and raises up over them the lowliest of all people.’ ”

18 Then King Nebuchadnezzar concluded, “That was my dream. Now it is for you, Belteshazzar, to interpret its meaning, since not one of the wise men in my kingdom has been able to interpret it for me, but I know that you can, since the spirit of the holy gods resides in you.”

Daniel Interprets the King’s Dream

19 Upon hearing this, Daniel (known as Belteshazzar) was visibly shaken for a while and troubled in his thoughts. The king *noticed this* and said to him, “Belteshazzar, do not be alarmed by the dream and its meaning.” Belteshazzar answered, “My lord, if only the dream applied to those who hate you and its interpretation were for your enemies! 20 The huge tree

you saw, so large and tall that it reached into the heavens and could be seen from anywhere in the land, 21 the tree with beautiful branches and foliage and abundant fruit, providing food for all and shade for the wild animals, and birds with nests in its branches: 22 that tree, Your Majesty, is you! You are now so great and strong that it reaches into heaven, and your authority reaches over the entire land.”

23 “Now you, O king, saw a watcher—a holy messenger—come down from heaven, saying, ‘Cut the tree down and destroy it, but leave the stump and roots in the ground. Encircle it with chains of iron and bronze in the midst of the grass of the field. Let him be damp with the dew every night. Let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth as his appointed lot until seven years have passed by for him.’

24 So, the meaning of what you saw, Your Majesty, and the decree the Most High has decreed over you, my lord the king, is this: 25 “You will be driven far from human society and will make your home with the wild beasts for seven years. Like cattle, you will eat grass, and you will be damp with the dew of heaven, until you have learned that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and can give them to whomever he pleases. 26 “And the *watcher’s* order, ‘Leave the stump with its roots in the ground,’ means this: *God* will restore your kingdom to you once you come to *your senses and* understand that Heaven rules over all.” 27 “Your Majesty, please be willing to do what I say and accept my advice. Renounce your sins by doing what is right. Turn from your wickedness by showing mercy to the poor and unfortunate, and perhaps your prosperity will continue.”

The Dream Comes True

29 A year later, while strolling on the roof of his royal palace in Babylon, 30 the king began to boast: “*Look at you!* Is not this Babylon the great? By my brilliant wisdom, I built all this as my royal residence to display the glory of my majesty.” 31 The words were no sooner out of his mouth than a voice spoke from out of heaven: “Here is my verdict concerning you, King Nebuchadnezzar: I have now taken your kingdom from you! 32 You will be driven far from human society for seven years. You will make your home with the wild beasts, and you will eat grass like cattle until you have learned that *I*, the Most High, am sovereign over the kingdoms of men and can give them to whomever I please.”

My friends, please lean in close to hear my heart as you read this article. I am so thankful that the Lord chose to allow Donald John Trump to become the 47th President of the United States a few years ago. I have been consistently standing in a place of prophetic intercession for him and his team, knowing that the anointing of the Lord is resting heavily upon President Trump and many members of his cabinet for this time, to reshape history and transform the future. From my perspective, the way that the Lord has used Donald Trump to bring about desperately needed changes in our nation has been nothing short of miraculous! Whether the crucial and necessary turnarounds relate to governmental staff appointments, critical policy matters, illegal immigration, or our economic recovery and stability, I know that the Lord God made the right choice and released significant levels of mercy and grace to America (and the nations of the world) as He appointed Donald Trump to return to the seat of President of the United States of America.

However, I sense in my spirit that because of various events that have taken place this past month, President Trump is treading dangerous ground. His social media posts and interviews reflect significant pride, self-exaltation, and a “savior mentality.” It has been quite some time since I have heard President Trump give thanks to the Lord for all that He has done on behalf of the US, Israel and other nations of the world.

Here is what Proverbs 16:18 says about this type of situation: “Your boast becomes a prophecy of a future failure. The higher you lift up yourself in pride, the harder you’ll fall in disgrace.” (Passion).

You may be asking, "So what can we do now?"

My answer is pray, intercede, commune with the Bread and Blood of Yeshua, fast as you feel led, and reaffirm your covenant commitment to the Holy One of Israel and His people throughout the earth. Cry out for mercy, grace and truth to be released over President Trump, the United States, Israel, the people of Lebanon and Iran awaiting freedom, and any other nations the Lord places on your heart. Be willing to "stand in the gap" on behalf of the sins of pride that have been released into our atmospheres and regions, with the resulting words and declarations being direct contradictions to the heart, nature and plan of God for this season of time.

As we are faithful to be the light, speak the truth, and intercede to bring forth the purposes of God in this hour, I am convinced that the demonic forces that gained access to twist, convolute, confuse, disrupt, and detour God's strategic plan for this war in the Middle East will be pushed back and restrained at the gates of our nations. Remember, we do not fight alone, but rather we fight right alongside of the Commander of Yahweh's Armies who always wins the war! Be encouraged as the weapons we war with in Holy Spirit are powerful and effective to tear down and destroy!

3 For though we walk in the world, we do not fight according to this world's rules of warfare. 4 The weapons of the war we're fighting are not of this world but are powered by God and effective at tearing down the strongholds erected against His truth. 5 We are demolishing arguments and ideas, every high-and-mighty philosophy that pits itself against the knowledge of the one true God. We are taking prisoners of every thought, every emotion, and subduing them into obedience to the Anointed One. 6 As soon as you choose obedience, we stand ready to punish every act of disobedience. (II Corinthians 10:3-4 VOICE)

While seasons of war can be intense, unsettling and exhausting, they provide us with ample opportunities to watch and witness The Holy One of Israel moving in ways we cannot fully comprehend. Regardless of what we see or know, we must remain confident that He is moving as we partner with Him through intercession, war and worship. Keep watching over the Word from Jeremiah's prophecy regarding Elam (Iran), believing the Lord to "realign time" and get us back on track to seeing the fulfillment of this word, opening up the way for the people of Iran to worship the True and Living God without fear or punishment!

35 This is what the Eternal, Commander of heavenly armies has to say: Eternal One: I will break the bows of Elam's archers—the very best of their military might. 36 I will bring the four winds from the four corners of heaven to blow against Elam. I will scatter them to the four winds, and there will not be a nation where her exiles will not go. 37 I will shatter Elam right in front of her enemies, before those who want her dead. I will bring disaster upon these people, for My violent anger burns against them. I will pursue them in war until they are no more. 38 I will destroy her wicked king and officials and set the king I want on the throne over Elam. 39 But even so, in the latter times, the day will come when I will restore the fortunes of Elam. So says the Eternal. (Jeremiah 49:35-39 – VOICE)

My hope and prayer is that all of us will stand with Israel and the Jewish people in these critical times no matter what. By being faithful to the Lord's call to do so, we will please His heart and have access to all of the same covenant blessings that were released to Abram, the first Hebrew.

2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed. Genesis 12:2-3 (NKJV)

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