

# W O R D A T W O R K

## Kingly Character of Christ XI

Dear Friend:

While this is the month for thanksgiving, the phrase I hear for God's faithful covenant-keeping church is "*...He shall lift up the head.*" In Jeremiah 52:31 Jehoiachin had been in captivity a long time when God lifted his head with favor and provision. Verse 31 records, "*Now it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-fifth day of the month, that Evil-Merodach King of Babylon, in the first year of his reign, lifted up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah and brought him out of prison.*"

For covenant believers, the phrase "*...lift up the head*" marks a point of God's intervention where He changes our circumstances by a dramatic display of His power. The most often quoted Psalm in the New Testament is a blueprint for pursuing such intervention and ends with the declaration, "*Therefore He shall lift up the head.*" With unprecedented instability, volatility and looming global adversity, one particular Psalm may well be the most important passage guaranteeing our secure future in Christ. All the promises of Scripture are "*Yes and amen!*" It is essential to memorize, declare and decree Bible promises.

I believe prophetically, Psalm 110 is a core value for all God is about to do covenantally. If we lay hold of the principles in Psalm 110, the promise is "*Therefore He shall lift up the head.*" Psalm 110 states, "*The LORD said to my Lord, 'Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.' The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! Your people shall be volunteers In the day of Your power; In the beauties of holiness, from the womb of the morning, You have the dew of Your youth. The LORD has sworn And will not relent, 'You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek.' The Lord is at Your right hand; He shall execute kings in the day of His wrath. He shall judge among the nations, He shall fill the places with dead bodies, He shall execute the heads of many countries. He shall drink of the brook by the wayside; Therefore He shall lift up the head.*"

I believe we would be wise to memorize Psalm 110 so that we can declare it and decree it as necessary.

Yours in Him,

Al Houghton

# W O R D A T W O R K

## Kingly Character of Christ XI

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1

Scripture: Galatians 5:20-25

Galatians 5:22-25 says, *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ’s have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.”* The fruit of the Spirit that we are called to develop has a conviction element in it that is translated faithfulness but in fact it comes from the Greek word **pis-tis** and it means conviction that God exists and rules in all things. That conviction really gets challenged whenever we face life-threatening physical sickness or financial hardship. The conviction that God exists and rules in all things is challenged by a very real spiritual adversary. Every believer is faced with the assignment of overcoming the enemy. Trusting God becomes a life or death issue. If God rules in all things then what is our response to be in the face of advancing evil. Faith is a personal issue in development of a relationship with the living God both from a Priestly view and from a Kingly view. Most churches today primarily develop only the Priestly side. This creates an understanding deficit for ruling in all things by a lack of teaching the Kingly foundation. Adversity challenges God’s rule. When dramatic adversity comes at us from government mandating abortion, nature worship and homosexuality, we pray for our enemies and by blessing them enable evil. The judicial nature of God is never activated by a passive church. Psalm 110:1,2 commands us to rule in the midst of our enemies. The Lord promised to make our enemies our footstool. Since He promised, we should ask! The church is supposed to teach us how... Is it fulfilling that assignment? If not, then the question is, “Why not?” Are we learning the principles of implementing God’s promises to rule? Is the failure to rule because of what we believe? Is it because we are not exercising what we should? Is it because we are not praying what we should? How can we grow in implementing God’s rule? The New Testament presents David as our example!

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Scripture: Revelation 19:11

In Revelation 19:11 the first Kingly fruit of Christ is the Greek word, **pis-tos**. In Galatians 5:22, the seventh Priestly fruit is **pis-tis**, which is what we believe. In Revelation 19:11 the very first characteristic of the Kingly Christ is what we do with what we believe. Believing God rules is Priestly. Acting like God rules is Kingly. Priestly belief, **pis-tis** in Galatians, requires Kingly action in Revelation. **Pis-tos** is an action word, meaning ‘to be faithful in the transaction of business and execution of commands’. **Pis-tos** in Revelation is really, what are we doing with what we believe. **Pis-tis** in Galatians is the issue of conviction that exists that God is real and that He rules in all things. The fruit of the Priestly is what we believe, whereas the fruit of the Kingly in Revelation concerns, what are we doing with what we believe. This brings us squarely face up with the issue of, Is God really ruling personally *and* corporately? God rules personally through our choices. Faith is inviting God to intervene and believing He will. The issue of what or how we are praying becomes a core concern. Perhaps we are not asking for the right kind of intervention. Perhaps we are not asking for the judicial Christ to drop His hammer and His plumbline on the evil, the rebellious and the violent. Perhaps He is not ruling because we are not acting like the Kings that we have been made. If that is the cause then the change that is needed is in us, with how we think, believe, pray and act. God may be ready and waiting on us. The Lord may be propelling us

toward a season of “faith by fire” where physical circumstances push us into new depths of walking by covenant promises.

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Scripture: Matthew 26:47-53

The events surrounding Jesus’ betrayal and arrest were really quite stunning, revealing how God rules in the midst of great adversity. This is a picture for us? Jesus believed He had access to change the situation but yielded to the Father’s will. Matthew 26:52-54 state, *“But Jesus said to him, “Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels? How then could the Scriptures be fulfilled, that it must happen thus?”* Peter cut off the ear of the servant of the High Priest in his attempt to protect Jesus. Jesus commanded him to put the sword away. Then He said, *“Do you not understand that all of heaven is backing Me up right now? You are hindering the fulfillment of Scripture.”* The only reason the angels did not intervene was because Jesus did not pray for deliverance. He prayed instead for the strength to fulfill God’s will. He made it obvious that deliverance was available. Angels were ready to answer His prayers. Have things now completely changed? Salvation has been bought and paid for. Principalities and powers have been openly dethroned. All authority has been given to the church in heaven and earth. If the armies in heaven back the believers and if we believe that God rules in the affairs of men, why are we not asking God to remove the antichrist-driven leaders who are decimating our nation and who are destroying our economy by advancing their perverse agendas in our land? The Environmental Protection Agency is so restrictive that we cannot buy a fogger that kills moths in our own house. In a misguided attempt to save fish, the EPA is willing to endanger people by banning DDT. Last year it was estimated that over one million people died from mosquito-transferring diseases. DDT at one time eradicated that problem. Government regulations can have devastating consequences. If God is waiting on us, and it would appear according to Scripture that He is, it is time we asked for the removal of the impediments to our harvest. It is time we asked that the same angel that visited Herod visit some governmental leaders today, expecting the same results. This is not a Democrat or Republican issue. This is a God versus demons issue.

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

Scripture: 2 Kings 6:8-12, Matthew 26:47-53

Jesus said He had access to twelve legions of angels. In 2 Kings 6:8-12, Syria was developing a war-plan and preparing to war against Israel. In that war plan, the King positioned himself for a surprising attack. Now the problem with the Syrian war-plan was that God revealed it to Elisha the prophet by word of knowledge and Elisha alerted the King. So the king of Israel sent a scouting party and confirmed that the intelligence was accurate. Finally the heart of the king of Syria was so greatly troubled that he called his servants and said, *“There is a spy in the camp!”* But in truth, God was revealing to Elisha the entire war-plan and saved Israel multiple times. It is obvious that Jesus was referring, in Matthew, to the angelic manifestations consistently seen in Scripture. Heaven will back the church in our God-given assignments to bring in a harvest, in the face of those who war against us. If we are doing what we are assigned, then divine intervention and angelic help are available. It does not appear that the church has tapped into this sufficiently, yet a paradigm shift is needed. The issue of faith and what we believe about God ruling has a different application on the Kingly governmental side than it does on the Priestly side. Elisha asked for blindness for an army and got it. David routinely dispensed justice with his sword. But God proved to Joshua that He could kill more and faster than Joshua. Joshua asked for more time by commanding the sun to cease rotating. God complied! The problem may well be what we are praying! David's war-Psalms are a good guide!

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

Scripture: 2 Kings 6:13-17

When Elisha was surrounded by an army, his servant became fearful. Things were not as they appeared! The reality was that there were more angels available in their behalf than with the enemy. Elisha prayed again and the Lord opened the servant’s eyes and we are told in verses 16, 17, *“So he answered, ‘Do not fear, for those who are with us are*

more than those who are with them.' And Elisha prayed, and said, 'LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.' Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha." Elisha, by faith, tapped into the heavenly support team that was available to him by covenant. We now have a better covenant based on better promises. But if we never develop our faith in the Kingly judicial side of Christ, we will never ask for this kind of angelic intervention. How sad to have forfeited victories God would have given us because we were not willing to ask the judicial Christ to judge and war in our behalf.

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

Scripture: 2 Kings 6:18-23

When it comes to war, Elisha asked God to blind an entire army. Verse 18 says, "So when the Syrians came down to him, Elisha prayed to the LORD, and said, 'Strike this people, I pray, with blindness.' And He struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha." Have we ever asked God to strike anybody with blindness? Have we ever asked God to strike anyone and put them in the grave? The Priestly side of Christ that we developed primarily makes this dimension unthinkable for many believers. The very fact that it is unthinkable guarantees the fact that we will lose every battle we face. Elisha understood the judicial Christ. He understood the judicial covenant, and like David, asked for it. Elisha led an entire army into bondage. The king's response, in verse 21, was, "Shall I kill them?" And he asked it twice. Elisha said, "No, let's have a BBQ. Feed them and send them home. We have already scared the hell out of them – they won't come back anymore!" If there is anything that is needed right now it is the church flowing in an anointing that moves the Hand of God that scares the hell out of wayward politicians, both Democrats and Republicans. This is the side of Christ that we need to develop. This is the side of Christ that is missing in the church. Jesus has not changed. He is the same yesterday, today and forever and it is time we grew into the Kingly-judicial side of who our God is.

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Scripture: Joel 2:1-3

Joel 2:1-3 is a declaration of a gathering army to execute the will of the judicial Christ. Nothing escapes this army, as they are released in order to bring forth God's judicial purpose. Joel prophesied this army would be seen in the last days. Is the church to be like Joel's army? Can we rise to that standard? It is going to take an army to save the nations and this army cannot be a one-horse Calvary. This army has to be fully developed in their Priestly salvation message and their Kingly judicial message. They have to execute penalties for rebellion. They have to restore the fear of the Lord to the land. There is hardly any fear of God in the current culture because the church has not represented the Judicial Christ. Other generations did. The Bible is full of representations and manifestations of His intervention in history. But our generation has swept them under the table. We have refused to stand up and represent the biblical Jesus. If that does not change and change *now*, we will forfeit the end-time harvest!

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

Scripture: Joel 2:3-6

The army Joel describes had fire! Nothing escaped them. They leapt over obstacles. They carried the noise of a flaming fire that raged. They were like strong people set in battle array. Every face that saw them coming was drained of color. This army was called the army of the Lord. Does the church look like this today? Not even close! Why not? We do not have this mentality. We do not have the covenantal understanding of appropriation and the covenantal understanding of releasing divine justice and putting the enemy under our feet. And yet the most oft recorded Psalm in the entire New Testament promises exactly that – "He will make our enemies our footstool." Jesus' army has that attitude. Joel 2 describes an army that actually believed Psalm 110. It would take an act of God to raise up a group of people in the church that believed Psalm 110. Psalm 110 is so important to the future of ministry right now that one church I visit is challenging the congregation to memorize it for further emphasis. They are asking each member of their ministry team that represents one of the different five-fold ministry offices to share with the congregation each verse of Psalm 110 and what it means to their heart. They are devoting one Sunday to every single verse of Psalm 110. May we

grow to rule in the midst of our enemies! Until Psalm 110 becomes a foundation in our hearts, we will never rise to the level of the army that is needed to execute the end-time harvest. It is critical, it is crucial and the time is now!

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

Scripture: Joel 2:7

Verse 7 says, *“They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks.”* The army of the Lord, when it goes to war, has the discipline of everyone marching in formation and refusing to break ranks. They refuse to start their own thing. They refuse to be self-focused. They actually take God's assignment and go to the place where they are appointed and they humbly make their contribution in that place and do what God has called them to do. Serving is a novel concept today. If we could just get verse 7 into the church today, we would have an entirely different army because people would be joined together in the place of their assignment. They would not be offended and running off to be sure they build their own kingdom. It takes discipline to march in formation. It takes discipline to not break ranks. It takes discipline to obey God's orders and His direction. It takes discipline to commit yourself to a church, bite the bullet whenever you disagree and pray for God to change things and to have His way. The reason why we do not see the army that looks like that today is probably because of self-will and absolute refusal to take the bit and bridle of Christ. If we were wearing the bit and bridle of Christ, we would be committed to each other, we would be in unity and harmony and what God does through the church would be an entirely different picture.

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Scripture: Joel 2:8

Joel 2:8 says, *“They do not push one another; Every one marches in his own column. Though they lunge between the weapons, They are not cut down.”* Imagine an army where people support each other rather than pushing one another. Imagine an army where everyone marches in his own column. Imagine an army that when you attack, you cannot be destroyed. There is a place in Christ where the end-time army of the church is advancing because obedience has brought God's judicial hand into their midst and no one can stand against them. That is the picture and that is the promise in more places than one. Joel 2 tells what the cost is to gain the promise. We do not push each other. We stay in our own column. We walk in unity. We attack together and we are not cut down. Oh, for that day!

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11

Scripture: Joel 2:9

Joel 2:9 says, *“They run to and fro in the city, They run on the wall; They climb into the houses, They enter at the windows like a thief.”* Verse 9 shows us the mentality of an invader. They actually believe that the land belongs to them. They walk into places they do not own and they take possession. What would happen if God's people were to suddenly demand that everything that was built in the name of the Lord and dedicated to Him were used for His purpose instead of man's? If God's Hand were to come on the self-focused ministers and completely separate them from everything they had built for themselves, the church would look different. God will repossess what was bought with His money for individual glory! What if the Lord were to actually possess everything that had already been dedicated to Him, which is now serving a personal vision and not an eternal one? Joel's army extended the Kingdom by overtaking the enemy. God's army is going to have to start by purifying its own altars. It is very simple and it is not rocket science. Whenever you write a check, you hold it before the Lord and say, “OK Father, I have a right to sow into a pure altar. In Jesus' name, I am sending this check in and I ask that it be covenantally sealed and that anything that is amiss in that altar or ministry, you would straighten it out with Your hand so that my giving is sanctified, accepted, multiplied and returned and Your covenant is fully operational in my life and ministry.” When we are giving because the Holy Spirit prompts us to, we can activate covenant. Every believer should get delivered from giving by apparent need and step into the realm where we give by revealed need. Then God is responsible for the purity of the altar we are sowing into and He is the one that is on the hook for the covenantal return and the full measure of covenant blessing.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12

Scripture: Joel 2:10,11

Joel 2:10 says that this army evokes visible signs and wonders and that manifestations follow them. They are not waiting for an earthquake, they are releasing them! They even cause the heavens to tremble, the sun and the moon to grow dark and the stars be diminished. This is an army that fully comprehends the judicial Christ and actually believes they are carrying out God's purpose and plan in the earth. This army is stunning because of verse 11. It says, "*The LORD gives voice before His army, For His camp is very great; For strong is the One who executes His word. For the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; Who can endure it?*" The army that is described here physically executed justice on wayward covenant Israel. And yet, we are told that this army will be seen again in the distant future. This is a picture of God's end-time army who, not only executes His will, but harvests the earth. We know that from the other verses that promising that harvest in Joel 2:23-27. Do we look like this army? Does the church we attend look like this army? If not, why not?

## SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13

Scripture: Revelation 19:14

Revelation 19:14 says, "*And the armies in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, followed Him on white horses.*" Follow is the Greek word, **ak-ol-oo-theh-o** and it means to 'join as a disciple, or to side with,' and it raises the issue of whose side are we on? Are we actually on the enemy's side by extending mercy to people God wants to cut off? Are we enabling the ungodly through unsanctified mercy by being Priestly while God wants us to be Kingly? That is a question we have to answer because the traditions of man in Revelation 2 make the church of Thyatira vulnerable because they refuse to restrain evil and are caught in a doctrine of passivity where they enable evil by refusing to confront it and bring the judicial Hand of God against it. If there was ever a picture of today's church, that would have to be it.

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Scripture: Matthew 10:5-8

In Matthew 10:5-8 we are told, "*These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying: 'Do not go into the way of the Gentiles, and do not enter a city of the Samaritans. But go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.'*" Matthew 10:5-8 is the Priestly mindset that the church has today. The mindset is: "This is who we are. This is what we do." We have taken this to be the entirety of the gospel. The problem is the Priestly Jesus, that commanded us to walk in this, did not stop here! Our problem is that we have stopped here. We have made this the whole assignment and it is not the whole assignment, it was just the first part. Even if we dub the first part to be the most important, for those who do not receive the word we preach, the next part is very important! Because without it, those who do not receive the word we preach have no reason to listen. We have to grow up and start to demonstrate who the judicial Christ is in reality! Jesus commanded the disciples to warn those who rejected the Word.

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Scripture: Matthew 10:11-15

Matthew 10:11-15 states, "*Now whatever city or town you enter, inquire who in it is worthy, and stay there till you go out. And when you go into a household, greet it. If the household is worthy, let your peace come upon it. But if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. And whoever will not receive you nor hear your words, when you depart from that house or city, shake off the dust from your feet. Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!*" If we fail to confront those who refuse the message, if we fail to initiate the penalty for their rebellion, we enable them because we give them no reason to change. If there is no penalty, there is no reason for them to change. Jesus commanded the twelve to outline the penalty for refusing to

hear. He commanded them to represent both the Savior and the Judge. But have we dropped this side of who Jesus is? We have not taught it, we have not encouraged people to develop it. And when we look at society today, we see no consequence of sin. "Oh yes... I know, Jesus loves me." But they do not know there is any penalty for compromising the Word. Refusing the Word is rejecting Christ. Because the church has been mute on the issues, people are clueless. This is criminal. We are in disobedience up to our eyeballs. No wonder we are not the army of Joel 2.

#### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

Scripture: Matthew 10:16-22

Matthew 10:16-22, "*Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves. But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues. You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you. 'Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death. And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.'*" Jesus made it very clear that there was a price tag and a cost for walking with Him. Often times that price tag and cost would immediately manifest. He knew the minute they started revealing their fate they were headed for opposition because persecution was in the wind. Why have we failed to prepare the church for this dimension? Have we not seen it or is it because we fear persecution? This is an issue only God can sort out as He looks at the heart. But one thing is for sure – we will never rise to be the army that God has called us to be if we are not willing to tell people what the penalty is and sometimes call it down.

#### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

Scripture: Matthew 10:23

Jesus made it clear that when persecution came, they were simply to move onto the next city. Matthew 10:23 says, "*When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.*" The disciples had a mission and that mission was the harvest field. When they told people what the price was, persecution was coming and they might have to move onto the next city. Are we preparing our young people for that? Are we actually preparing them to stand in the face of persecution and bring the hand of the judicial Christ? If we are not, then we will give an account to God for our disobedience.

#### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

Scripture: Matthew 10:24-34

In Matthew 10:24-34, we find Jesus going right to the heart of the issue and talking about releasing the sword. Jesus tells us in verse 28, "*...do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell...*" Jesus made it clear to the Twelve that when He stepped in judicially, it would not just be one death, but there were two that would be involved. The one we should fear is the one that kills twice when we rebel against Him. It is time we represented the God who kills twice. Not because we want to see anybody removed, but so we may demonstrate that God has not changed but is the same, yesterday, today and forever. There is a penalty for evil when people refuse to repent. Just like He judged Herod, He will judge leaders today. Are we ready for that?

#### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

Scripture: Matthew 10:35-39

Jesus made it clear that by walking with Him in the last days, by fully following all that He has called us to do, there is a price. God is first and foremost a family-man. When we accept Christ, we are baptized into a new and eternal family. Acts 16:31 promises "*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.*" When natural family refuses spiritual family, a sword becomes evident. It is not minor but it is major because the sword

pierces our own heart. The stand we have to take often places us in opposition to people we love dearly, and possibly the most. Our willingness to apply the same judicial standard to family members as to the world is what qualifies us to walk where the prophets walked and to demonstrate the fullness of Christ in Revelation in the last days. Without that commitment we just cannot get there. Mercy triumphs over judgment is our heart-cry in this place. The greatest conflict falls in natural family. The Levites had to do the same thing when Moses came down off of the mountain. They had to execute God's justice, even in their own families. But as a result, they were given the Priesthood. The standard has not changed, it is still the same. If you and I cannot exercise a judicial standard at home, we cannot take it to other people and take it to a nation. God's heart is to save and family conflict keeps our heart leaning toward salvation reluctant in judgment!

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

Scripture: Matthew 10:40

Our willingness to follow Christ and to lose our life brings us into a harmony with Him where the plumbline follows us everywhere we go. We become a yardstick by which God measures and judges others within the church. When we embrace the sword of separation unto God, He makes us one with Christ. The early church had no problem moving God's Hand to get what they needed to gain their harvest. I trust we are moving in that direction.

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

Scripture: Matthew 24:36-39

Matthew 24:36-39 says, *"But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, but My Father only. But as the days of Noah were, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be. For as in the days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and did not know until the flood came and took them all away, so also will the coming of the Son of Man be."* Jesus made it clear that it would be just like the days of Noah. And when He talks about marrying and being given a marriage, the reference is to the only other time in history when homosexual marriage was rampant. In the days of Noah there was open homosexuality. We can certainly say, in the present times, we have come to that place: where marriage between one man and one woman has been under assault for many years. As perverse and vile as homosexual marriage is, it brings a judicial act from heaven of which Sodom and Gomorrah are flaming proof that God will not be silent in such a season. Any nation that steps in that direction is stepping into adversity and the judicial Hand of God will come upon them. That is something we do not want, but when politicians choose it, they should eat the fruit!

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Scripture: Matthew 24:40-44

Matthew 24:40-44 state, *"Then two men will be in the field: one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding at the mill: one will be taken and the other left. Watch therefore, for you do not know what hour your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known what hour the thief would come, he would have watched and not allowed his house to be broken into. Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."* The interesting part about this judicial manifestation is that in the days of Noah, the ungodly, perverse and the vile were the ones taken. The ones left were the righteous. For all those who read this passage and tend to write rapture in it, rapture does not fit. Because in the days of Noah, the Godly were left and the ungodly were taken. What fits here is the army of Joel 2. Because like the thief, they are the ones breaking into houses and taking the wicked to their eternal reward. Are we ready to walk in that prayer-dimension? Are we ready to act like invaders, demanding righteousness? Are we ready to repossess for God's Kingdom? If we are not ready, we had better get there!

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Scripture: Galatians 5:23

Galatians 5:23 says that meekness is a fruit of the Spirit. Meekness is the Greek word **prah-ot-ace**. **Prah-ot-ace** is a word that is best described in the movie Ben-Hur when we see the protagonists' team of white horses refusing to flinch in the chariot race and carrying him all the way to victory. The horses are **prah-ot-ace**. They are courage and power bridled. They did not move to the right and they did not move to the left unless the master's hand moved them in that direction. Meekness does not mean weakness. It is power under the direction of the Spirit, doing what God wants done in the right place at the right time, in spite of intense opposition, for His very best. Meekness, on the Priestly side, guarantees something dramatic on the Kingly side. If we develop the meekness of Christ, we can access the judicial Kingly side of the living God.

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Scripture: Revelation 19:15a

The fruit of the Kingly Christ that corresponds with meekness is in Revelation 19:15a. Verse 19:15a says, *"Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations..."* If we take the bit and bridle and qualify for the **prah-ot-ace**, the meekness side of Christ, the other side is we get to speak and release a sword that will strike the nations and turn captivity. Where is that side of the church? Why do we not see more of that? It is coming and it is coming quickly. I recently received a call from a friend returning from an African nation. He was teaching on the justice of Christ when the Lord said, "Give these people an example..." My friend prayed that any past or present national leader, who had sold national resources for personal gain and refused to repent, would be removed by God's judicial hand. Within five hours, a previous President who fully fit that profile dropped dead. The fear of God fell on the assembly. God's next command was, "Ask for the 200-acre parcel of ground, rich in resources, and I'll demonstrate what I will do for the righteous." God's Hand moved and my friend is now in a place to develop land that will help lift poverty in this third-world country. Knowing the judicial Christ made the difference. Justice removed a mammonite leader and released natural resources to bless people. How many of us need to possess resources through the judicial Christ? It is only after God's judgment fell on the previous leader that these resources were released. Now how many times do we think that could be duplicated in the days ahead? The judicial Christ is moving. The question is, have we walked in enough meekness to qualify to speak words that bring His justice?

### FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 4:18-21

1 Corinthians 4:18-21 says, *"Now some are puffed up, as though I were not coming to you. But I will come to you shortly, if the Lord wills, and I will know, not the word of those who are puffed up, but the power. For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power. What do you want? Shall I come to you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness?"* Biblically define striking with a rod and we have a picture of what Paul was saying! Paul makes it clear that he walked in that realm. He said, "I am coming. And because I wear the bit and bridle of Christ, I have to release judgment. If a rod of iron is needed, I will bring it." Paul knew what it was like to strike a false prophet with blindness. He knew what it was like to deliver people to satan for the destruction of their flesh. If you want to see the judicial Hand of God," Paul said, I can release it." Every single minister in the church today should qualify and walk in that dimension. Where are we when it comes to representing the judicial Christ? Ministers exist to train the church to war like Jesus wars!

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 10:1,2

2 Corinthians 10:1,2 states, *"Now I, Paul, myself am pleading with you by the meekness and gentleness of Christ—who in presence am lowly among you, but being absent am bold toward you."* Here again, we see Paul with the meekness of the bridle that also releases the judicial hand of Christ. Is there any doubt that Paul knew how to bring the Sword of the Lord? And even in verses 3-6, he made it clear that he was a warrior and he knew how to bring the judicial

Christ into manifestation. He knew the God who was ready to punish all disobedience, when personal obedience was fulfilled. The place of the judicial Christ is the place where our obedience is full. This is not something we generate out of our own flesh. It is something we say yes to because the King wants a harvest and He is looking to us to execute His will against those who are hindering that harvest. Paul uses the exact phrase, *“Against some...”* Most of the church has never moved against anyone. Paul did, all the prophets did, God does. But most do not represent Him in that arena at all. It is time the church began to act like the army God made us. If we do not move against the wicked by prayer, we will forfeit significant parts of the harvest. Paul would have struck our politicians and judges with a rod of iron. We should when we learn how!

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Scripture: Revelation 19:15, Revelation 1:16

There is a Sword to be released on those who are hindering the harvest. This is obvious from Revelation 19, but it appears numerous places in Scripture. In Revelation 1:16 we are told, *“He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength.”* There is a sharp two-edged Sword that comes out of the mouth of Christ. Does it ever come out of the mouth of His servants? In 1 Chronicles 21:1,7-12, we see David’s failure when he numbered Israel. The option he is given is three years of famine, three months to be defeated by his foes, or three days with the Sword of the Lord, loose in the land. Revelation 19 refers to this Sword! David chose the three days of the Sword of the Lord in the land because he believed God was merciful and it was possible to stay His hand. Well, if it is possible to stay the hand of the Sword of the Lord, it is also possible to release it. Perhaps we need to be staying it right now over our individual nations and loosing it over certain people who are filling the land with iniquity. Perhaps we need to be focusing it on the perpetrators and taking it off of the innocent sheep. Do we really believe that we can stop or release the Sword of the Lord? David did. What is wrong with us?

#### MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 12:14-18

David repents for his sin and asks that God's Word fall on him and his family instead of the innocent people in the nation. The result of David's intercession releases the prophet to tell David what to do to stop the Sword of the Lord. When we find a nation in judgment where God's Sword has been released against it, it is possible through identificational repentance to stop the Sword of the Lord and bring Priestly salvation just as David did. We can do it. Now is the time. Daniel did it by repenting for the failure of previous generations.

#### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:20-25, 1 Kings 5:3,4

An angel commanded the prophet to tell David exactly what to do. He could have appropriated Ornan’s threshing floor but he did not. Based on the value of gold today, he paid \$1,728,000 USD for that threshing floor. And it was cheap at ten times the price because from that place, he built an altar and he was able to stay the Sword of the Lord. David was willing to do whatever necessary to stop the devastation and destruction in his nation. And he did it by covenant. That same option is available to us and we need to be taking it, right now. Solomon built the temple on Ornan’s threshing floor. Psalm 110:1,2 became a reality to Solomon. 1 Kings 5:3,4 describes the fulfillment of having our enemies made our footstool, *“You know how my father David could not build a house for the name of the LORD his God because of the wars which were fought against him on every side, until the LORD put his foes under the soles of his feet. But now the LORD my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor evil occurrence.”* If we want David's results, we must pray as David prayed!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Scripture: 1 Samuel 21:26-30, 1 Samuel 22:1-5

When the Sword of the Lord is released in the land, the fear of God follows. We do not have much fear of God today and maybe it is because we have not released the Sword of the Lord. The Sword of the Lord comes in various ways and perhaps the most interesting part of this whole issue is in 1 Samuel 22:1-5. David discovered the place where he could stop or stay the Sword of the Lord. This was God's chosen place to build the temple. It was, in fact, the place to stay the Sword and it was the place to release the Sword. It became the temple mount. That is a picture of who God is and the relationship we have with Him. His temple is us. David prayed the Sword of the Lord on enemies and they were removed quickly. Jesus paid for David's covenant to be extended to us (Acts 13, Isaiah 55) and we demonstrate it by moving God's Hand. In prayer, strike with the rod of iron!

ITINERARY

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|----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 11/4-6   | San Juan, Puerto Rico | Ministerio De Casa Restauracion | Ap. Hector Melendez<br>787-231-0628    |
| 11/17-19 | Quincy, IL            | Details TBA                     | Mike & Jackie Schaffer<br>217-224-6691 |

Be one who has a wise, clear way  
God's messenger to be.  
May God anoint your ears and eyes  
To pray strategically!  
By Jayne Houghton