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PASSION PRAYER OF  
JESUS THE CHRIST

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# PASSION PRAYER OF JESUS THE CHRIST

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THE 7 SECRETS REVEALED!

Elisha Goodman

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# CONTENTS

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## **PART ONE: THE EYE OPENER**

A Foretaste

The 7 Principles—An Overview

The Passion Story

### **CHAPTER 1: PRINCIPLE ONE ..... 27**

Position Your Prayers for Answers

### **CHAPTER 2: PRINCIPLE TWO ..... 45**

Launch Escape Prayers

### **CHAPTER 3: PRINCIPLE THREE ..... 59**

Swing For The Gates

## **PART TWO: DISCONTINUITY**

### **CHAPTER 4: PRINCIPLE FOUR ..... 79**

Intervene Between Heaven and Earth

**CHAPTER 5: PRINCIPLE FIVE ..... 100**

Fire Rapidly And Repeatedly

**CHAPTER 6: PRINCIPLE SIX ..... 113**

Sweat It

**PART THREE: AGREEMENT**

**CHAPTER 7: PRINCIPLE SEVEN ..... 125**

Release the Power of Agreement

**APPENDICES**

**BEFORE YOU PRAY ..... 135**

**APPLICATION ONE ..... 137**

The Cover

**APPLICATION TWO ..... 145**

The Millionaire's Prayer

**REFERENCES ..... 158**

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## **DEDICATION**

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To all the present and future  
Passion Prayer Practitioners





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## DISCLAIMER

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**T**he advice contained in this material might not be suitable for everyone. The author designed the information to present his opinion about the subject matter. The reader must carefully investigate all aspects of any spiritual decision before committing him—or herself. The author obtained the information contained herein from sources he believes to be reliable and from his own personal experience, but he neither implies nor intends any guarantee of accuracy. The author is not in the business of giving spiritual, physical, or any other type of professional advice. Should the reader need such advice, he or she must seek services from a competent professional. The author particularly disclaims any liability, loss or risk taken by individuals who directly or indirectly act on the information contained herein. The author believes that the advice presented here is sound, but readers cannot hold him responsible for either the actions they take or the result of those actions.

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This  
**Jesus of Nazareth**  
Without Money and Arms  
Conquered More Millions Than  
Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon;  
Without Science and Learning,  
He Shed More Light on Things Human and Divine  
Than All Philosophers and Scholars Combined;  
Without the Eloquence of Schools,  
He Spoke such Words of Life as  
Were Never Spoken Before or Since,  
And Produced Effects Which Lie Beyond  
The Reach of Orator or Poet;  
Without Writing a Single Line,  
He Set More Pens in Motion,  
And Furnished Themes for More Sermons,  
Orations, Discussions, Learned Volumes,  
Works of Art, and Songs of Praise  
Than the Whole Army of Great Men  
Of Ancient and Modern Times.

*Philip Schaff, "The Person of Christ"*  
*American Tract Society, 1913.*



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# PART ONE

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## THE EYE OPENER

Would you like to pray and have your prayer answered?

Would you like to pray and have your prayer  
answered . . . Quickly?

If so, you're in the right place. I am about to introduce you to secrets that will allow you to pray and receive answers faster than you may have ever dreamed possible.

Let me warn you. If you're expecting high sounding, complex religious concepts, you're in for a surprise. All the prayers of Jesus were extremely simple; but they got results!

Forget all the theories you learnt about praying. Prayer is not a theoretical thing. The message of this book comes direct from the firing lines of the "real world"; It uses hard-hitting, straight talk to pinpoint the critical elements that make the difference between success and failure in prayer.

Passion Prayer is the currency of the unseen world. Passion Prayer is the secret of the amazing success that Jesus enjoyed during His short, but explosive, ministry here on earth.

A close examination of the prayer that Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane shortly before His betrayal and crucifixion reveals a proven system that worked for Him and can work for you too—if you work it.

There are 7 secret principles in that prayer as revealed by the Holy Spirit. Get the knowledge, master the principles, study the strategies, and in just a few months you will never have to worry about praying without answers again.

Right now, can you truthfully say that your prayer is getting the results you desire? If it isn't, you're not the only one who suffers: your career, your finances, your loved ones, and your church, even your community could be adversely affected!

In this age of terrorism, the way you've prayed up to now will not nearly be enough for what lies ahead.

Unfortunately, many people are still living under the grand illusions of religious tradition: "Go to church, claim to be born again, sing and dance to fine praise and worship songs, leave all the praying to the pastor and everything will be O.K."

You don't have to be a prophet to recognize that method doesn't work and never did. Notice, 95% of churchgoers never see the manifestation of the many blessings they "receive" or "claim" in the church.

That overwhelming number should give you pause. There's something they're missing. A key? A secret? A body of hidden principles?

It is called Passion Prayer; the oxygen of the spirit.

Jesus taught, lived and breathed the fire of Passion Prayer. His disciples observed that His success could only be traced to the way He prayed. They asked Him to teach them to pray the way He prayed, so they too could succeed the way He succeeded in spite of anything.





## A Foretaste

**T**he first experience the disciples had of Passion Prayer came on the Mount of Transfiguration. There, Jesus had gone to pray in the company of His three inner circle disciples, Peter, James, and John. This was eight days after Peter had accurately identified Him as the Son of God. Before this time, they'd watched Him feeding five thousand men, not including women and children, with just five loaves and two fishes.

They'd even gone out on His instructions to preach the gospel and heal the sick. They'd witnessed the wind and wave obey His command; a demon—possessed man healed; a girl restored to life, and a woman dramatically healed of a twelve-year-old sickness.

They'd seen the son of the widow of Nain raised to life on the way to the cemetery. They'd learned so many beautiful parables and received so many teachings, and the news of their exploits was spreading like wildfire. The messengers

of John the Baptist, the hotshot prophet in the country, had come visiting, and even Herod the king was dying to meet Him. So the disciples had seen it all. Or had they?

Let's take up the story from Luke 9: 28-31,

*“Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray. As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.*

*And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah, who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish in Jerusalem.”*

This was a new dimension for the disciples. Jesus prayed and even physical objects such as His clothes began to change! One can even say His prayers were so powerful that two of the most renowned prophets who ever walked the earth were magnetized from Heaven to the scene of this profound event. And that was not all. Even the voice of God thundered from Heaven to confirm what the disciples had already figured out themselves:

*“This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!”*

*Mark 9:7b*

Later, the disciples were to learn more about the aftershock of that prayer on the Mount of Transfiguration. Apart from attracting heavenly visitation and altering physical objects, it had also released great power to accomplish things that had seemed impossible for them before.

The very next day, they were suddenly confronted by a situation, which had stumped them in the past. A man

brought his demon-possessed child to the disciples for healing.

In times past, the disciples had successfully faced up to this kind of assignment, having received power previously to cast out demons and heal the sick. This should have been a no-brainer. They knew all they needed to know about casting out demons. But this case proved stubborn. They tried all they knew. Nothing worked!

Coming down from the mountain, they were faced again with this situation. But things were a little different now—Jesus was in the house! And this matter was quickly disposed of, to the amazement of all present.

They now began to think: What could possibly account for their failure here? They had preached, cast out demons, healed countless number of sick folks and learned at the feet of the Master himself. Yet, there was something missing. They could tell. He himself told them that some difficult cases needed to be addressed by the combined weapons of prayer and fasting. They now remembered He never attempted to start His ministry until He'd gone into the wilderness to fast and to pray. They remembered that He'd come down from a long night of prayer to choose twelve out of the many that followed Him to be His disciples. They also remembered how He told them to pray even for their enemies! Not to mention the experience on the mount. Clearly, prayer had something to do with this.

At the next opportunity, as He was praying yet again in a certain place, they mustered up enough courage to make the request that had been on their mind for some time: "Lord, teach us to pray."

And so the teaching began. And it continued. In words and

in action He taught them. And He continued right up to the very end. At the Garden of Gethsemane, on what is commonly referred to as the Night of His Passion, He compressed all the principles He had been teaching them into one final prayer and left us an enduring legacy, which has continued to be used in dramatic new ways through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

He confirmed this in John 16: 12-13,

*“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

At last, the disciples were beginning to fully realize the universal significance of all that the Lord had taught them about prayer, especially after the Holy Ghost, the promised Spirit of truth, came on the day of Pentecost. They were soon to discover that the Lord’s teachings on prayer had day-to-day practical applications, and as they were controlled and led by the Spirit, new areas of opportunity began to open up and they found themselves doing greater works just as the Lord had promised them.

## **At the Beautiful Gate**

The biggest revelation that the apostles had was the realization that everything depended on prayer! Their entire lives, their entire ministry, all depended on prayer! After the Lord’s crucifixion, they’d re-assembled at the Upper Room, broken and afraid. Then they began to pray. After the resurrection, the Lord met them here and instructed them to wait for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Then it

happened. The Holy Spirit came, and filled them with a new level of power and boldness and the world has never been the same since.

On this fateful day, they were on their way to a prayer meeting when a forty-year-old problem confronted them. In the language of the day he was a lame man, carried daily and strategically placed at the gate of the temple where people going into the temple could see him and throw him a few coins.

From a close reading of this scripture one could be forgiven for imagining that Jesus may have even passed that way during his numerous trips to the temple. We are told that Jesus used to frequent that temple and if He ever noticed this man or not, the Scripture does not say. But if He did, one wonders whether He deliberately left this piece of work for the apostles coming after Him! He did allude to the fact that the apostles and, by implication, the Church would have real opportunities to do 'greater works' than Himself.

There is no denying that there are some works still outstanding to be done even today. Look around you. Every Christian has been left a piece of work to do in his community here. You have work to do. I have work to do. Every time we attempt to do this work, whatever it is, we can either fail or succeed. Using the tried and tested tool of prayer, directed by the Holy Spirit, you can succeed in your everyday circumstances, just as the apostles succeeded, just as others have succeeded right up to this present day; In their private lives, in their families, communities, churches, businesses, more and more people are using the principles of prayer as crystallized on the Night of His Passion to succeed and achieve impossible things.

In the early church, such prominence was given to prayer that we read in Acts 6: 2-4,

*“Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, ‘it is not desirable that we should leave the Word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word.’”*

Here’s the scenario: The church was growing so rapidly and they faced a distribution problem. Some widows were missing their ration of things distributed daily in the church. When the complaints came to the attention of the apostles they decided to put some management team together to resolve the issue. You will notice that the major reason they could not supervise the distribution of these items was that they had more crucial matters of prayer and preaching to deal with.

In the kingdom of God, order is so important. The apostles realized that prayer had to come first, even before preaching! Have we changed that order today? Where’s our primary focus now?

## **The 7 Principles—An Overview**

If prayer was the utmost pre-occupation of the Early Church, can we safely infer that it formed one of the pillars on which their spectacular success rested? How did they pray? What did they pray about? Are there some principles that we can learn from them?

Yes, there are principles. And they are 7 of them. But the apostles did not invent them. The principles had been there even before the apostles were born. Jesus crystallized them

in the garden and added the ultimate seal of His Name. God's people had successfully used these eternal principles for thousands of years before Christ physically walked the earth.

We refer to them here as the Seven Principles of Passion Prayer because they were best demonstrated by Jesus at the Garden of Gethsemane—on the Night of His Passion.

These very same principles that propelled the Early Church's success reach all the way back to the time of Abraham, and even beyond. Those same basics underlie Moses' towering performance in Egypt. They underlie David's outstanding leadership and Elijah's awesome performance. And they underlie the success of Apostle Paul, the man who brought the gospel to the Western Hemisphere. Paul's contribution to European civilization is historically so important that *U.S. News & World Report* called him one of the "nine hidden turning points in history."

These spiritual principles also underlie your success at home, at work and in your community. They are the principles that would empower you to fulfill your divine destiny as Jesus did on His night of Passion.

So what are these principles? They are:

- Principle 1:** Position Your Prayers for Answers.
- Principle 2:** Launch Escape Prayers.
- Principle 3:** Swing for the Gates.
- Principle 4:** Intervene Between Heaven and Earth.
- Principle 5:** Fire Rapidly and Repeatedly.
- Principle 6:** Sweat It.
- Principle 7:** Release the Power of Agreement.

These 7 principles generate the same results each and every

time—no matter where, when, or who uses them so far as they fulfill the required conditions. These principles work when you work them. They don't wear out, rust out, or give out. They last forever. They are eternal, timeless and tireless. These principles cannot be overused. Your Christian life on planet earth is supposed to be a continuing process of discovering new ways to utilize these principles, if you want to make rapid progress.

These seven eternal principles are embedded in the prayer of Christ in the garden. It is wisdom to study them. It is wisdom to embrace them and to learn to apply them. Praying is a learnable skill. The experience would turn your life around and move you into realms you probably thought belonged only to a few 'anointed' people.

This book has a core message and value to you, no matter what your situation is at this point. It will break down the principles for you to understand and show you how to apply them to secure the benefits that God has for you in Christ Jesus both now and in eternity.

You need to advance into this exciting realm. Passion Prayer is more than a MINDSET. It's more than an ART. It's more than a SCIENCE. There is a powerful anointing attached to it. It's the last piece of the puzzle to getting ALL your prayers answered and for living a victorious Christian life right here. It often separates those who obtain answers to their prayers "while they are still speaking" from those who continue to struggle for the rest of their lives.

So what do you do now?

Take action! If you're already an "expert" in praying and can honestly count 50% of your prayers answered in any given season, then use this book as a template to step into



the realm of Passion Prayer and boost your success level to 90% and above. Then help train others. Don't waste any time! Look for people to teach immediately! By so doing, you'll be fulfilling the Master's mandate. You'll also multiply your anointing greatly.

If you're not in that high yield bracket yet, the best thing you can do is . . .

Learn! Learn! Learn! Remember, Passion Prayers can be learned. If you truly want your prayers to succeed you must work on yourself, learn the skills and practice, practice, practice. The wonderful thing about becoming proficient in this matter is when you win, success in other areas will come naturally and automatically.

Welcome to the School of Passion Prayers!

## **The Passion Story**

The Passion Story begins at night in the Garden of Gethsemane where the Lord Jesus has gone to pray after the Last Supper. He selects His three closest disciples, goes a little further and instructs them to watch and pray while He moved further ahead and kneels in prayer. An hour later, He came back to check on how the disciples were doing only to find them fast asleep. He wakes them up, warns about the danger of not praying and goes back to continue with His prayers. After a while He comes back to find them still sleeping. He returns to finish His prayers.

By this time Judas, the disciple who betrayed Him, comes along with soldiers and Jesus is arrested and taken back to within the city walls of Jerusalem where the leaders of the Pharisees confront Him with accusations of blasphemy and His trial results in a condemnation to death.

Jesus is brought before Pilate, the Roman governor, who sends Him to King Herod. But Herod sends Him back to Pilate for judgment. Though realizing that the accusation brought against Jesus is politically motivated, he throws the decision to the crowd, which unanimously chooses to condemn Him to death.

The Roman soldiers take over and subject Him to the most horrifying form of torture. They give Him a wooden cross to carry all the way to the execution grounds. There He is nailed to the cross and left to die a slow, painful death!

Unknown to anyone at the time, the story had only just begun!

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## CHAPTER 1

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### PRINCIPLE ONE

#### Position Your Prayers for Answers

*And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; **nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.**"*

*Luke 22:41-42 (emphasis added)*

**T**here are only a handful of prayers that always attract God's immediate attention, no matter who prays them, no matter when they are prayed, no matter the circumstances in which they are prayed. Since this book is all about how you can quickly position your prayers to

generate the attention and excitement of Heaven over your particular situation, we're going to take off on a prayerful note. You'll need to close your eyes and pray the following prayer for at least two minutes:

- *Lord, open my spiritual ears in the name of Jesus.*

If you're not too sure of what spiritual ears are, then the next one is especially for you:

- *Lord, give me spiritual ears in the name of Jesus.*

Did you pray any of those prayers? Then I thank God for you. The reason it's so important for us to start like this is simple: Jesus had certain critical messages to deliver to seven churches at a place then known as Asia Minor (present-day Turkey) in the book of Revelation chapters two and three. He concluded each message with the words, "*He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.*" Since most people obviously have physical ears, He could only have been referring to another type of ear—the spiritual one.

Strange that we should start like this! But wait a minute. To understand even one of the seven foundational principles that Jesus applied that night in the Garden of Gethsemane, your spiritual ears need to be fully open and wide awake. Because many of us have read the Scripture quoted above for so many years without realizing that there are hidden keys there that could create a dramatic turnaround in our lives forever.

## A Tale of Two Gardens

We all remember the story of Adam in the book of Genesis chapter two; how God created him, put him in a beautiful

garden, gave him Eve as wife and companion, and even gave him authority over everything He'd made. Adam was doing pretty well by any standard. Up to a point. Then disaster struck! He disobeyed God and the course of history was changed forever.

That was in garden number one—the Garden of Eden.

Fast-forward thousands of years. This time to another garden: the Garden of Gethsemane. Here the stage is set to restore what had originally gone wrong in that first garden, and the principal actor is Jesus, an individual described spiritually as the last Adam, with the mandate to recover the position, authority and glory so casually lost by the first man Adam.

This leads us right up to the First Principle of Passion Prayer. Plainly stated, it says you must:

### **Position Your Prayers for Answers**

Let's take a few moments and consider this principle. In the entire Scripture it is never mentioned that Adam ever prayed. Maybe because he was so blessed; had everything he could wish for: absolute authority over all the animals, the elements and just about all else. Above all, he had the singular privilege of taking a stroll with God every evening when the LORD would come and physically keep him company.

Maybe it was not necessary for him to pray given his unique set of circumstances. Or maybe, he was just too familiar with God to bother about such mundane task as praying. Or maybe, he just couldn't care less. Sounds familiar? So many people in our day, including Christians, do not feel any need to pray. Well, they believe prayer is someone else's responsibility, usually the pastor's. Maybe, they feel they're

doing okay and God loves them so much, and knows so much about them, that they don't need to tell Him anything at all.

Or they may just be too familiar with God, having been born into Christian homes and having never really hurt anyone. At any rate, they reason, God must be very happy with them, or how else would He be blessing them so much? It must be alright to exclude that little annoyance called prayer from their lives altogether, or just to be on the safe side, maybe an occasional whisper of, "Thank you, Lord," should do the job!

How wrong could Adam be? Terribly wrong, it turned out. When temptation came, he fell so casually that even today most people find it difficult to believe how such a seemingly innocent act as eating an apple could attract such disastrous consequences. Many have gone on to propose such theories about this apple incident you'd be surprised.

From God's perspective, what the first Adam did was rebellion, pure and simple. This rebellion was first designed and executed by his partner-in-crime, the devil or Satan himself eons ago. But he found out rather quickly that rebellion has no place in the kingdom of God. And herein lies the tragedy of Adam's story. Submission and obedience had to be the answer to rebellion. Adam was meant to birth submission and obedience. He failed.

When Jesus the last Adam came, He succeeded where Adam failed. He gave up His glory and learned obedience by the things that He suffered. Absolute surrender!

Why are we taking the time to explain all these? Because we need this background to put things in perspective. There can be no victory in prayer if the issue of authority is not first

dealt with. Recall that we said that you have to position your prayers for answers. This First Principle of Passion Prayer, and indeed any type of prayer, means the one praying and the prayer itself must bow to the will and purpose of God, otherwise it is a waste of time.

Put another way, you must confirm that what you're praying for is what God would approve of, if He were standing physically in front of you and you, somehow, had the opportunity to address your requests to Him directly in real time.

In other words, would He approve of the motives hidden in your heart? Would He approve of what you're saying? Would He even approve of your attitude before Him?

Please don't be intimidated by what you've just read. If you've ever had to ask a favor of someone you respect and look up to, you can imagine this situation. God is really no different. The picture most of us have about God is completely wrong! God desires nothing more than to relate with everyone and help them along on their journey through this earth.

Now, let's look more closely at this First Principle and how Jesus applied it in the garden. As He walked into the garden with His disciples, He made an important statement. He turned to them and said:

*Pray that you may not enter into temptation.*

*Luke 22:39*

Remember what we just said about Adam? Would things have turned out differently for him if he had heeded this instruction? You may now be saying, "Oh, come on. Don't be ridiculous. Adam lived thousands of years before Jesus. How could he possibly have known this?"

Answering a question from the people of His day, Jesus had this to say:

*“Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.”!*

*John 8:58*

The principles demonstrated by Jesus in the garden are eternal principles. They were not just invented or discovered in the garden. They are timeless. Thousands of years before Jesus was born, men and women had been using them to achieve spectacular results. You too can use them.

Before the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus taught His disciples to pray this way:

*And forgive us our sins,  
For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.  
And do not lead us into temptation,  
But deliver us from the evil one.*

*Luke 11:4*

What’s the importance of this prayer? Anything that wants to take you away from the will of God, from His purpose for your life always begins with a temptation. Whether you overcome temptation when it comes depends on the quality of your prayers BEFORE, not after the temptation! The prayers would keep you spiritually sensitive to discern between good and evil, and to take action before things get out of hand.

Was Jesus ever tempted to abandon the will of God? Let’s look again at the Scripture at the opening of this chapter:

*And He was withdrawn from them about a stone’s throw,  
and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if it is*



*Your will, take this cup away from Me, nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.”*

*Luke 22:41-42*

Notice the ‘if.’ Jesus already knew and said it many times that He was going to pay the ultimate price. Then why use ‘if?’ The price He paid to restore us to fellowship with the Father is not something to be trifled with. It was horrible, but He was committed to paying it! But at some point in that garden, He found Himself saying ‘if’. We need to be grateful to God for that little word—nevertheless—that He used to connect the ‘if’ in one part of the sentence to the all-important will of God in the concluding half of that statement.

If you’re hoping to get answers from God at all, no matter what you’re praying about, you need to first discover what the will of God is concerning that situation, and position your prayer accordingly.

Consider this Scripture:

*The secret things belong unto the LORD our God; but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law*

*Deut 29:29*

And consider this also:

*It is the glory of God to conceal a thing; but the honor of kings is to search out a matter.*

*Prov. 25:2*

There are many things that are hidden from the common view, and until you invest time and effort into discovering these things for yourself, you may not make much progress in life.

On your own, you will never discover the will of God for your life. God will have to lead you by His Spirit for you to begin to make the kinds of decisions that would eventually lead you into His will for your life. That's why it's so important to be obedient to God. If that sounds a bit vague to you, please don't throw up your hands in the air and give up. If you really believe that the whole Scripture, not just some portions of it, is God's word, an instruction manual on not just how to die, but also how to live and live victoriously, then there is comfort and hope for you.

At this point, we'll pause and take two quick prayers. We call them prayer arrows. We'll be launching them from time to time. You need to spend at least two minutes on each of them.

- *Lord, if I've abandoned your will for my life, have mercy on me and forgive me in the name of Jesus.*
- *Lord, show me your purpose for my life in Jesus' name.*

You notice how these prayer arrows keep coming up? This is a feature that runs through the entire book, culminating in two real life applications that might be of special interest to you at this time. Prayer is a practical thing. It's not nearly enough to read a book on prayer. You can never learn to pray simply by reading this book, or any other book for that matter. You cannot even learn to pray by just reading the Bible! All the materials on prayer would be useless to you unless you begin to practice it.

When it comes to prayer, there is only one expert and His

name is the Holy Spirit. But He will not teach you if you refuse to practice what you learn. He will not force you. But circumstances will definitely force you to pray, one way or the other.

My advice to you is this: whenever you hit the prayer arrows, read the prayer aloud, close your eyes and begin to pray it. Spend at least two minutes on each of them and always say, “Thank you, Lord” at the end of it. Sounds silly? Everyone does some pretty silly things once in a while. Even if you consider this one of those silly things, you’d be pretty amazed at the results!

You also noticed how each of our prayer arrows has a way of ending with the words, “In the name of Jesus?”

In John 14:13-14 we read:

*And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.*

*If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.*

This is Jesus speaking here. It is an absolute requirement that ALL prayers addressed to the Father be made in the name of Jesus; otherwise God is under no obligation to answer you. You must not use any other name when you’re praying—not the name of Mary, not the name of an Angel, not even the name of a prophet, or preacher or saint anywhere—as a substitute for the name of Jesus. Why?

*Wherefore God also had highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name:*

*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and thing under the*

*earth, And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

*Phil 2:9-11*

Why is it necessary for you to discover the purpose of God for your life?

The answer is simple. Everything has a purpose. Anything without a purpose is useless. Cars have a purpose. Houses have a purpose. Flowers. Trees. Animals. Each of them has a purpose. If you want to discover the purpose of a device, you ask the manufacturer. He will send you the manufacturer's manual where step-by-step instructions are documented.

Your life has a purpose in God's program. The fact that an overwhelming number of people have failed to discover that purpose does not invalidate that position. If you fail to discover why God put you here, you may end up living a life of trial and error, an "accident-prone" life, a purpose-less life, an empty life, and one that runs the risk of sudden destruction! This will not be your lot in Jesus' name.

Recently, I watched a highly respected preacher on television preaching a stunning sermon. At the end of it he said that people should not be wondering why certain things happen. According to him, stuff just happens. No sir. Stuff doesn't just happen. To be quite candid with you, there is nothing that you could call an accident in the spiritual realm. Before anything happens physically at all for you to see, it has already been enacted in the spiritual world.

For those of us that believe the Scripture and strive to live in line with what the Scripture teaches, we have at our disposal the most powerful means of accessing the spiritual and knowing what God has in store of us. Not only that, the

Scripture can also reveal what the enemy, Satan and his evil army, are planning against us!

Isn't that wonderful? Most people in today's world are absolutely petrified about the future. In an attempt to find out a little bit about the unknown future, they have unwittingly walked right into the camp of the enemy. Today, in North America and Europe, psychic studios are springing up like mushrooms at every corner, carrying out strange assignments like palm reading, communing with the dead, and fortune telling. And because of the prevalent ignorance of the day, thousands are rushing to these cursed places, where they end up transferring the virtues that God deposited in their lives to these agents of wickedness, and picking up in return loads of spiritual problems, curses and even death.

Look at these two Scriptures:

*When you come into the land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominations of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, or one who practices witchcraft, or a soothsayer, or one who interprets omens, or a sorcerer, or one who conjures spells, or a medium, or a spiritist, or one who calls up the dead.*

*For all who do these things are an abomination to the LORD, and because of these abominations the LORD your God drives them out from before you.*

*Deut 18:9-12*

Here's the second one:

*If a person sins, or commits any of these things which are*

*forbidden to be done by the commandment of the LORD, though he does not know it, yet he is guilty and shall bear his iniquity.*

*Lev 5:17*

That's scary! What if all you do is read the horoscopes just for fun? The scripture says you're guilty. What if you just enjoy watching that medium on television? Or gave her a call? Or had your palm read? You're guilty and the truth is that you're your own worst enemy.

Do you know anyone who does these things? Study them carefully. You'll see that their lives, family, jobs, etc., are slowly but surely disintegrating before your very eyes. You'll see them suddenly losing what they've worked for years to acquire. You'd see them sinking farther and farther into debt. You'll hear of strange ailments that seem to hit them almost out of nowhere.

But there is a way out. If this is your situation, or that of a loved one, God in His infinite mercy and wisdom has made a way of escape for you. Remember we said that there are only a handful of prayers that God always answers? Well, this is number one—the prayer of repentance.

## **The Prayer of Repentance**

This is a classic “positioning” prayer. It is guaranteed to receive an immediate response, before you finish speaking, provided it is prayed with a sincere heart. Everyone alive needs to pray this prayer. You may not think you need to repent and ask for God's forgiveness but you'd be surprised to learn that every other prayer you pray depends on this one.

The Scripture says:

*Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him.*

*John 9:31*

So if you refuse to repent, and you go to a man of God to pray for you, no matter how highly anointed that man is, his prayers will not be able to help you. But when you decide to turn away from sin and to turn to God, then you'd be taking the first crucial steps to getting your prayers answered. Because God is always eager to answer this type of prayers, provided you say it now and mean it, He puts Himself in a position where He just cannot say "No" to all your subsequent prayers.

To take this important first step, please pray this short prayer with me:

*Lord Jesus,  
I come before you now,  
Forgive me of all my sins,  
Come into my life,  
And take control of my life,  
In your name I pray.  
Amen*

Positioning prayer. Short prayer. Powerful outcome!

From here on, these are the steps you need in order to discover the purpose of God for your life:

1. Begin to study the Bible every day as if your entire life depended on it. It does.

2. With the Scripture as your foundation, pray until you discover His purpose for your life.

Point one is worth repeating. Since the Bible is our sole and ultimate reference for everything spiritual, it will be worth your while to invest time and effort to study it. You will discover ordinary men and women, the rich, the poor, the sick, the troubled, kings, queens, children, great men and women, who through the ages had resorted to the Bible to find answers and solutions to life's challenges that they couldn't quite get elsewhere.

It's still the same way today. The issues of your life, however complex or simple they may be today, have their answers hidden from plain view in the Bible. There has never been a problem known to man that the Scripture does not have an answer for.

Let's take a classic example.

## **Daniel's Experience**

Daniel and his friends faced a peculiar problem. The most powerful king in the world at that time had a disturbing dream and he asked all the magicians, astrologers, and sorcerers to interpret the dream to him. That would have been a no-brainer for these folks except for one little detail. The king omitted to tell them his dream, and instead demanded that these wise men should not merely interpret the dream, but should also tell him what the original dream was.

That was a tough one. But give it to this king. Whatever else he was, at that point he was pretty smart. He knew that whoever could tell him the dream would most likely have an accurate interpretation. Failure meant instant death.

Trouble was: All the wise men in his kingdom had no clue



how to begin this difficult assignment. Brainstorming wouldn't work here. Strong leadership wouldn't help. Not even thinking outside the box. To bring this home to you; It's rather like the president of this United States, the most powerful man in the world, saying to all the top scientists and religious leaders, "Tell me the dream I had last night and also interpret it to me or else . . ."

Here's how the wise men reacted to this unusual request:

*The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean.*

*It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."*

*Dan 2:10-11*

That note of finality! But isn't that so typical of the wise men of this world? Remember how they scientifically "proved" that it was impossible to fly? Before the Wright Brothers, two bicycle mechanics with no college degree, the sons of a preacher, proved them wrong?

Anyway, that answer only served to make the king angry. Did you know that answer was not spiritually correct? We can see that clearly now. Look at it in the book of John:

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*John 1:14*

Their ignorance almost cost them their lives. It's the same thing today. The way the gospel is being presented to this generation is the root cause of the great ignorance of our day: ignorance about God; ignorance about sin and its dire consequences; ignorance about the believer's authority in Christ; ignorance about God's divine calendar; ignorance about Passion Prayer; Ignorance about God's Word; monumental ignorance about the enemy, Satan.

The man Daniel did not fall into that trap of ignorance. Here's what he knew that all the so-called wise men in that vast superpower empire did not:

*Then Daniel answered and said,  
 "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might  
 are His.  
 And He changes the times and the seasons;  
 He removes kings and raises up kings;  
 He gives wisdom to the wise  
 And knowledge to those who have understanding.  
 He reveals deep and secret things;  
 He knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with  
 Him."*

*Dan 2:20-22*

This is what you could call advanced spiritual knowledge. He understood that God had all wisdom and knowledge and could actually reveal hidden secrets when asked. He alone could find his spiritual coordinates in the confusion all around him.

Armed with that kind of knowledge is it any wonder that Daniel and his three friends boldly called a special prayer meeting that night and began to ask God to reveal both the dream and its interpretation to them?

What you don't know can kill you. Let me ask you. If you were in Daniel's position, would you have resorted to prayer?

It doesn't matter at all what you or your pastor or that popular televangelist said about prayer, if it does not line up with Scripture. Prayer remains the most effective and most powerful tool that you can use to secure divine information, the type that can save your life and your loved ones from disaster and propel you forward.

At this point, let's pause and fire this prayer arrow:

- *Lord, deliver me from spiritual ignorance in the name of Jesus*

The life of Daniel makes an interesting study and can fill three volumes of this size book. Suffice it to say that he was not born a prophet, the way others like Jeremiah, Moses, Isaiah were. He prayed himself into that position. He was also a man who loved to read. That's how he discovered from the writings of prophet Jeremiah that the seventy years of the captivity of Israel was drawing to a close, and he began his great prayer of intercession for the release of his people.

He'd developed iron self discipline when he was at the palace and refused to participate in eating the foods and drinking the wine offered to idols. He had such unusual spiritual vision that his end time prophecies read like an Old Testament version of the book of Revelation.

Daniel succeeded where others failed. His success had a pattern, which can be summed up like this:

First, he would discover the mind of God concerning a

situation; then he would go into serious prayer and fasting (his own Passion Prayer) to force its manifestation, refusing to stop until he received his desired answers.

How did he fare? Daniel received divine promotion to become First President in a land where he was supposed to be in captivity! He brought about a revival of the worship of the true God in a heathen nation, an example that gave permission for his friends to follow and write their names in Heaven's Hall of Fame.

See how that works? You must position yourself and your prayers for answers. Jesus showed us an example to follow. This first principle is designed by God to distinguish you, promote you and usher you into your divine destiny in God.

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## CHAPTER 2

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### PRINCIPLE TWO

#### Launch Escape Prayers

*Coming out, He went to the Mount of Olives, as He was accustomed, and His disciples also followed Him. When He came to the place, He said to them, “Pray **that you may not enter** into temptation.”*

*Luke 22:39-40 (emphasis added)*

**I**brahim was born into a long line of Muslim clerics. His grandfather was one of the most respected Islamic scholars in Turkey. It was a foregone conclusion that the mantle of leadership would soon be transferred to the young and precocious boy. He was being prepared for it, and during his

long years of training, he would sometime imagine what that day would be like when he eventually came into his own.

But, alas, that day never came. In the Turkey of a few short years ago where this event took place, to preach Jesus was, and still is, an offence punishable by death. Somehow, someone managed to slip young Ibrahim part of the New Testament on the street one dark night, and somehow he began to read from the book of John—in secret.

Like most people in that part of the world, he was used to the traditional Islamic view that Jesus was just another prophet, nothing more, and nothing less. He had never been confronted with the truth that Jesus was the Son of God. But here he was, reading the first chapter of the gospel of John, and becoming more and more fascinated by what he was reading. He couldn't understand much of it, but he was able to piece some things together: An individual called the Word, or Jesus, came from heaven to earth, in human form, to demonstrate God's love for humanity by dying and shedding His blood, so that those who believed on Him could be reconciled back to God.

This was heady stuff! Something kept bothering him, though. He couldn't figure out why the book kept referring to Him as God in human form. It disturbed him so much that he found himself thinking about this man all the time! When he couldn't bear it anymore, he began to seek out where the underground church was located so he could learn more.

After searching for a while, he discovered a group of Christians who were meeting secretly at night for fear of persecution, and in most cases, death. There, he was led to the LORD and became not just a member, but a leader of the group in a few short months. Such was the intensity of his hunger!

But unknown to him or any member of his group, they were being watched. One night at three a.m. in the morning, the authorities came for them in the middle of their fellowship. They were all arrested and taken to a maximum prison, where most were tortured and executed for the name of Jesus. Unbelievable? This is a true story and it happened in Turkey just a few years ago!

Being the leader, Ibrahim was tortured and questioned closely. They didn't kill him immediately because they wanted to learn the source of all those Bibles and publications that they seized during the raid. They asked him to deny Jesus. He refused. They dragged him into another chamber where some of his members had already been executed and he was forced to lie down naked on their blood. Later, they hung him upside down and beat him with electric rods till he passed out.

After many days, he came to and found that he was in another cell, the final cell before execution. He was so badly beaten he found difficulty breathing. After a while, he passed out again. When he came out of the coma this time, he found a guard at the door watching him. He looked at the guard and all he could feel was pity for him; pity for his family, pity for his unsaved soul. As he told us the story, all he could see looking at this guard was emptiness, a man without hope of salvation. And he began to pray for him!

Listen, he didn't know how long he had to live. But as long as he remained alive in that prison cell, he made a decision to pray for the salvation of that man and his family. And he began to pray, shouting his prayers day and night to heaven, praying that Jesus would have mercy on the man, his wife, and his kids and save them. The guard was listening to all this outside the door and when he couldn't take it any longer, he burst into the cell, shaking and commanded

him to stop praying, otherwise he would kill him there and then.

Ibrahim took one look at this man's face and realized that the prayers were getting through. The man was shaking like a leaf! So Ibrahim made his next move. He asked the guard to do him a favor and bring his Bible. Still shaking, the man went out and later returned with a badly torn, bloodstained Bible. He opened it to the book of John and began to preach. Beloved, this man surrendered his life to Jesus that day in that prison cell, at great risk to himself and his family!

We're just getting to the interesting part. This guard went out to the jail manager, a man who held the record as the most brutal executioner in that jail, and told him that he believed the prisoner scheduled for the next execution had gone mad. In many cultures it is considered "bad luck" to kill a madman. He ordered for the prisoner to be brought and shortly Ibrahim was standing before this man whose word could mean the difference between life and death for him.

The question rang out, "Tell me why you insist that this man, whatever his name, is the Son of God, contrary to the law, and why you should not be executed immediately for this crime?"

He began by telling the man that he believed for a long time that Mohammed was the true prophet of God until he realized that he had died like any ordinary mortal and his grave is proof of that fact. He said when he met Jesus, he discovered that here was someone who died, rose again from the dead, and is now sitting at the right hand of glory.

Then he posed this question:

"Tell me, sir, in your infinite wisdom, would you rather have me continue to place my faith in a man who died long ago



and his grave is still with us, or would you advise me to cling to the one who rose again from the dead and is even now reconciling men like you and me back to God? Please advise me, for I'm confused!"

This chief executioner had had enough. He screamed, "Take this crazy idiot out of my sight and throw him out of here. I never want to set eyes on him again!"

That's how Ibrahim got delivered from certain death! And what got him his freedom? His Passion Prayer was a prayer of escape!

At this point, close your eyes and fire this prayer arrow aggressively:

- *Lord, deliver me from the mouth of the lion in the name of Jesus.*

Our friend understood something that maybe as much as ninety percent of Christians in the body of Christ are blissfully unaware of. Let's pick it up from Scripture:

*You have heard that it was said, "You should love your neighbor and hate your enemy! But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.*

*Matt. 5:43-44*

I have not yet heard of another incident in our day where this Scripture was applied to such dramatic effect. Again, it begins with knowing what the purpose of God is: He desires for men and women to be saved; prayer is what secures salvation for lost souls; and simply obeying the Scripture can

set in motion an avalanche of breakthroughs for yourself and others in your environment.

We've now arrived at Principle Two. It states that you must be ready to:

### **Launch Escape Prayers!**

Let's back up to the opening Scripture. Jesus says to pray that you may not enter into temptation. Meaning, if you fail to pray, you may enter into a lot of temptation. It also implies that you should know where to aim your prayer arrows; otherwise you could just be praying "amiss."

Nothing brings this truth home more forcefully than what happened to the disciples. Even with the Lord's warning, they became prey to the spirit of the time—the spirit of slumber. In these closing days of our age, you find this spirit working at frenetic pace to lure many away from prayer. I've been to several churches where you find people sleeping during prayers. One could even excuse them because such churches attach no importance whatever to praying. To them, singing and dancing is the order of the day. What a pity!

The disciples, especially Peter, paid dearly for that moment of slumber in the garden. At the first sign of trouble, all their sleep-befuddled mind could think of was physical fight. Peter immediately drew his sword and used it. The Lord disapproved. He went on to deny the Lord three times.

We can learn so much from this incident. Spiritual problems cannot be solved with physical weapons, for the Bible says that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. The more you pray, the more problems you can solve, and conversely, the less you pray, the more problems will multiply in your life and in your environment. You only need to listen to the

strange arguments in support of homosexual (gay) marriages in North America today to realize that the quantity and quality of the prayers that Christians are pushing toward heaven is at an all-time low!

And herein lies the danger. Scripture says:

*Pour out Your wrath upon the nations that do not know you, and on the kingdoms that do not call on Your name.*

*Ps 79:6*

A few years ago, it was fashionable to teach that all you really need is faith, period. No prayer. No holiness. Where did they get their teaching from: Scripture? Yes. But the man who wrote most of the Scripture they were quoting so glibly—Apostle Paul—was a prayer eagle and one who never tolerated sin. No wonder the faith message failed to deliver on some of those glowing promises, because they were half-truths! I see some of those responsible for that teaching beginning to sing a different tune now. It has turned out that faith that is not coupled with persistent prayer and unashamed holiness is nothing but a sheer waste of time.

Let's go learn at the feet of that master of great escape—David.

## **David, the Man after God's Heart**

David is one of the most exciting and intriguing figures in all of Scripture. The Lord Jesus Himself is referred to in many places as the Son of David. Scripture tells us that He holds the key of David.

David was perhaps one of the greatest kings who ever lived. He was a man of war. He was a man of prayer. He was a man

of praise. God described him as a “man after My own heart.” He it was who finally conquered all those nations living in Canaan and established the nation of Israel, something that was long overdue.

To successfully understand how he applied the Principle of Escape, let’s pause a little bit for this prayer. The level of our prayer will begin to change now. We’d need to turn up the volume, become more aggressive and loud, for such is required to understand the prayer life of David.

Please lift up your voice and pray like this:

- *My prayers shall attract divine attention in the name of Jesus.*
- *Lord, release your anointing of prayer upon my life in the name of Jesus.*

Now, we’re ready. The story of David is that of God carefully choosing a man for a special purpose, just as He has chosen you for a very specific purpose that only you can accomplish, if you cooperate with Him. In spite of this apparent advantage, David didn’t find life easy at all. He was a man plagued by problems! His big break actually appeared as a problem at first, but his enemy, the giant Goliath, was the one who ushered in divine promotion for David. No Goliath, no David!

One beloved man of God has said that your enemy is as important as your friends. He says your friends create comfort while your enemy creates rewards. Profound wisdom! In David’s case, it was Goliath that brought him into the limelight. Where would he have been without Goliath? If he had tried to work his way up the ladder of promotion in King Saul’s court, he would have died trying. But Goliath

gave him the much-needed “escape velocity” to jump over the rank and file and land right at the top.

Then the real battle began. The Scripture tells us:

*And it happened the next day that the distressing spirit from God came upon Saul, and he prophesied inside the house. So David played music with his hand, as at other times; but there was a spear in Saul's hand. And Saul cast the spear, for he said, "I will pin David to the wall!"*

*But David escaped from his presence twice.*

*1Sam 18:10-11*

The master of great escapes! That's David. He lived his life from escape to escape. And that is how he learned to pray his great prayers of escape. More than anyone else in Scripture, David prayed the most vitriolic prayers you can think of. These prayers have been a subject of debate in certain places for a long time. Should a Christian pray such prayers or not; are the prayers Scriptural at all? In this age of political correctness, wouldn't it offend some sensibilities to pray like that? Are those prayers not outdated? Questions! Questions! Questions!

Well, I'm here to tell you that even the most horrid prayers that David prayed would seem pretty tame if you understood a couple of things about the nature of the enemy we have to battle against in these last days. A brief study of the book of Revelation should help to settle some issues about the enemy in your mind. And before we go too far, I'd like to assure you that David's acidic prayers had nothing to do with human beings at all. Once you understand that, you're half way there.

Okay, wouldn't you think Saul was David's enemy and he

was praying against him? If you said yes, you're wrong. He had the opportunity twice to kill king Saul and put an end to a long-time problem, but he refused, instead preferring to leave judgment to God.

Next one. Wasn't his rebellious son, Absalom, an enemy, who declared himself king and organized an army to pursue him from the throne? Again, if you said yes, you'd be wrong.

David did not consider these human beings as his enemies. He recognized that there are unseen spiritual powers backing up men, women, and children and using them as tools to steal, to kill and to destroy. These powers and spirits were always the target of his prayers.

See this strange Scripture:

*The Lord has opened His armory, and has brought out the weapons of His indignation;*

*For this is the work of the Lord God of hosts in the land of the Chaldeans.*

*Jer. 50:25*

David personally knew and used over a hundred different weapons from God's armory to disgrace his enemies.

On the physical battlefield, David was also a force to be reckoned with. We will study two incidents to give us perspective. Here's the first one:

*Now when the Philistines heard that they had anointed David king over Israel, all the Philistines went up to search for David. And David heard of it and went down to the*

*stronghold. The Philistines also went and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim.*

*So David inquired of the Lord, saying, "Shall I go up against the Philistines? Will you deliver them into my hands?"*

*And the Lord said to David, "Go up, for I will doubtless deliver the Philistines into your hands."*

*2 Sam 5:17-19*

One of the meanings of the word 'inquire' used here is to pray. David prayed for divine direction and got it.

Shortly after this the enemy regrouped, or 'reinforced for counter-attack' as we say in the school of Passion Prayer. Let's look at it:

*Then the Philistines went up once again and deployed themselves in the Valley of Rephaim. Therefore David inquired of the Lord, and He said, "You shall not go up; circle around behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees.*

*And it shall be, when you hear the sound of marching in the tops of the mulberry then you shall advance quickly. For the Lord will go out before you to strike the camp of the Philistines."*

*2 Sam 5:22-24*

So you see how David was able to escape destruction time and again. He did not make the mistake that Joshua made during the first invasion of Ai, a tiny city compared to Jericho,

which Israel had totally destroyed earlier on. Joshua and his men simply took one look at tiny Ai and decided they needed no help from God for this tiny assignment. Well, they were wrong and ended up paying dearly for their presumption.

David escaped disaster upon disaster because he knew how to pray the prayer of escape. Well, for those people who refuse to treat the Old Testament with enough respect, out of ignorance about the eternal principles of God; not knowing that the same principles in the Old Testament also play very heavily in the New Testament and even predates the two, let's take our next application from the book of Acts:

*Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the Church.*

*And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison. Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, "Arise quickly" and his chains fell off his hands. Then the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and tie on your sandals"; and so he did.*

*And he said to him, "Put on your garment and follow Me."*

*So he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they were past the first and second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and*



*they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.*

*Acts 12:5-10*

Mission accomplished! Prayers of escape! Can you see how it works? The truth is that you may find progress hard, if not impossible, in spite of the many beautiful Scripture you've been told to confess, if you don't know how to launch prayers of escape. For your life to really move forward, you may have to take on some serious prayers of escape. Until you escape from some things it might just seem as if there is an invisible barrier saying, "this is how far can you go, but no farther!"

Abraham escaped from his father's house, his country, and old ways of doing things before he could become the father of many nations. Jacob escaped from the wrath of his brother Esau whom he had swindled out of his birthright. He again had to escape from Laban, his father-in-law, with his wives and children. At a certain time they took Jesus to the top of a cliff, intending to push him over, but he escaped out of their hands. Once, Paul had to escape from the city of Damascus through a window in a basket let down by the wall.

What did all these people have in common? They all understood how to apply principle two—The Principle of Escape—in their situation and win.

What do you need to escape from? Past failures? Failed marriage? Frustration? Suicidal tendencies? Substance abuse? Alcohol? Sexual perversion? Anger? Bitterness? Envy and jealousy? Evil thoughts? Witchcraft? Low self-esteem?

The prayers of escape will help you if only you sincerely desire a clean break from these things. These are serious prayers.

They are to be prayed with a holy cry unto the Lord, violently, aggressively, fervently, without ceasing until victory comes.

Prayers of escape must be prayed hard and with intensity. Until your prayers reach “escape velocity” you will not be able to break free of the gravitational pull of those things in your past that you want to escape from. A satellite must reach escape velocity to break free of the earth’s gravitational pull. Then it falls into an effortless orbit where a quiet breeze is enough to propel it along. I am told that a rocket has an escape velocity of twenty five thousand miles per hour. If it doesn’t reach that escape velocity, it tumbles back down to earth.

Prayers of escape are designed to supply you with the necessary lift off that would launch you into your orbit of destiny. The prayer entitled “The Cover” at the end of this book is one such prayer of escape. As you pray them the Lord will grant you victory in Jesus’ name.

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## CHAPTER 3

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### PRINCIPLE THREE

#### Swing For The Gates

*Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, “Sit here while I go and pray over there.” And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, “My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me.”*

*Matt 26: 36-38*

**J**esus had arrived at the gate, the gate of His destiny.

## What is a gate?

- It is a point of entrance into, or exit from, a place, a season, or a situation.
- It is a point of transition, marking the end of a phase, or the beginning of another.
- It is a point of transformation from one state to another.
- It is a structure, usually hinged, that serves as a door in a wall or fence.

Everything in the universe can exist in one of three forms, for example, solid, liquid, or gas.

Similarly, the Word of God can exist in three forms:

1. Solid form—the written word, as in “the pure milk of the word. 1 Pet 2:2
2. Liquid form—the cleansing word, as in Ephesians 5:26, which talks about the washing of water by the word.
3. Invisible form—the quickened or life giving form (Heb 4:12).

Some prayers have the capacity to take the solid (written) Word of God to high temperatures very quickly, where it becomes:

*. . . living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrows, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*

*Heb. 4:12*

When the Word of God transmutes to this quickened, invisible form, it has the amazing ability to “materialize” things from the spiritual realm into the physical. It can materialize physical things like houses, babies, and opportunities, even organs of the body!

It works both ways. The Word of God in this quickened form can also “de-materialize” physical objects, making them to completely disappear. That’s why you find that certain ailments like cancer simply vanish into thin air during hot prayer meetings.

The Bible says:

*“Is not My word like a fire?” says the LORD, “And like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?”*

*Jer. 23:29*

Recently, I attended a midnight prayer meeting, where the prayer was hot, acidic, loud and on target. There was an individual there who shared a testimony right after the prayers. She was a nurse and had been involved in some accident twenty-odd years earlier. I can tell you prayers during that kind of meeting are never planned. You just surrender leadership to the Holy Spirit and follow where He leads. I still remember that the first prayer arrow jumped out of the book of Luke 10 verse 19. This individual said immediately she began to pray, something just left her body and she was able to twist, turn and jump around in ways she couldn’t do in twenty years!

Prayers at the gate! Principle Three:

**Passion Prayer Succeeds or Fails at the Gate.**

We'll take a break right here to shoot this prayer arrow:

- *Every evil spiritual gate confronting my life collapse like the walls of Jericho in the name of Jesus.*

Did you take that prayer with as much aggression as you could muster? It could be the “turning point” prayer of your life. I’d advise you to find time and give this prayer quality treatment. I see your life move forward in leaps and bounds from now on in Jesus’ name.

## Gates, Gates, Gates!

The Scripture is loaded with explosive materials about spiritual gates. The Bible talks about so many gates, and the kinds of activities that are carried out there.

Here are some examples:

|                       |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| Gate of righteousness | Ps. 118:19  |
| Gate of brass         | Isa. 45:2   |
| Gate of praise        | Isa. 60:18  |
| High gates            | Jer. 51:58  |
| Posts of the gate     | Ezek. 40:38 |
| Doors of the gate     | 1 Chr.22:3  |
| Gates of death        | Job 38:17   |
| Praise in the gates   | 2 Chr.31:2  |
| War in the gates      | Judges 5:8  |
| Wicked at the gates   | Prov.14:19  |
| Gates of the grave    | Isa. 38:10  |
| Two-leaved gates      | Isa. 45:1   |
| Fire in the gates     | Jer. 17:27  |
| Minister in the gate  | Ezek. 44:17 |
| Gates of your land    | Nah.3:13    |
| Gates of hell         | Matt.16:18  |
| Gate of Heaven        | Gen. 28:17  |

There are physical gates and there are spiritual gates. There is the gate of life. You passed through it the first time when you were born. There is the gate of salvation, which is really the Cross of Christ. There is the gate of abundance, which is unknown to most people. And there is the gate of midnight.

As Jesus and His disciples entered the Garden of Gethsemane, He was fully aware that He'd arrived at the gate of His destiny. It was the gate of death. It was also the gate of resurrection. It was the gate of midnight.

If you invested time to study and master this one topic in Scripture, then your life, family, career, ministry, or whatever is important to you will experience a powerful turnaround forever. If you thought you're having some success now, wait until you begin to pray the type of prayers that address spiritual gates and you'd soon realize that you're yet to even scratch the surface of your potentials!

Friends, all success and failure can be traced to one spiritual gate or another. If you truly learned the secret of spiritual gates, you wouldn't need anyone to preach to you to run away from sex sins. You'd just know the dreadful consequences upon your life, family, career, etc. and the spillover effect from one generation to another.

Sadly, many pastors and preachers do not have the courage to preach this type of message for fear of offending their members, or their church boards. They're afraid of losing their members or their jobs. But they'd be surprised to learn that quite the opposite can happen when Christians are taught the Scriptures in a balanced way. Some people preaching the gospel today would prefer to have certain portions of Scripture ripped out completely, for all the attention they pay to these important issues.

Truthfully, if someone only preached the messages they thought would make the people happy, then they're doing such people a disservice. They will never grow up! The preacher will never grow up and that kind of church would die a slow, painful death. It's just a matter of time.

Let's look at just one important spiritual gate in Scripture—the gate of midnight.

## The Gate of Midnight

Why is it called a gate? Because this is a time of transition, a time of great spiritual activity, both good and evil. The word “midnight” is mentioned at least fifteen times in Scripture. God Himself was the first one to mention it. He was the first one to operate there.

Let's look in the Scripture:

*Then Moses said, “Thus says the LORD: ‘About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the hand mill, and all the firstborn of the animals.’”*

*Exo. 11:4-6*

Midnight is a gate of great calamity and destruction. At this gate, evil judgment and decrees can be passed on a whole family, city or nation. In the Scripture we read above, God decided to wait until midnight to carry out His righteous judgment against a wicked nation.

Let's look at another example:

*And Samson lay low till midnight; then he arose at*



*midnight, took hold of the doors of the gate of the city and the two gateposts, pulled them up, bar and all, put them on his shoulders, and carried them to the top of the hill that faces Hebron.*

*Judges 16:3*

Midnight is the time people are most vulnerable to spiritual attacks. It is the hour when enemies lay siege and render people defenseless. It is also the time that you can launch a deadly, surprise attack on your enemies' camp.

Have you lost anything or anyone very dear to you under mysterious circumstances? Chances are that the operation was carried out at the midnight hour.

*And she arose at midnight, and took my son from beside me, while your handmaid slept, and laid it in her bosom, and laid her dead child in my bosom.*

*1 Kings 3:20(KJV)*

Do you remember this story? Where King Solomon demonstrated divine wisdom and judgment? What happened before then? There was evil exchange. At midnight. And these wicked transactions are still going on today.

A pastor recently told me this sad story. A member of his congregation had a sudden emergency around this midnight hour. His twenty-year-old son suddenly fell sick and had to be rushed to the hospital. They tried to reach the pastor on phone but the pastor was thousands of miles away on a preaching engagement. By morning the young man was confirmed fit enough to go home. He got home, but a few hours later, suddenly without warning, he dropped dead! By the time the pastor got back to town it was all over.

That's what we call a wicked midnight transaction. See what the Scripture says about this:

*In a moment shall they die, and the people shall be troubled at midnight, and pass away: and the mighty shall be taken without hand.*

*Job 34:20*

You need to understand these things and take action. You cannot afford to allow your pastor to do all the praying for you while you relax and do nothing. You need to insist that your pastor must teach you to pray result-oriented prayers, just like the disciples asked Jesus. Because if you don't learn to pray for yourself and your loved ones in our twenty first century world of terrorists and all, disaster might just be lurking around the corner!

You need to start looking beyond these sugar-coated messages of today and search the Scripture for ammunitions that you can spiritually release into the camp of the enemy by way of pre-emptive strikes at very short notice, before they get you or your loved ones.

You need to learn how to pray Passion Prayers, especially at the gate of midnight. At this moment, a prayer point is in order. Just close your eyes and visualize some precious things you lost, and then release this prayer with thunder in your voice:

- *Lord, let there be a restoration of all that I've lost at the midnight hour, in the name of Jesus.*

If you're beginning to get the picture that very wicked operations happen at midnight, you're right. By far the great majority of spiritual transactions that occur between the hours

of twelve midnight and three a.m. in the morning are evil. But it's not all wickedness out there. Christians are finally getting the message that the midnight watch can also be the hour of spectacular deliverance and promotion for those who know enough to take advantage of the opportunities it offers.

Back to our man, David; the man after God's heart, the prayer warrior and musician extraordinaire. Hear him:

*At midnight, I will rise and give thanks to You, because of your righteous judgments.*

*Ps: 119:62*

See? David would wake up at midnight to praise God, singing and dancing, before releasing his terrible prayer arrows against his spiritual enemies. Why? The Bible says that God is "glorious in holiness, and fearful in praises" (Exo. 15:11). Please note two significant words here:—holiness and praises. The two must be tightly coupled together for God to be impressed at all. Much of what passes for praise these days is seriously lacking in holiness.

People tell me all the time that God inhabits the praises of His people. If you only looked at that Scripture in isolation, you'd not be getting the full picture. So you shouldn't be surprised if your praises fail to produce results.

Of course, I would never minimize the importance of spending quality time to sing praises and worship the LORD as we do in most churches today. My concern is that most churchgoers today have not been taught that to even offer an acceptable sacrifice of praise unto a holy God, you must try as much as you can to live a holy life.

When you have chronic fornicators, adulterers, substance

abusers, and such like, lifting up “holy hands” unto the LORD and nobody is warning them to repent, then there is disaster just waiting to happen! Nobody can bribe God to excuse them from living a holy life by singing praises and worshiping Him. It just won’t work! Look in the Scripture. God hates sin with perfect hatred. The Good News that Jesus brought is that God is ready to forgive all our sins, but we should “go and sin no more.”

I attend quite a few churches all across North America and elsewhere in the world. A friend of mine once threw me a challenge. He asked me to show him a church in North America where the congregation prays for up to ten minutes in a three-hour service. I’ve managed to find a few but they are really few and far between! What are they doing with God’s time? Entertaining themselves, that’s what!

This is Jesus’ teaching:

*Then He taught, saying to them, “Is it not written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’”*

*Mark 11:17*

Listen. The first few years of every century have always witnessed the LORD moving with fire to purge the church. This century is no different. The refiner’s fire has already started and some of us might be in for a rude awakening!

## **The Midnight Earthquake**

There’s a landmark event in Acts chapter sixteen. Let’s read it together:

*But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing*

*hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed.*

*Acts 16:25-26*

Paul and Silas went to Philippi, an important European city in those days, to preach. They never intended to go there in the first place. They had planned to take the gospel east to Asia but the Holy Spirit stopped them and instead directed them west to Europe. Here, they delivered an individual possessed with a spirit of divination, and that got them in trouble. They were arrested, beaten and thrown into prison.

Yes, they got into trouble big time. Maybe, this is why most churches in North America today would never dream of touching the ministry of deliverance. It gets people into trouble! Better to beat about the bush and preach only the message of faith, or whatever happens to be the flavor of the month, and leave that one well alone! No one wants to get in trouble in this politically correct culture, where people, including Christians, are laboring under terrible spiritual captivity.

In some places, people still prophesy with the spirit of divination. Like this individual that followed Paul and Silas around, prophesying the right things, but with the wrong spirit. Like King Saul who used to prophesy when the evil spirit came upon him. In Old Testament times, no one had the authority to cast out demons. That's a special privilege that Christ gave to His church.

Instead, what you had in the Old Testament was a sort of temporary fix. And there were quite a few temporary fixes in the Old Testament. A notable one was on the issue of

divorce, which many people are taking advantage of, to encourage something that God says He hates. Anyway, playing music to drive away evil spirits was a temporary solution, waiting for this glorious Church age to permanently deal with the issue. When Jesus walked the earth, He never sent out anyone to preach without empowering them to cast out demons. But before then, in David's day, he would play his instrument and the evil spirit would leave for a while.

Praise the Lord, now we are permitted to do far better than that. We've been given the authority to throw them out, violently and permanently. Yet many Christians are not using this authority at all. They are under the illusion that if you let them alone, they will let you alone. Wrong.

The Apostle Paul was a man who believed in exercising that authority. And, boy, did he use it! Remember that we said he brought Christianity to the western world? Our dear, old apostle would be shocked to see what passes for the gospel now, if he were to somehow appear in one of our church services these days!

Any way, inside the prison, something glorious was about to take place. Recall that our brother Paul had also mastered the principle of escape. So they waited till midnight, and then began to pray their escape prayers and to sing high praises unto the LORD. They were not praying or singing under their breath, but shouted so much that other prisoners heard them. The prayer mingled with the praises was so hot and intense that it generated a massive earthquake! Every one was set free, all doors flew open, and our divine champions walked out of those evil gates victoriously!

The prayer was not done yet. In the aftershock, entire families got saved; the judges had a change of heart and decided to

let them go. It was almost comical in the end when Paul had them cowering and begging him to go in peace.

Passion prayers at the gate!

Please I don't want you getting the impression that just about any Christian today can achieve this type of result, because they can't, or more appropriately, they won't. Most modern Christians may have some trouble with this. Why? As we saw earlier, Paul was a master practitioner of great escapes. He had a secret, and this one secret accounted for his extraordinary success.

Let me share his secret with you. It is hidden in this powerful Scripture:

*I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.*

Gal.2:20

Therein lies his secret! He was totally broken and surrendered to the lordship of Jesus. Paul was dead. Christ was living through him. Prevailing at the gate requires no less. Why? You're going up against violent and rebellious spirits at the gate, and just the tiniest bit of rebellion in your life could open you up to a violent and disastrous counter-attack!

This sort of prayers may not be for everybody then. The choice is yours to make. We said earlier that to get results, there are certain things that should not be in your life, and rebellion is at the top of the list. But if you've dealt with that, these are just the right prayers to force your enemies to bow before you.

Don't you ever make the mistake of thinking that you don't have enemies. Show me a man without enemies and I'll show you a failure, a person of no consequence whatsoever. Contrary to what many have been led to believe, if you're still trying to make some progress, then you do have enemies plenty. Every one has them. Even God has them! They are spiritual, so you may not be able to see them. But they are there. Scripture shows us they're monitoring you, your family, your finances, and all that concerns you around the clock. The gate is their favorite point of operation.

Let's see what Jesus Himself had to say about the midnight gate.

*And He said to them, "which of you shall have a friend, and go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves; for a friend of mine has come to me on his journey, and I have nothing to set before him;'*

*And he will answer from within and say, 'Do not trouble me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give it to you?'*

*I say to you, though he will not rise and give to him because he's his friend, yet because of his persistence he will rise and give him as many as he needs."*

*Luke 11:5-8*

Midnight prayers are legendary for receiving instantaneous answers! Prayers at this particular gate have to be persistent, violent, and aggressive for it to replace failure with success, and destroy the foundation of problems that have been carefully concealed from the naked eye for ages.

I'll conclude by sharing two hot and fresh testimonies.



Bob is a brilliant Christian brother in the Midwest. He has specially been trained by the Holy Spirit to operate at the gate. A few months ago, he was looking to change jobs, and after some intense praying, an opportunity came up. For your information, his industry sector has been hard hit in recent years and millions of jobs have been lost. Humanly speaking, it is almost impossible to get a job there.

Not so with Bob. He attended a job interview and was offered the job. No sooner had he received the offer than everything went wrong! They called him up the following day and told him there was a mistake and the offer was about to be withdrawn. Bob knew there and then that he'd arrived at the gate!

What happened next was interesting. He went before the Lord, like all prayer eagles have done through the ages, asking for direction and this is the strange instruction that the Holy Spirit gave him: he was to bring a petition before the LORD, with weeping, because the LORD was going to use his tears as a weapon of war. After weeping before the LORD, he was to make a vow, and go to one of the neighborhood churches and ask the pastor there to agree with him in prayer concerning the matter. Then the LORD would do the rest.

The very next day, they called with apologies, and he started the job soon after that! Praise the LORD! I ask you, what would you have done, if you were in Bob's shoes?

This next one happened to another good friend of mine, a missionary, at Istanbul airport in Turkey. He'd received his travel documents in Paris before his first visit months earlier and was told they were good for multiple entries for another six months. He couldn't read the Turkish language so he took them at their word. You can imagine his surprise a couple of months later when he flew into Istanbul, only to

be told at the airport that his documents were not in order, and he was going to be sent back on the next available flight!

An ardent student of the gate, my friend immediately began to address the spiritual gates of that environment. Then suddenly, the LORD spoke to him the words of Isaiah 66 verse 9, “*Shall I bring to the birth and not cause to bring forth . . . ?*” He grabbed those words like a drowning man and began to walk back and forth, declaring the words loudly over the airport. In ten minutes, the airport security manager seemed to materialize out of nowhere. He apologized and issued him with fresh papers of entry right there on the spot!

Passion prayer succeeds or fails at the gate! Are you a missionary? Do you know how to address the spiritual gates of the nations where you go for ministry? Because if you don’t, you will not see much results for all your efforts. Worse still, if you begin to notice some strange problems erupting in your family or ministry just before or right after your missionary trips, then you need to understand how to turn Psalm 24 into a prayer arrow, and how to fire this arrow aggressively towards the gates of the places you intend to visit for weeks before you even make the trip.

Psalm 24 is loaded! Here’s just an excerpt:

*Lift up your heads, O you gates!  
And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!  
And the King of glory shall come in.*

*Who is this King of glory?*

*The LORD strong and mighty,  
The LORD mighty in battle.*

I would strongly encourage missionaries going outside North America to other parts of the world, especially to Africa and Asia, to commit the whole of Psalm 24 into memory and begin to pray it weeks, or even months, before stepping out. Your testimonies will be different in Jesus' name.

Passion prayer succeeds or fails at the gate.

Here's the Bible's position on the matter of gates. Jesus destroyed all the power that evil spiritual gates had against us when he went to the cross. Friends, the cross of Jesus is the ultimate gate, the gate between heaven and earth, the gate between heaven and hell. As He hung on that cross, suspended between heaven and earth, He was opening for all time all the gates that we'll ever face.

Indeed as the Scripture has said:

*He has broken the gates of brass, and cuts the bars of iron  
in sunder*

*Ps. 107:16*



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# PART TWO

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DISCONTINUITY



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## CHAPTER 4

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### PRINCIPLE FOUR

#### **Intervene Between Heaven and Earth**

*And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw; and he knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is your will, take this cup away from me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."*

*Then an **angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.***

*Luke 22:41-43 (emphasis added)*

**H**ave you been wrongfully denied something you believe is the will of God for your life? Are there certain

wonderful promises that have gone unfulfilled these many years? Does it appear as though your expectations may never be met, in spite of your unshakeable faith and belief?

If your answer is yes, then this section is for you. Because this principle we're about to discuss has been the classic tool used by generations of God's people to secure the release of things, families, peoples, and even nations.

We'll take off with three quick prayer arrows, and as usual I advise you to close your eyes and take each one of them with holy aggression in your spirit.

- *LORD, let the heavens cooperate with me now, in the name of Jesus.*
- *LORD, let the earth reject evil instructions against me in the name of Jesus.*
- *I put on the Lord Jesus and I make no provision for the flesh in Jesus' name.*

Most people have no clue what it takes to release something or someone from captivity. If something that belongs to you has been spiritually captured, it's not just enough to wish it back; you have to be ready to engage in aggressive spiritual conflict, and be prepared to sustain it for as long as it takes to secure their release.

You might look around you now and think you've not lost anything. Wrong. Christians are daily loosing tons of blessings that the LORD gladly showers on them in response to their prayers.

No wonder, Jesus says:

*The thief does not come except to steal, to kill, and to*



*destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly*

*John 10:10*

Do you remember the Bible's account of that dramatic deliverance of the children of Israel from captivity in Egypt?

Do you also remember their return after seventy years of exile in Babylon?

These two are well accounted for in Scripture. The next one is the surprise.

Do you know what went on behind the scene spiritually before slavery could be abolished here in the United States?

Of course, we are all familiar with the story of the physical event, but not much is known about the spiritual history behind it.

All three events mentioned above have a few common threads linking them together. They are:

1. A people were in captivity far away from their homeland.
2. A release was effected spiritually between the heaven and earth before anything could happen in the physical realm.
3. The physical, historical event manifested as those who secured the spiritual release kept up the pressure.

This leads us to Principle Four:

### **Passion Prayer Intervenes Between the Heavens and the Earth.**

In each of the cases above, the release was forcefully secured between the heavens and the earth before the physical event took place. In these days of increasing wickedness and desolation, this wonderful principle is enough to counter any attack launched against you and your loved ones, and force a release of what is rightfully yours as a son or daughter of God.

All of a sudden jobs, promotion, favor, friends, loved ones that you lost long ago would begin to re-appear once you master this principle of intervention.

Let's set the tone from Scripture.

### **Daniel Intervenes in Babylon**

The Scripture calls him “a man dearly beloved” by God. Prayer and fasting were second nature to him. Unbelievers around him could see that he “had the spirit of the holy gods.” He was a man who took his Bible seriously. That was how he discovered from reading the writings of the prophet Jeremiah that the Babylonian captivity was supposed to last for seventy years.

He knew something that modern Christians have all but forgotten: You have to take action in order to force a manifestation of the word of prophecy!

Here's the action Daniel took:

*And I set my face unto the LORD God, to seek by prayer and supplication, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:*

*And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said . . .*

*Dan 9:3-4*

Now, wait just a minute! He just saw the promise of God in black and white, and the word of God cannot be broken, so why was he praying again? Shouldn't he have been thanking God and praising Him instead of praying? Is it not a sign of lack of faith to be praying again after the LORD has spoken?

Well, at least that is what they told my friend Turner in his church when he was a young Christian, and while the devil was busy carting away his blessings, he was busy sleeping. After a while he came across this passage in his Bible and he showed it to his pastor.

His pastor listened quietly to his presentation. When my friend got to Daniel 10:13 which mentions the Prince of Persia, the pastor began to explain to him that that was outdated stuff. According to the pastor, that used to happen in Old Testament times, but when Jesus came, it was not necessary to keep praying after you've received a word from the LORD. He told my friend that nothing could block the answers to the prayers of a New Testament Christian. If God releases a blessing to you, you'll definitely receive it.

My friend Turner found out the hard way that it was not true. By that time he'd lost his wife, kids and practically everything else. It took a long time and a lot of spiritual work to recover his family and things he had lost, thanks to a group of aggressive praying Christians. The LORD had mercy on him.

While Turner had intercessors to take up a lamentation

before the LORD on his behalf, many people are not so fortunate. Look at this passage:

*They do not know, nor do they understand;  
They walk about in darkness;  
All the foundations of the earth are unstable.*

*Ps. 82:5*

If you're building your life on what one pastor said somewhere that cannot be confirmed in the Scripture, then you should be prepared to face the consequences of that tragic error. God is not under any obligation to defend what He neither said nor implied!

I cannot claim to understand the criteria used for selecting pastors these days. In the olden days, I remember how one of our past Pentecostal fathers used to select his pastors. He would gather them together in a class and teach them everyday for months on end. During that period, he would give them practical assignments such as praying for the sick, teaching Sunday school and leading Friday night prayers.

All this was in preparation for the final test. For this final "project" he would write some things on paper, fold that paper and put it inside a wooden box, and lock it. Then he would bring it in front of the class one morning and say something like this:

"Thank you for all your dedication and hard work these last few months. However, before you can qualify as a pastor, you'd have to go before the LORD and ask Him to show you what I've written inside this box. If at the end of three days you do not have the correct answer, I'd be more than happy to introduce you to the business owners in this city, because

you're not cut out to be a pastor. I love you all and I don't want you to get killed in the battlefield!"

Sounds like the test that was set for Daniel in Babylon? Pretty close. But he got results. Most people never made it. But the few who did turned that part of the world upside down for Jesus for about thirty years. This man of God was the first individual that the LORD used to raise the dead, heal all manner of incurable diseases, and conduct wholesale deliverance for entire communities.

This humble servant of God and his team of pastors destroyed evil strongholds, put satanic armies in disarray, terminated age-old occult practices, and restored peace and sanity in every community they went for evangelism.

The impact of his prayers continues to be felt even now in that part of the world, sixty years after his death. I was told that when he finally went to be with the LORD, all the occult practitioners, demons, witches, sorcerers, mediums, and astrologers threw a big party to celebrate his departure, because when he was alive, he had successfully decimated, and in many cases, totally annihilated their organizations.

If you are a careful reader of the Bible, you'll find that this type of celebration took place in the book of Revelation when the two prophets sent by God to deal with the wicked of the earth finally departed.

Let's get back to Daniel. He saw the prophecy. He began to fast and pray. I'd encourage you to study that gorgeous prayer in Daniel 9. There are many keys there that you can use. But I want us to zero in on some elements of that popular incident in the book of Daniel chapter ten.

We read:

*Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.*

*But the Prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia*

*Dan. 10:12-13*

There are many deep secrets revealed in this short passage. I'll share only a few of them here.

1. There is an evil "shadow cabinet" assigned to cover and monitor the activities of each individual, family, city, territory, and nation.
2. These dark spirits have formed a highly organized evil trinity with others of their ilk in the land and in the seas. That's why the angel of judgment in Rev. 10:6 had one leg on the sea, the other on the earth, and his hand pointed to the heavens.
3. When you pray according to the will of God, He always hears and answers.
4. To ensure that you secure your divine benefits you may need to intervene between the heavens and the earth.
5. You have to keep up the praying until your benefits come to you. Your blessings can be delayed, and eventually stolen, or transferred. Continuous praying

serves to strengthen and bring reinforcement to your angel of blessings.

6. Watch out for satanic reinforcement and counterattack after you've received your blessing, or you could still lose it! Blessings that are not kept covered in prayers are considered 'soft targets' or 'targets of opportunity' or even fragile in the spiritual realm, meaning they can still be destroyed by sudden, heavy bombardment.
7. Always anchor your blessing to the ocean of abundance so that it can activate multiplication and replenishment in the earth.

What you need to know at this time is that receiving a blessing from the LORD is only one half of the story. In order to fulfill our original mandate to multiply and replenish the earth there are additional steps you must take. There are prayers specially targeted toward this purpose in the Bible.

Let's study a few events.

## **Moses Intervenes in Egypt**

If you're a careful reader of the Bible you'd discover that Moses launched his powerful attack on Egypt from three fronts:

1. Water
2. Land
3. Heavens

He drew his weapons from all three sources: two from the waters, three from the land, and four from the heavens. The

LORD was so pleased with his performance that He personally came down to execute the last and final judgment upon Egypt!

Moses was a true master of intervention. He knew the secrets. He knew the prayers to pray for intervention to happen. Let's consider his skills in the next incident.

## Moses and Company Against Amalek

As we just stated, Moses was especially skilful in this business of intervention. During one of the battles against Amalek, Israel's bitter enemy, we read:

*Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim. And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand.*

*So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill.*

*And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.*

*But Moses' hand became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.*

*So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.*



While the ground battle was raging, there was a powerful trinity on the mountaintop taking care of business in the heavenlies, as well as on the land and in the waters. Do you now understand why they were three in number? I always feel sorry for those who do not have anyone to back them up in prayers! Especially those in leadership positions. Truth is, no matter how good you are, you get weary from time to time and you need a sharp shooting spiritual team to help steady your hand while you're firing those prayer arrows!

I know a pastor with a cutting edge team of intercessors. They go into operation immediately he mounts the pulpit. These are not the regular intercessors that pray for hours before the start of each service. No. These ones are specially handpicked to groan before the LORD, out of sight in the basement while the preaching is going on. You may find it difficult to believe what happens in those services. I'll share a little bit with you.

This fellowship started about ten years ago with twelve members or so. At the time, there were hundreds of churches dotting the landscape of their city, some as old as fifty years. The LORD specifically told them to launch this kind of intervention prayers and to continue indefinitely.

I remember hearing a story about those early days. They used to meet in a house rented by one of the members. The landlord lived in an adjacent building. He said one day these twelve Christians were praying, and the environment began to shake; the ground; buildings; trees, everything began to shake!

From that humble beginning, the fellowship has grown in leaps and bounds. Amazing healings and deliverance happen there every time they meet. They have no prayer lines or

prayer tunnels there. No one lays hands on you there. The power of God just hits you no matter where you're standing!

Right now, they've grown to over five hundred branches worldwide, even to places such as Saudi Arabia, India and China. And anywhere they set up, they witness rapid, explosive growth, to the glory of God. Without newspaper and TV ads, the Holy Ghost just takes care of the advertisements!

Well-known international evangelists going to that part of the world always ensure that this fellowship takes charge of the business of prayer months before they even set foot there. So it is not uncommon to hear of six million people showing up for those programs!

Last time I was in that city a few years back, the attendance that Sunday morning was two hundred thousand. There, the kinds of principles you're reading in this book are taught openly and everyone, without any exception, is required to participate in the praying fully.

After each service, the members would split up into thirty different prayer groups and for the next two hours or so, they proceed to 'pray in' the message of the day. They pray and pray and pray. They pray till their clothes become soaked with sweat. They pray till their voice disappears.

The result? Sinners are getting saved, the sick are getting healed and the captives are being set free. Why does it work? And why is that one of the few churches in the world where "the LORD is daily adding to them such as should be saved" as in the book of Acts, when most churches, in spite of expensive media ad campaigns, are losing members, or worse, closing their doors?

Intervention prayers coupled with what they call “unashamed holiness within and without.” That’s why.

## Deborah Intervenes For Her Nation

Let’s draw on another event in Scripture. To illustrate that this kind of prayer is not for men only, we’ll look at the exploits of the woman Deborah. She had the difficult task of rallying the men of Israel to go out and fight against a terrible enemy who had terrorized her nation for a long time. The enemy had fearsome credentials, rather like the enemies facing some people today. With nine hundred chariots of iron, the Abram A2 tanks of those days, and a dreaded general in command, they struck such fear in the hearts of Israel that the men flatly refused to go out and fight.

But Deborah managed to persuade them to go into battle.

Here’s how she described the aftermath:

*The kings came and fought, then fought the kings of Canaan in Taanach by the waters of Megiddo; they took no gain for money.*

*They fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera.*

*The river of kishon swept them away, that ancient river, the river kishon. O my soul, thou has trodden down strength.*

*Judges 5:19-21 (KJV)*

Did you see it? She intervened powerfully in the heavenlies and caused even the stars to join in the battle; and like Moses many years before her she didn’t forget to deploy the waters against the enemy too!

Did you know that the Scripture permits every child of God to deploy the elements to battle against the enemies of God? Did you know that God considers it a sin for you not to join the Lord's army to fight against His enemies?

From the above incident, the fellowship I described earlier has "manufactured" several kinds of prayers, which they call "fire prayers". Here's one of them:

- *I command the stars into war; O heavens fight for me in the name of Jesus.*

No wonder, incredible testimonies are the order of the day in that place.

If you'd learned to release such deadly prayer arrows against your spiritual enemies, perhaps you'd not find yourself trying to rationalize that divorce; perhaps your loved ones would not have been lured into the trap of substance abuse; perhaps you'd not be sinking further and further into debt each passing day! May God help us all. Amen.

## Elijah Intervenes in Israel

You'd do well to pay close attention to this one. In the days of Elijah, his nation was heavily into idolatry and wickedness, just like today. The king Ahab and his infamous wife Jezebel were at the forefront of this massive wave of idolatry. But Elijah the prophet would have none of it. He knew something in the heart of God that others had forgotten.

Let's see what that was.

*Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them, lest the LORD's anger be aroused against you*

*and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain, and the land yield no produce, and you perish quickly from the good land which the LORD is giving you.*

*Deut. 11:16-17*

Armed with this key, he confronted the idolatrous king and made this classic intervention statement:

*As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be no dew nor rain these years, except at my word.*

*1 Kings 17:1b*

In other words, he effectively locked up the heavens and put the key in his pocket! My prayer for you is that your enemies will not be able to turn your heavens into brass in Jesus' name.

You might tell me that he wasn't praying there. I used to think so too. Let's turn to a passage in the New Testament to get a sense of what really happened:

*Confess your trespass to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much*

*Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruits.*

*James 5:16-18*

It took the prayer of intervention between the heavens and the earth—Principle Four—for that to happen. Praise the LORD!

## The Two Critical Days of Your Life

One of the very real dangers of modern Christianity is that the Bible is not being given the position and respect it rightfully deserves. Some Christians and even some pastors treat Scripture with levity and brazenly interpret it to suit their every whim, without any fear of God at all!

The saints that were before us treated all of Scripture with great respect, and approached the Bible as the handbook for successful living, the final and ultimate authority on all matters. And they succeeded. Not so with our generation.

The result of neglecting the divine authority of the Bible is that entire books of Scripture that used to speak to other generations have all but lost their significance to some of us. What's left is little more than old wives' tales that have little or nothing to do with life's challenges in the twenty first century. No wonder the sinners are not interested in the gospel we're preaching. It doesn't appear to have much relevance to their lives. How sad.

Of all the books of the Bible that have suffered serious neglect, perhaps none is more apparent than the book of Job. Every one knows about Job, his trials, his teeth-gritting endurance, and his ultimate recovery. But that's just the tip of the iceberg.

The first book of the Bible to be written, according to Bible Scholars, it contains very deep secrets that maybe only three others share. It has proved an effective handbook for spiritual warriors all through the ages, and combined with the other two, effectively gives the righteous a complete manual for their warfare against the enemies of God.

In the book of Job, we see clearly the spiritual transactions that go on behind the scenes before anything ever happens on

earth. From here, we learn the deep secret that there are two major days in the life of every human being on planet earth.

## Day One

Let's take this passage from Job chapter one:

*Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. And the Lord said to Satan, from where do you come?*

*So Satan answered the LORD and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."*

*Then the LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there's none like him in all the earth, a blameless and upright man, one who fears God and shuns evil?"*

*So Satan answered the LORD and said, "Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the works of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But now, stretch out you arm and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse you to your face!"*

*And the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person."*

*So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.*

*Job 1:6-12*

That is day one—the day in heaven or hell that a decision is

taken about your life, and you're walking around on earth, blissfully unaware of it.

## Day Two

Let's continue our reading from Job chapter one.

*Now there was a day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; and a messenger came to job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, when the sabeans raided them and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"*

*While he was yet speaking, another also came and said, "The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"*

*While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels, and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"*

*While he was still speaking, another also came and said, "Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"*

*Job 1:13-19*

And so the calamity continued. That is day two—the day of manifestation here on earth.



Please notice the weapons that Satan, or the devil, deployed against Job in this first round of battle:

1. The Sabbeans (human beings)
2. The fire of God from heaven (the heavenlies)
3. Three bands of Chaldeans (evil trinity)
4. Great wind (elements)

In all these, did you hear any mention of the devil that was behind it all? Rather, they called it the fire of God, as if God was responsible! So is it possible that the spouse you've been blaming for all your marital problems is just being used as a tool by some unseen powers to destroy your marriage?

Alas, Job in spite of his uprightness before God was caught up in the general ignorance. No wonder he began to think God was responsible for his problem. Beloved, you can be as holy as you want; you can even be as wise as Solomon; if you don't acquire spiritual military intelligence and learn to fight, the devil will hide under your ignorance and beat you black and blue! He does not fight fair!

Putting all that we've been saying together, once an evil decision has been taken against you in heaven or in hell, you only have one choice left, and that is to intervene in the heavens and neutralize it there before it manifests on earth. Clearly, you can see the source of Job's problems—in the heavens.

Jesus prayed on Passion Night and angels materialized from heaven. It was as if the prayers had magnetic properties. That's right. Passion prayers can magnetize good things to you, such as favor, blessings, protection, and even divine helpers.

Daniel's persistent prayers for twenty-one days served to magnetize and draw his angel of blessing toward him as he prayed. If he had stopped praying on day twenty, he probably would not have seen the results of those prayers, though the answer was dispatched to him on the first day!

A line from an old Shakespeare's play, "Hamlet" has little to do with the Biblical material presented here, but it states my point succinctly.

Hamlet said to his friend,

*"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,  
than are dreamt of in your philosophy."*

*Shakespeare, "Hamlet", Act 1 scene 5*

Spiritually speaking, the cross of Christ is really the point where heaven meets earth, and that's the point to begin any prayer of intervention. Hanging on that old, rugged cross, suspended between heaven and earth, His precious, sinless blood flowing freely for you and me, He gave us the ultimate permission to intervene between heaven and earth, and force a restoration of His will and purpose for our lives.

## **Permission to Intervene?**

Yes, you do require permission to intervene. To launch this type of prayers, you need an external event to memorialize this permission. We all know the story of Joshua and Jericho. What most people do not realize is that Joshua had to first secure spiritual permission during the ceremony of the stones in the Jordan River (*Joshua chapter 4*) before ever he was given the divine strategy on how to take the Promised Land.

The big problem with most people today is that they do not have permission to succeed. Most nations of the Third World, in spite of abundant resources, lack the permission to prosper! In the case of Joshua, he used his divine permission to ensure that Jericho never became strong again, militarily and economically, for centuries! It took Elisha, the prophet with a double portion of anointing, to cancel the severe economic impact of Joshua's prophetic actions at the gates of Jericho many, many years later.

The subject of permission is sadly neglected in today's teachings. But it is central to success and victory. If you're interested in exploring it further, I'd recommend Richard Gaylord Briley's remarkable book, "Pray and Grow Rich," a book that is arguably one of the two most important success literature to come out of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

Many people are busy running about trying to quench fires here on earth when they should really be learning how to pray intervention prayers before calamity strikes. Beloved, it is possible to prevent so many things from happening to you, your loved ones, your church, and your community if you have the right information to act on.

Don't choose to remain ignorant, thinking the enemy will leave your marriage, job, kids, finances, etc., alone if you live in denial like so many people do. He won't. In fact the more ignorant you are about Scripture such as the passages we read here, the easier you make things for your enemy. All Scripture is written for our benefits and as you begin to apply it, the God that created the heavens and the earth will avail for you in Jesus' name.

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## CHAPTER 5

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### PRINCIPLE FIVE

#### **Fire Rapidly And Repeatedly**

*He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, “O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will.”*

*Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

*Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, “O My father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done.”*

*And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy.*

*So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, **saying the same words.***”

*Matt. 26:39-44 (emphasis added)*

**O**f all the principles discussed in this book, this one is perhaps the least understood by the church today. There is a great mystery here, one that has baffled many for centuries. Everyone knows that you shouldn't repeat prayers, because repeating it will not necessarily bring it to God's attention faster. He heard you the first time!

Since He heard you the first time, the argument goes, it might be irresponsible, even insulting, to keep saying the same thing over and over again. After all, didn't Jesus Himself warn against vain repetition in His great teaching on prayer in Matthew 6:7?

But look closely at the passage above. Clearly, Jesus was saying the same words over and over again! Why this apparent contradiction?

Before we answer that question, let's do a little Bible study.

We recall the account of Elijah's prayer for rain as documented by James, hundreds of years after the incident took place.

Let's look at it again:

*Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.*

*James 5:17*

Now, let's back up to the actual event that James is reporting here:

*Then Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink; for there is the sound of the abundance of rain." So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea."*

*So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again."*

*Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'"*

*Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain.*

*1 Kings 18:41-45*

The time has come for us to take a companion prayer to the one that opened this book. Please close your eyes and pray this out loud:

- ***Lord, open my spiritual eyes in the name of Jesus.***

Congratulations if you prayed that one seriously. You see, the reason I asked you to pray that prayer is this: There is a group of people, including Christians, who are blind in the spirit. They cannot see anything spiritual, have never had a vision of heaven, and have no idea of the glory of the risen Lord. This category of people includes some pastors, prophets and ordinary churchgoers.

In the Scripture, we even find that the prophet Isaiah belonged in this category, but a day came that his spiritual eyes were opened and he saw the glory of the LORD. After this incident, he became the eagle-eyed prophet, foreseeing and foretelling the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ centuries later! So please, understand that the purpose of this is not to criticize or accuse any particular group of individuals of spiritual blindness! Far from it!

Jesus was quoting the Prophet Isaiah when He said:

*And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:*

*“Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; For the hearts of this people have grown dull.*

*Their ears are hard of hearing,*

*And their eyes they have close,*

*Lest they should see with their eyes and*

*Hear with their ears,*

*Lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,*

*So that I should heal them.*

*Matt. 13:14-15*

When your spiritual eyes are open, you’d begin to see the unity and harmony of Scripture.

Now, let’s get back to Elijah. You see that while many of us never considered that Elijah was praying back there in the Old Testament, the Scripture later tells us that it was indeed a very fervent kind of prayer, one that had to be done seven times before the rains would come. That is why we tell people that it takes more prayer and hard work to recover something that has been spoilt, caged or transferred in the spiritual realm. It is not so difficult to destroy. But to rebuild is another matter entirely!

In case you're wondering what could have happened if Elijah had failed to pray his prayers up to seven times, let's look at another mysterious passage in the book of II Kings:

*Elisha had become sick with the illness of which he would die. Then Joash the king of Israel came down to him, and wept over his face, and said,*

*“O my father, my father, the chariots of Israel and their horsemen!”*

*And Elisha said to him, “Take a bow and some arrows. Then he said to the king of Israel, “Put your hand on the bow.” So he put his hand on it, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. And he said, “Open the east window”; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, “Shoot”; and he shot.*

*And he said, “The arrow of the LORD's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed them.”*

*Then he said, “Take the arrows”; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, “Strike the ground”; so he struck three times and stopped.*

*And the man of God was angry with him, and said, “You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times.”*

*2 Kings 13:14-19*

Elisha was the spiritual successor of Elijah, and during his prophetic tenure, he was a one-man army. On his deathbed, the king came crying for he knew he'd stand no chance



against the mighty army of the Syrians. And they began to pray prophetically. Notice that the man of God never told the king how many times he should strike the ground. In those days, people understood spiritual things much better than today. He should have known better. Elisha said he stopped too soon!

Do you know you can stop praying too soon?

Principle Five of Passion Prayer states that you must:

**Fire Your Prayers Rapidly and Repeatedly like a Machine Gun.**

What is a machine gun? It is a gun that fires rapidly and repeatedly when the trigger is pressed.

What's that got to do with praying? It is this: Once you start praying you don't stop. Just like a machine gun keeps firing automatically and spraying bullets all over the place, you continue praying and firing your prayer arrows until the Holy Spirit either tells you to stop or change to another prayer!

Perhaps the following true story would serve to illustrate that point more fully.

Do you realize there are people in this our world who speak to God daily like you'd have a conversation with a friend? I once had a spiritual mentor who belonged in that category. He was the overseer of this unique ministry where the LORD was doing amazing things. Naturally, people came from far and near with unbelievable problems and the LORD met them all.

But there was this woman who had very complex problems. The organs in her body were failing, her kids were playing in the occult, her husband was almost paralyzed from a strange accident, and her business had evaporated. She was

the first person this man of God would see in the morning and the last one to leave the counseling room at night. She would wait for hours and refuse to see any other pastor. It got a point that the man of God began to dread the thought of going to the office because he knew this woman would be waiting there. And her case was getting worse, not better!

Then one morning, this pastor cried out to the LORD and He responded with a strange instruction. The LORD said, "Don't pray for her again. Tell her to sit over there in the corner and pray this one prayer. Tell her not to stop until you say so."

It was a short, simple prayer and he instructed the woman not to stop until his say-so. He added that he'd be watching her progress.

She began to pray. One hour passed. Two hours. Three, four, five hours! By now she was sweating profusely. All of a sudden, she screamed and began to prophesy, "Thus says the LORD . . ." She prophesied into her situation, called her children and husband by name and prophesied into their lives. Then she burst into the most beautiful tongues you ever heard. Everyone stood transfixed as she began to sing and dance, praising and worshipping God. At that instant, she was completely healed, her husband was healed, her children were delivered and her business restored!

What happened there? Machine gun prayers in action!

Let's line up what happened to this woman with Scripture.

*Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying:*

*There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city;*

*and she came to him, saying, "Get justice for me from my adversary." And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, "Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this woman troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me!"*

*Then the Lord said, "Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though he bear long with them?"*

*I tell you He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"*

*Luke 18:1-8*

So contrary to what many have been led to believe, faith and persistence in prayer are tightly coupled together. You should not just stop praying the same prayer, for fear others might think you don't have faith. Quite the contrary! Your persistence shows you have faith that the answer will eventually come.

Let's get back to the garden of Gethsemane. It's Passion Night and Jesus begins to pray His great prayer. One hour later He comes to check on His team and found them asleep. He went back and continued with the same prayer. Another hour passed and He came back to find them still asleep. He went back and the Scripture says He continued saying the same words! Saying the same prayer for three hours? Is that not vain repetition that He warned us about? No, the words of God are not vain. His motive for repeating them was not to be seen of men, which is the hallmark of vain prayers!

Did you notice how the disciples slept through all this great prayer session? Do you recall that they were also asleep on the Mount of Transfiguration? The spirit of slumber is a powerful end time spirit that does not want the Church to

pray. Have you noticed how you can sit and chatter away for hours on end without falling asleep, but as soon as your mind begins to think of prayers, sleep comes all of a sudden?

Did you know that the reason many individuals and Churches, and even some pastors, hate prayer so much is because they are asleep in the spirit? Do you know that all the talk about revival that is currently fashionable in the body of Christ might just not go beyond that level, except we urgently wake up individually and corporately and begin to pray? Check the Scriptures and read the history of past revivals. You'd find that no revival ever came by talking. It always came by prayer. And whenever the praying stopped, the revival just dried up!

Let's look at a graphic illustration of what can happen if an individual or Church continues to sleep in the spirit.

*Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight. There were many lamps in the upper room where they were gathered together.*

*And in the window sat a certain young man named Eutychus, who was sinking into a deep sleep. He was overcome by sleep; and as Paul continued speaking, he fell down from the third story and was taken up dead.*

*Acts 20:7-9*

Unbelievable! This individual managed to sleep his way into history. Are you sleeping in the spirit? Are you sleeping the sleep of Eutychus? Then you'd find it very difficult to recognize the voice of God. You'd find it impossible to see divine opportunities even if they threw themselves at you. You'd always find yourself at the right place at the wrong time. You'd never

be able to receive, let alone implement, divine prescription that the LORD has designed to move your life forward. You could end up living your life from crisis to crisis.

At this level, I'd like you to fire this prayer arrow:

- *I reject every form of spiritual sleep in the name of Jesus*

Let's consider the classic story of Abraham's interceding for Sodom in Genesis chapter 18. This city was so wicked that God decided to destroy it. There was just a little matter for God to sort out. He had to tell His friend Abraham of His intentions before doing anything at all! You see, even God cannot break His words.

Let's confirm that last statement:

*Surely the LORD God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets.*

*Amos 3:7*

This Scripture really got me scared in the aftermath of September 11, 2001. Where were the prophets? What about all those parading around calling themselves apostles?

You know, it's so easy these days for individuals to appropriate high-sounding titles to themselves in order to grab attention. There's one little problem, though. If an individual decides to add the title, 'Apostle Elijah' to his name, he might enjoy a little bit of publicity for a season; That is until the prophets of Baal come along and challenge him to bring down fire like Elijah did!

There are so many apostles in the Church today without what Apostle Paul called the 'signs of an apostle' in their

lives and in their ministries. I have news for these kinds of people. If they don't repent quickly, very soon they will have to contend with the beasts of Ephesus and then we'll know who the real apostles are.

Any way, God was duty bound by His word to tell Abraham what was about to happen. And Abraham immediately began to intercede. He began cautiously by asking if the LORD would still destroy the city if He found fifty righteous people in it. The answer was: No. How about forty-five? No. Forty? No. Thirty? Twenty? Ten? No. No. No.

Now watch carefully. The Scripture says the LORD went away AS SOON AS Abraham finished speaking, not before. Do you wonder what would have happened if Abraham had continued right down to one, instead of leaving it there at ten? I think the Scripture provides us with a clue in Ezekiel chapter 22.

Here's what it says:

*“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found none.*

*Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads,” says the LORD God.*

*Ezek 22:30-31*

Here's food for thought:

Is it possible you could have prevented some of the calamities of the past? Could setbacks in your life or family or church or community have been avoided? Think about it.

Remember that memorable teaching on prayer, which Jesus gave in Luke 11. He taught us to pray for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven. It might be instructive at this point to take a field trip to heaven to observe some of the things going on there:

*The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:*

*“Holy, holy, holy  
LORD God Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come!”*

*Rev 4:8*

In heaven God is not tired of hearing these words day and night. He definitely will not be tired of hearing you pray to him day and night, even if you insist on repeating the same prayer until the answer comes!

Why should you bother with this type of prayer? Here's why.

*And when they drew nigh unto Jerusalem, and were come to Bethphage, unto the Mount of Olives, then sent Jesus two disciples,*

*Saying unto them, “Go into the village over against you, and straightway you shall find an ass tied, and a colt with her: loose them, and bring them unto me.*

*And if any man say ought unto you, ye shall say, The Lord hath need of them; and straightway he will send them.”*

*Matt 21:1-3*

A lot of people are like that donkey—tied in the spirit. Once an individual is tied like this in the spirit, progress will be slow or non-existent. That individual will find herself working like an elephant and eating like an ant! Nobody knew that the donkey had the potential to become part of history, until it was untied.

- Do you imagine yourself being used of God to glorify Him and beautify your life? You need to be untied first.
- If you notice evil patterns in your life, you could be tied in the spirit.
- If Mum went through three divorces and you find yourself heading perilously in that direction, you could be tied in the spirit.
- If deviant behavior runs in your family and you begin to notice these same things in your life and in your kids, you could be tied in the spirit.
- If Dad died of cancer, and already you've been given an evil medical prophecy that you'll die of the same thing, you're definitely tied in the spirit.

Prayers to untie things that have been tied up for generations are not five minutes prayers. They are to be prayed relentlessly, violently, and with machine gun delivery until victory comes. And the Lord will help you in Jesus' name.



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## CHAPTER 6

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### PRINCIPLE SIX

#### Sweat It

*And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.*

*Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His **sweat became like great drops of blood** falling to the ground.*

*Luke 22:41-44 (emphasis added)*

Someone has said there are prayers that can make even God to change His mind. Such are prayers based on our Principle Six, which states that:

### **Passion Prayer Runs on Blood, Sweat and Tears**

Throughout the ages you find individuals who have changed the course of history on their knees. How could this happen? There is a little known Scripture that can throw more light on this matter. Before we go there, however, let's take this prayer with a holy cry unto the LORD:

- *LORD, open my understanding in the name of Jesus.*

Now, we're ready to take another little trip to heaven to witness an important event. In the book of Revelation we read this:

*And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.*

*And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.*

*And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast it into the earth: and there were voices, thunders and lightnings, and an earthquake.*

*Rev 8:3-5*

This noteworthy event took place in heaven just before the final judgment of God upon the earth. Things came to a standstill in heaven; absolutely nothing was permitted to move, until the prayers of the saints had been offered!

Do you see it? Nothing is permitted to happen in the heavens or in the earth until the prayers of the saints have been accounted for. For those who have been confused by the doctrine of men, a saint is anyone, living or dead, who has accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Lord and personal savior and have been cleansed by His precious blood. That's the Bible definition of saint, and that includes you, if you've met that condition.

Your prayers matter to God. My prayers matter to God. He can use our prayers to initiate or change the course of events right here on earth. Isn't that glorious? Praise the name of the LORD! No wonder the devil is working overtime to keep people from praying!

Perhaps you can now see why that dynamic fellowship I described earlier nicknamed their prayer arrows, 'fire prayers'. We just read that the angel in the above passage mixed the prayers with holy fire from the altar in heaven and threw it out to the earth, and that began to produce thunder, lightning and earthquakes. Paul and Silas prayed and in response an earthquake struck! Now we see why the prayer of a few broken Christians can have enough potency to affect even physical things.

There were some individuals in the Bible who understood this matter more than others. Let's get back down to earth to examine how they fared in their own circumstances.

### **King Hezekiah Prays**

This is one of the most intriguing stories in the Bible. King Hezekiah was sick and near death. The LORD sent the greatest prophet of his day, Isaiah, to him with a message confirming the worst—Hezekiah was going to die. That in itself is no news. God has been issuing death sentences on

people in Scripture from time to time. However, in this particular case, something different happened.

Instead of Hezekiah accepting that death sentence like most folks would, he decided to take action. The Bible says:

*Then Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall, and prayed unto the LORD.*

*And said, Remember now, O LORD, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.*

*Then came the word of the LORD to Isaiah, saying,*

*Go and say to Hezekiah, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears; behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.*

*Isa 38:2-5*

What! This man prayed and God changed his mind? By the Bible's account, the prayer was answered so fast that Isaiah the prophet was still in the premises when God ordered him back to deliver the counter-message to the previous one!

Our man Hezekiah obviously knew something about God that most modern Christians have been slow to learn, and that is, nothing happens without God first taking the prayers of His people into account. Praise the LORD! Now, let's move on to an interesting location.

## City of Nineveh Prays

Another wicked city! Another time. Like wicked Sodom,

God had taken a decision to destroy it. Again, like Sodom He couldn't do it without telling his servant, this time the prophet Jonah. He sent one of the most accomplished and successful prophets in Scripture to warn this city of the impending disaster should they refuse to repent.

Most modern Christians raised on a steady diet of sugarcoated message of love, faith, prosperity are always shocked to hear me describe Jonah as a most accomplished and successful prophet. You see, from time to time, a prophet is sent by God to a specific people with a specific message. The objective is always to get them to receive the message and take action. If the success of a prophet, then, is measured by how many people receive the message, then Jonah has to rank among the very top. After his initial problems, he went on to deliver the message.

And what a delivery! His message got through immediately and the entire city repented. God knows how to choose the right man for the job. Yet, all you ever hear of is how Jonah tried to run away from doing God's work. Yes, but he eventually repented, and maybe that's why he was able to deliver such a message that everyone was convicted in their hearts to repent.

That may also give us a powerful clue into why most folks hear the gospel today and are not moved to turn away from their sins at all. Maybe those delivering the message have not repented themselves! You can't give to others what you don't have yourself. It is time we began to give Jonah's ministry its due respect. The Lord Jesus Christ once compared Himself to Jonah, and that just goes to show you that heaven does not see things quite the same way we see them here on earth!

Back to Nineveh. By the time Jonah began to preach his message, the people of Nineveh, unlike Sodom, paid close attention. Here's what they did:

*So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them.*

*For the word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.*

*And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything: let them not feed, nor drink water;*

*But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God; yea, let them turn everyone from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.*

*Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger that we perish not?*

*Jonah 3:5-9*

Talk about repentance! You will be hard pressed to find another one in Scripture quite like this. Everyone was involved. Even pets, farm animals, and vehicular animals were involved. That means public transportation grinded to a standstill. Nobles and peasants had to participate in the national fasting and prayer. It got front-page treatment in the news media of those days.

The prophet that brought the message had repented, the king followed suit and repented, citizens repented, even animals repented! So how did God respond?

*And God saw their works, that they turned from their*

*evil ways; and God repented of the evil that He had said He would do unto them; and He did it not.*

*Jonah 3:10*

Even God repented! Prayers that make God to change His mind. Passion Prayer. Prayer of blood, sweat and tears.

Quite frankly, this would be tricky to pull off in any city of North America today. If the mayor even had the courage to initiate it, you'd begin to hear things like separation of Church and state, and all kinds of strange arguments. I'm sure even the media would refuse to cover it, because they wouldn't attract enough audience to sell to advertisers, and so on.

But here we see a city crying out to the LORD in deep repentance, and God responding by repenting also of what he'd planned against them. Some folks do know how to move the hand of God!

## **Queen Esther Prays**

Now, we come to my personal favorite. You may be wondering by now. Fine, how about situations that God is not directly responsible for? To answer that one, let's read some passages from the only book of the Bible where God is not mentioned even once. That's right; a book of the Bible with no direct reference to God at all—the book of Esther.

If you have stubborn enemies that are not just after you but your loved ones as well as your finances, you'd do well to pay close attention to this. Here, you'll discover a very powerful key that is guaranteed to break the backbone of any problem, if you can apply it correctly, under the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Here's the background of the story. An evil decree has just

been issued to wipe out an entire race. This was such a strong decree that it could not be reversed ever, not by constitutional means, not by any means. There was no hiding place. It was programmed to take effect simultaneously in all parts of the kingdom, the superpower nation of those days.

But they had reckoned without Esther, the beautiful orphan girl who became queen by winning a beauty contest. I told you this book had no mention of God in it!

Esther needed favor from the king and fast. But the rules were so strict that she couldn't just stroll in and ask the king. Queen or no queen, that meant certain death. She had to do it some other way. And she needed to quickly mobilize her people to join her. And so we read Esther's instructions:

*Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day.*

*I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law; and if I perish, I perish.*

*Esther 4:16*

See the extreme approach she used? Unusual situations require unusual methods. Notice that she did not exempt herself from this program. I feel sad today when I see some folks insinuating that they have the anointing to pray for people who send them 'gifts' while those people are required to do absolutely no praying! They are not even required to participate in the prayers, so long as they send their 'gifts' to those ministries. Well, it's your life you're toying with. But don't say nobody warned you!



Esther not only secured favor and the permission to counter the evil decree against her and her people through this tried and tested weapon of corporate 'dry fasting', they also brought down judgment upon the strongman behind their problems.

Having personally tried out several weapons from God's armory over the years, I wish to humbly submit to you that this weapon has consistently delivered the fastest results and outperformed others, if used under the strict supervision of the Holy Ghost. Its results on your enemies can be truly devastating, especially when deployed in intervention mode at the gate!

By this time, you're aware that Jesus died for us all on the cross and was raised to life again so that He could release us from captivity and reconcile us back to the Father. That release was fully affected on that cross, but everyone has to take advantage of it for themselves otherwise the benefits would not become a reality in their life. Just like the work of salvation was completed on that cross. Everyone has to step up to the cross for himself or herself.

Esther and her people had to rise up and enforce a counter decree in order to save themselves from a carefully laid satanic trap. And they succeeded.

In the garden of Gethsemane on Passion Night, Jesus prayed till sweat came pouring down his body like blood. The Bible says it was like great drops of blood. He secured victory for us. He also set an example on how to approach difficult situations in our lives—through passion prayer, the prayer of blood, sweat and tears.



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# **PART THREE**

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## **AGREEMENT**



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## CHAPTER 7

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### PRINCIPLE SEVEN

#### Release the Power of Agreement

*Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, “What! **Could you not watch with Me one hour?** Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”*

*Matt. 26: 40-41(emphasis added)*

**W**e’re homing in on the final principle that our Lord demonstrated—or rather wanted to demonstrate—in the garden. He needed His disciples to watch or pray with Him in agreement. Perhaps this’d best be illustrated with a modern, real-life example.

## Tuesday Evening Circle

They were only about twelve in attendance at any one time. They met every Tuesday at 6 p.m. They would pray about any issue presented to them. The first time I was invited to the meeting, I couldn't help but stare in amazement as age-old problems were literally melting away right before my eyes!

They had set up this special prayer meeting to attend to the needs of their members who lived in the neighborhood and couldn't get immediate attention from their church, a large fellowship several miles away.

As the leaders of the group described to me, the first time they started, they had to carry out what they called, 'spiritual environmental sanitation'. That means they issued a special announcement in the spirit realm to whatever powers were in charge of that neighborhood, that they were ambassadors of Christ, on a mandate to enforce the victory of Jesus over ignorance, sickness, poverty, drug abuse, prostitution, and other evil manifestations there. And they began to fast and pray.

They had a very peculiar manner of operating. They would start with identification repentance like Daniel, then move on to high praises, then transition to worship before they moved into battle. Immediately, they started to pray, an individual in the group would begin to run a spiritual commentary on what was going on in the spirit realm at that time! If you can picture what happens at any major league baseball game, with the sportscaster giving a minute-by-minute account of the game in progress, you have a pretty good idea of what I'm talking out.

The timing was usually very close. From the running commentary, they'd know when to change from prayer to praise, to Scripture confessions, and to worship. They would

sometime receive ‘spiritual intelligence’ about what God was about to do, and what the enemy was planning as well, and they would neutralize it right there in the name of Jesus.

When they reached a certain level of unity in the spirit, the voices seemed to merge into one, they moved, shouted and prayed in harmony as if there was some invisible conductor on the scene!

Then the testimonies began to flow. People would walk in from the streets, and confess about substance abuse problems, sexual perversions, and occult practices, and ask for prayers. The prostitutes that used to parade those streets at night suddenly disappeared. Before long, other teams like this one began to spring up all over the neighborhood. Those who were jobless found jobs and a Sunday evening care center was established in that same house. Most of the pioneers of that team later moved on to become pastors and evangelists.

Why were they so successful? They operated in unity and consequently were able to release tremendous power through agreement.

Let’s see how this works:

*Again I say to you that if two of you shall agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them of my Father in heaven.*

*Matt. 18:19*

The key here is in the word ‘agree’. The word used in the Bible for the word ‘agree’ means to “sound or speak together’ in harmony, in unity, at the same time!”

This leads us right to Principle Seven:

## **Passion Prayer Releases the Power of Agreement.**

So much spiritual power and energy is released when two or more individuals agree together in prayer. This principle is so powerful that it works both ways—for evil as well as for good. First, we'll see from the Bible how it can be misused before going on to illustrate the proper way to use it.

In the book of Genesis chapter 11 we read:

*Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth!"*

*But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the LORD said, "Indeed the people are one and they have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing they propose to do will be withheld from them."*

*Gen 11:1-7*

They almost succeeded even though they were united for an evil purpose against God!

Did you know that herein lies the great secret why many families are failing and divorce rate is so high in North America today? Lack of agreement! I recently watched one of the presidential candidates, who was the frontrunner before the race began, trying to explain away his wife's apparent lack of interest in his campaign and I knew right



away he wasn't going to make it. He was out in the first round! Why? Spiritual ignorance about the power of agreement between man and wife!

If an husband and wife fail to agree totally concerning an important project, then they shouldn't even attempt it because that project is doomed from the onset, and this holds true whether they are Christians or not.

In the passage we read, a God-excluding generation of people began a project of pride and arrogance. They didn't acknowledge God; didn't ask for His help, and they almost succeeded! God Himself said it would be impossible to stop them because they were in agreement, spoke the same language and imagined the same thing in their heart.

They were making brisk progress until God introduced a weapon against this proud people, a weapon which formed the basis of one of the hottest prayer points that we used to pray at the Tuesday meeting I described earlier.

I'd like you to close your eyes and fire this prayer arrow with a loud voice:

- *I scatter every evil unity against my life in the name of Jesus.*

What you're praying is well laid out in Isaiah 8:9-10:

*Be shattered, O you peoples, and be broken in pieces!*

*Give ear, all you from far countries.*

*Gird yourselves, but be broken in pieces;*

*Gird yourselves, but be broken in pieces.*

*Take counsel together, but it will come to nothing;*

*Speak the word, but it will not stand'*

*For God is with us.*

Evil unity against an individual or group is primarily responsible for the high levels of strife that we're seeing in our communities today. Strife is the forerunner of everything evil.

Here's how the Bible puts it:

*For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*

*James 3:16*

In broken families today, you find argument and strife about everything. No point of agreement. How can such a strife-torn family ever make it, when in the immortal words of our Lord Jesus Christ:

*Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.*

*Matt 12:25*

Now that prayer has been legislated out of the nation's school system, it becomes even more imperative to revive the prayer altar in the family as a matter of urgency otherwise this great nation might not make it through the twenty first century!

A family that prays together, imagines the same things together and speaks the same language together would become indestructible and can stand strong in the midst of chaos and turmoil. That's why I support and commend the effort of an organization such as "**Focus on the Family**" and others like it, because they've correctly identified and homed in on the foundation of every successful society—the family.

Recently, I examined the Forbes List of the 500-odd top billionaires in the world and I wasn't surprised to discover that most of them in the top percentile were middle-aged men; each married to one wife all their lives. In fact, members of one family occupied five of the ten slots in the Top Ten!

Family was created by God to be the strongest power unit known this side of eternity, but, alas, ignorance has turned giants into grasshoppers, and princes into hewers of wood and drawers of water!

But I've got news for you. There are prayers you can pray to recover the destiny of your family from the hands of family destroyers. As one beloved pastor used to say, "you can pray yourself into anything, and you can also pray yourself out of anything, provided you are willing to pay the price!"

Now, are there instances in the Bible where we are specifically advised to get into agreement and pray? Yes. We'll just close this chapter with a look at just one of them.

## Paul and Silas

Remember this dynamic duo? How they prayed in prison and caused an earthquake? Remember how many people gave their hearts to the Lord? Writing later to the Corinthian Church, Paul had this to say:

*Finally, brethren, farewell. Become complete.*

*Be of good comfort, **be of one mind**, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.*

*I Cor. 13:11(emphasis added)*

And how about prayer?

To the Church in Thessalonica, he says:

*Pray without ceasing. 1 Thess. 5:17*

Passion Prayer, prayed with one mind, without ceasing, can generate the required momentum to activate the power of God, achieve the impossible, and put your enemies in disarray.

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# APPENDICES

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## **BEFORE YOU PRAY**

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1. Make sure you've given your heart to Jesus.
2. Confess and renounce all your sins.
3. Purge yourself with the blood of Jesus.
4. Ask for the fire of the Holy Spirit to come upon you.
5. Study the lives of prayer eagles, e.g. Daniel.
6. Forgive all those who have offended you.
7. Get into the habit of fasting regularly.
8. Ensure that you pray for at least half an hour each day.





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## APPLICATION ONE

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### The Cover

#### Covering Yourself and Loved Ones from Attacks

**T**hese are the days of terrorism. You hear so much about Homeland Security and all the elaborate preparations that are being made. Their efforts are to be commended. But as we learned from Job's case, before any attack could happen on earth, it has to be programmed first in the heavenlies. Spiritually speaking, therefore, all the preparations down here on earth might be leaving things a bit late!

What is the implication for you and your loved ones?

Are you just going to fold your arms and wish for the best? Are you going to live in a fool's paradise, believing there will be no more terrorist attacks because of Homeland Security?

Are you going to continue to gamble with your life and those of your loved ones by your inaction?

We showed you that in Scripture nothing is permitted to happen in the heavens or in the earth until the prayers of the saints have been taken into account. What an awesome privilege, praise the LORD!

We also said that the point of intervention is between heaven and earth—in the heavenlies—if you're to forestall disaster from locating you and your loved ones.

Here then are the secrets that could help ensure that your loved ones and yourself would be far from any vicinity where terrorists choose to strike; or where accidents are programmed to happen; or random shootings; or earthquakes; or volcanic eruptions; or fire disasters. If taken seriously, these prayers could save your life and the lives of your loved ones someday!

The prayer is called “The Cover”. Several years ago, the Holy Spirit taught us how to pray it and the testimonies have not ceased: lone survivors at the scene of deadly crashes; miraculous escape from fire disasters; missed appointments with death; the list goes on and on.

But first, what is “The Cover” and how does it work?

Let's search the Scripture:

*And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon a bed.*

*He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD.*

*And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and*

*his hands upon his hands: and he stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm.*

*Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.*

*2 Kings 4:33-35*

Notice he had to do it more than once. Our next passage is from the book of Acts:

*And there sat in the window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.*

*And Paul went down, and fell on him, and embracing him said, trouble not yourselves, for his life is in him*

*Acts 20:9-10*

In each of the above cases, they spread a spiritual covering and the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus took care of the rest.

There are prayers you can pray to cover yourself and your loved ones anywhere, anytime, anyplace. There is a great covering prayer in the Bible. In the old days, the people of God used to march into battle with the words of this prayer on their lips, some praying it, some singing it, and it never failed to bring disaster upon their enemies. These days we battle against wickedly intelligent spirits and we target them with the same prayers of intervention in the heavens, in order to destroy their wicked plans completely from the source.

You remember the ‘Star Wars’ concept that was all the rage a decade ago? How they wanted to create a shield against

nuclear attacks in the air? The architects of that idea realized that modern battles can only be fought and won in the heavenlies, but without the spiritual pillars for the concept to rest upon, it was doomed to failure!

Someone has said that in this twenty first century world, if anyone does not learn to use the computer, they'll be left behind. In the spiritual sense, too, if anyone refuses to learn the techniques and strategies of Passion Prayer, they'd not only be left behind, they'd find themselves suffering from what is known as 'chain problems'—a life marked with problem after problem every way you turn!

Here's the Bible's instruction for us:

*Do not be afraid of sudden terror*

*Nor of trouble from the wicked when it comes;*

*For the LORD will be your confidence, And will keep  
your foot from being caught.*

*Prov. 3:25-26*

For these covering prayers, I'll give you the Scriptures, chapter and verse. You're supposed to speak the Scriptures out loud, and then follow up with the prayer arrows in machine gun fashion as we learnt.

I'd also advise you to memorize the whole of Psalm 91 (the confession) and learn to confess it everyday in your car, at work, and everywhere. It will release strong spiritual magnetic energy all around you that will attract the favor, glory and angels of God to you, while repelling evil things from you and your loved ones!

The prayers are best prayed at the gate of midnight, but they'll work at any other time. Fasting adds wings and speed to the manifestation of the answers to your prayers. For the prayers to deliver maximum impact, holy living is non-negotiable.

You need to pray these prayers every day, or every few days, or every week, as the LORD gives you the grace. Don't wait for a crisis to happen before you pray. Even if you don't anticipate any problem, the time to pray is now. Remember, soldiers are not trained during wartime; they are trained for combat during peacetime, so that they can rise to the occasion at any time. You should be the same way.

It is important to keep in mind that you're not praying against individuals that you might feel are your enemies. These prayers are targeted at unseen, spiritual enemies, which you may never know unless God chooses to open your eyes. But they are there and God knows them all, and will direct your prayer arrows to locate them. So we're in no way referring to human beings when we use the word 'enemy.'

As you pray feel free to mention the loved ones you're covering by name, and if the Holy Spirit lays a Scripture or prayer on your heart as you're praying, pray those ones as well, and the LORD will answer you in Jesus' name.

## THE COVER

Confession: Psalm 91

Praise Worship

- 1. It is written; do not be afraid of sudden terror, nor of the trouble from the wicked when it comes; for the LORD will be your confidence. And will keep your foot from being caught*

(*Prov. 3:26*). Therefore, O Lord, cover me and my loved ones from the activities of terrorists in Jesus' name.

2. *It is written; avenge me of my adversary (Lk.18.3)*. Therefore, O God, arise and avenge me of all my adversaries in the name of Jesus.
3. *It is written; they fought from the heavens; the stars from their courses fought against Sisera (Jud. 5:20)*. Therefore, O heavens, fight for me in the name of Jesus.
4. *It is written; I will purge the rebels from among you, and those who transgress against Me; I will bring them out of the country where they dwell, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the LORD (Ezek. 20:38)*. Therefore, O Lord, purge and sanitize my household in the name of Jesus.
5. *It is written; then it was so, after all your wickedness—'woe, woe to you!' says the Lord God (Ezek. 16:23)*. Therefore, woe unto all the vessels that the enemy is using to do me harm in the name of Jesus.
6. *It is written; behold, therefore, I stretched out My hand against you, diminished your allotment, and gave you up to the will of those who hate you . . . (Ezek. 16:27)*. Therefore, let my enemies be delivered into the hands of their enemies in the name of Jesus.
7. *It is written; you shall be for fuel of fire; your blood shall be in the midst of the land. You shall not be remembered, for I the Lord have spoken (Ezek. 21:32)*. Therefore, let all my spiritual enemies become fuel for divine fire in the name of Jesus.
8. *It is written; then they will know that I am the Lord, when*

*I have set a fire in Egypt and all her helpers are destroyed (Ezek. 30:8).* Therefore, O Lord, let all the helpers of my enemies be destroyed in the name of Jesus.

9. *It is written; and the people to whom they prophesy shall be cast out in the streets of Jerusalem because of the famine and the sword; they will have no one to bury them—they nor their wives, their sons nor their daughters—for I will pour their wickedness on them (Jer. 14:16).* Therefore, O Lord, pour the wickedness of those who seek to destroy me upon their own heads in the name of Jesus.
  
10. *It is written; call together the archers against Babylon. All you who bend the bow encamp against it all around; let none of them escape. Repay her according to her work; According to all she has done, do to her; For she has been proud against the Lord, against the Holy One of Israel (Jer. 50:29).* Therefore, let all the hosts of the Lord turn against my spiritual enemies in the name of Jesus.
  
11. *It is written; Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered; let those also who hate Him flee before Him (Ps. 68:1).* Therefore, O God arise, and let all your enemies in my life be scattered in the name of Jesus.
  
12. *It is written; and he that searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God (Rom.8:27).* Therefore, the intercessory prayers of Jesus, who is seated on the right hand of the throne of God, will not be in vain over my life, in the name of Jesus.
  
13. *It is written; the Lord is your keeper; the Lord is the shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; He shall preserve your soul. The Lord shall preserve*

*your going out and your coming in from this time forth, and even forevermore (Ps. 121:5-8).* Therefore, O Lord, spread your covering of fire and the blood of Jesus over me and my loved ones, in the precious name of Jesus.

**14.** *It is written; rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thess.5:16-18).* Therefore, I thank you Father, for raising a spiritual shield over my loved ones and me. Thank you for giving me the heart to appreciate everything you're doing for me. Thank you for filling my heart and my home with joy and peace that surpasses all understanding. Blessed be your name for all the answers to my prayers in Jesus' name. Amen



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## APPLICATION TWO

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### The Millionaire's Prayer

**R**ecently, I had a look at Forbes Magazine's 18<sup>th</sup> annual ranking of the world's richest people. According to the list, there are 587 billionaires from 19 countries in the world today. Collectively, they control 1.9 trillion US dollars, almost one fifth of the GDP of the United States! I looked behind the numbers and I discovered a few interesting facts.

Please permit me to share just a few of them with you:

1. Most of the billionaires are in their mid-sixties and have been married to one wife all their lives.
2. There are many billionaire families in the world. In fact, one family—Sam Walton's of Wal-Mart—dominated the

Top Ten, with one family member each occupying positions 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10!

3. There are certain geographies that tend to magnetize and retain wealth. For instance, the U.S. accounts for almost half of the wealth on the Forbes' list, while Germany is a distant second at only 5%. Even within the U.S. New York City alone has almost as many billionaires as third place Japan!
4. While it is true that some people inherited their wealth, by far the overwhelming number on that list created their wealth almost from nothing in the past decade or so.
5. Many of the world's wealthiest people that we used to hear about just a few short years ago have lost their wealth and have dropped off the list completely. To take their place are a group of under-forty individuals who rode on the back of the tech boom of the nineties to fame and fortune.
6. Two of the billionaires are already behind bars and two will be standing trial shortly. Evidently, their wealth is not capable of keeping them out of prison.
7. Lastly, the latest addition to the billionaire's club was on welfare a few short years ago. This year her empire is worth one billion US dollars.

So much for the Forbes List! Now, let's get back to the Bible. Many religious folks may not realize that the Bible also has a lot to say about wealth and wealthy people. As a matter of fact, the first book of the Bible to be written—the book of Job—was about the life and times of a wealthy man, who fell on hard times, but recovered eventually to become even wealthier!

From the Scriptural account, Job was the first millionaire in the Bible. Someone has estimated his wealth of those days to be worth around 50 million US dollars in today's money!<sup>1</sup> Link that little piece of information to what we said earlier about the book being the first to be written, and you'd begin to see that the subject matter of wealth is of primary interest to God.

Why is this so?

God is the author of all wealth and abundance. Everything He created has a built-in, pre-programmed potential to manifest abundance. For man, God did the programming in the book of Genesis:

*Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

*Gen. 1:28*

Just like He spoke to everything else when He brought them into existence, He spoke the ability to manifest abundance into the man He created so that he can continue to propagate abundance in the universe.

Look around you. There's abundance everywhere. There's no shortage of air to breathe. It's more than enough for everyone. There's no shortage of water in most parts of the world, though we're doing our best to pollute and render it unusable. Do you know how many blood vessels you have in your body? Enough to circle the world 3 times if placed one after the other! Abundance; Sheer abundance!

Here's the interesting part. The abundance is mostly hidden from the common view. You don't find wealth lying around

and asking to be taken. Most of the wealth you see were once buried deep in the earth—gold, oil, silver, diamond. And this is just the physical side of wealth.

Wealth itself is a spiritual concept. It can be gained spiritually and it can also be lost spiritually. There are spiritual laws governing all wealth. Understanding these laws and working them can give you a head start and an advantage over others who are just running around carnally seeking wealth to consume upon their lusts.

It is possible to become wealthy by worldly means but such wealth would become a destroyer and diminish over time. It is also possible to acquire wealth by godly means and such wealth tends to increase and generate even more abundance.

Let's look at a few Scriptures:

*Wealth gained by dishonesty will be diminished, but he who gathers by labor will increase.*

*Prov. 13:11*

So much has been said about wealth and prosperity over the last few years—the good, the bad and the ugly—that a lot of folks have been left totally confused! We do not intend to go into those murky waters here! All we hope to share is a single, sure-fire piece of spiritual information divinely released for this time and season, for those who are brave enough to go forth and manifest the abundance that God intended from the beginning.

Admittedly, this section is not for everyone. For some, it would take serious divine intervention to change a mindset that has been programmed for ages to see the wealthy as nothing but an evil group of greedy and God-hating people!

For such folks, before we part ways, here's food for thought:

The widow of Ray Kroc (McDonald's) recently died and left 1.5 billion US dollars to the Salvation Army!

For what purpose?

I've been told that Mrs. Kroc remembered hearing her family talk around the dinner table about how The Salvation Army helped people during the depression and has had a favorable impression ever since. She made her first large gift—in excess of \$90 million—several years ago to establish the first Ray and Joan Kroc Corps Community Center in San Diego. That center opened some years ago to great success and Mrs. Kroc visited often. She felt that the center exceeded her own expectations and was an ideal vehicle for her vision.

This staggering donation could be used to help the helpless, buy medicines, feed and clothe the homeless, help those devastated by drugs, hunger and disease, rehabilitate prisoners, prostitutes, and reintegrate them into society. So I ask you, is that money serving a good or evil purpose?

Renowned wealth authors, Mark Victor Hansen and Robert G. Allen in their excellent book, "*The One Minute Millionaire*" have said that every sixty seconds a new millionaire is created in North America! The place is literally crawling with millionaires, many of them using Biblical principles to create wealth almost out of nothing. Truly, God sure knows where the gold is.

And watch this: Jesus said at the end of the age, the volume of prophecy that we prophesied, or the amount of preaching that we preached would not reward us. It will simply be: "when I was hungry you gave me to eat, when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear, when I was sick you visited (ministered to) me and so on and so forth.

If that's the case, I wonder what the Lord will tell Mrs. Kroc on that day! And I also wonder what He will tell some Christians who are too afraid to manifest abundance, not knowing that it hinders their fruitfulness in the kingdom of God. It will be really interesting on that day!

Therefore, for those who are unwilling or unable to update their thinking about true wealth to fit the biblical position, we would humbly suggest that they at least allow some Christians who are brave enough to learn to acquire wealth using godly principles under God, the author of all wealth and abundance.

God wants to be actively involved in re-distributing the wealth of the earth in these end times. And He's going to do that through the Church. The Church is going to become, once again, the major distribution point of God's wealth on the earth. That's because the end time purposes of God will need tons of money to accomplish, and the wealth is His anyway.

Here's the LORD's strategy:

*I will go before you  
And make the crooked places straight;  
I will break in pieces the gates of brass  
And cut the bars of iron  
I will give you the treasures of darkness  
And hidden riches of secret places,  
That you may know that I, the LORD,  
Who call you by your name,  
Am the God of Israel*

Isa.45:2-3

I want you to especially notice that word 'gates' in the passage above, for it is the end time key into the realm of abundance

that has never been experienced by the Church before! All that you've seen so far is child's play, a drop in the bucket!

Before you can enter into this dimension that the LORD is talking about, there are some gates that need to be destroyed. To some folks, it might not mean anything that the richest man on the planet for several years now goes by that same name. Sometimes, God uses physical things to teach us spiritual lessons. If you'd just learn how to pray the kind of prayers that target spiritual gates, you'd be amazed to find yourself in a realm of abundance that you never dared dream of!

Friends, the end time reality is that abundance is going to be released at the gates! And the gate has always been a place of heavy spiritual conflict and will remain so until the Lord Jesus returns.

*For the widow of Zarephath, abundance met her at the gate!*

*At the word of Elisha, abundance suddenly manifested at the gates of Samaria during a brutal famine.*

*Remember what happened at the gate called Beautiful? Restoration!*

The gate is where all the action is going to be for the next several years!

But we must be extremely careful when we're talking about wealth, because God's idea of wealth might not be exactly what you think. God wants you to become a re-distribution point, so that the wealth He places in your hands would help advance His kingdom, not your kingdom, and certainly not the devil's kingdom. For you to become part of God's wealth creation plans there are specific kinds of prayers you

need to be praying, coupled with certain standards you must live up to.

You see, at specific times in the Bible, God actually directs some individuals to pray certain types of prayers and, though seemingly unrelated, they ended up releasing great wealth! You can then understand why I feel unhappy when I hear certain preachers saying that wealth does not respond to prayers. Nothing can be further from the truth.

Before I take you into the abundance releasing prayers that the Lord has authorized us to pray at this time, let's first look at two different prayers prayed by two Bible millionaires that ended up creating abundance, an outcome they were not expecting at all. God's ways are definitely not our ways!

## Job Prays

Job was the first millionaire in the Bible. He was also a righteous man. He fell on hard times, lost everything but his faith and trust in God. A time came for God to restore him and we read this strange prescription:

*And so it was, after the LORD had spoken these words to Job, that the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, "My wrath is aroused against you and your two friends, for you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has.*

*Now therefore, take for yourself seven bull and seven rams, go to My servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and My servant Job shall pray for you. For I will accept him, lest I deal with you according to your folly; because you have not spoken of Me what is right, as My servant Job has."*



What happened when Job prayed?

*And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before.*

*Job 42:10*

The secret of abundance hinted at here is so profound that we'd need to take the case of another Bible millionaire, father Abraham, to drive home the point.

## **Abraham Prays**

A certain king was ignorantly trying to take Abraham's wife, Sarah, from him. But the Lord was not happy about this and He began to punish the king's household with barrenness. Then He appeared to the king in a dream and instructed him to restore Abraham's wife.

Here's the instruction:

*Now therefore, restore the man's wife; for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you and you shall live. But if you do not restore her, know that you shall surely die, you and all who are yours*

*Gen 20:7*

That king was wise. He did more than just restore Abraham's wife. Here's what he did:

*Then Abimelech took sheep, oxen, and male and female servants, and gave them to Abraham; and he restored Sarah his wife to him.*

*Gen.20: 14*

Read it for yourself. He also gave Abraham money, lots of it. These two millionaires prayed and received abundance in return, though nothing could be further from their mind at that point in time!

These two example prayers were just to show you that wealth could be released through specific prayers. In these particular cases, the type of prayer they prayed was for someone else, and intercessory in nature. Not all of them are like this.

The thing to take away from here, however, is that praying for others is like casting your bread upon the waters, and you can't always tell in what form it'd come back. This "casting your bread" principle is also the foundation of all wealth and abundance.

Let's see some phenomenal demonstrations by two masters of the game.

## **Elisha Creates Abundance**

This man of God did some truly phenomenal things in his time. He showed us clearly how to cause material things to multiply and generate abundance, the exact same thing Christ did whenever he had thousands of folks to feed.

Here's how he did it:

*Then a man came from Baal Shalisha, and brought the man of God bread of the first fruits, twenty loaves of barley bread, and newly ripened grain in his knapsack. And he said, "Give it to the people, that they may eat."*

*But the servant said, "What? Shall I set this before one hundred men?"*

*He said again, "Give it to the people, that they may eat; for thus says the Lord: 'They shall eat and have some left over.'"*

*So he set it before them; and they ate and had some left over, according to the word of the Lord.*

*2 Kings 4:42-44*

How can this be, you ask! Before I make some statements, let's see how the Lord Jesus Christ used this same approach to create abundance in His time.

## **Jesus Creates Abundance**

*He asked them, "How many loaves do you have?"*

*And they said, "Seven."*

*So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke them and gave them to His disciples to set before them; and they set them before the multitude.*

*They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He said to set them also before them. So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments.*

*Mark 8:5-8*

How much abundance are you creating in your own time?

The following statements sum up all that we've been studying so far:

1. Abundance is created primarily through breaking and sharing.
2. Anything that is shared multiplies, expands and attracts others of its kind. When money is shared, it multiplies, expands and increases.
3. The law of sowing and reaping begins to operate in your favor when you share the first fruits with God.
4. There is a divine distribution point in the spiritual realm that you could call the “ocean of abundance.” You attach yourself to it by becoming a re-distribution point yourself.
5. There are spiritual enemies that can divert the flow of abundance from you unless you know how to deal with them.
6. You must confirm to God that you’ve overcome covetousness for Him to usher you into the higher realms of abundance.
7. For those who have been faithfully paying their tithes, sowing seeds in their local churches, and sharing with others, but have still not tapped into the ocean of abundance, certain spiritual gates may need to be dismantled. That can be achieved by releasing a steady stream of hot, gate-destroying prayers until abundance begins to flow into your life.

## **Are You Ready?**

The Lord issued everyone born into this world with a key for unlocking the gate of abundance. Unfortunately, most folks had their key stolen; some while still in the womb, others at

the gate of birth, and the rest during their time of ignorance without Jesus.

You cannot prosper or create any abundance without recovering that key. What's more, you need to cooperate with God so that He can smash open the gates for you to enter into the dimension of abundance that He wants to take you through.

The spirits of these last days preventing folks from swimming in the ocean of abundance operate at the gate. The few prayers in this section are designed by the Holy Spirit to overthrow any evil gate keeping you away from your abundance. You'll be victorious in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Prayer Section<sup>2</sup>

Confession: Ps. 24

Praise Worship

1. O Lord, let my season of divine intervention appear in the name of Jesus.
2. O you gates in the \_\_\_\_\_(\*) standing against my destiny, lift up your heads in the name of Jesus.

\* *Insert each of the following:*

- Heavens
- Waters
- Earth
- *Under the earth*

3. O God arise, and destroy every evil gatekeeper assigned against my life in the name of Jesus.
4. I break the backbone of every spirit of scarcity in my life in the name of Jesus.
5. O Lord, anoint my eyes to see divine opportunities in Jesus' name.
6. Lord, let every blindness to the treasures of my life be cleared away by the blood of Jesus.
7. Let my divine helpers appear in the name of Jesus.

## Notes:

1. *All Scripture quotation, except where noted, are from the New King James Version.*
2. *All Scripture confessions should be read aloud and the prayers should be prayed aloud.*

## References

- 1: <sup>1</sup> Briley, Richard Gaylor, *“Pray and Grow Rich.” New Hampshire: Publisher-in-the-Glen, 1998.*
- 2: <sup>2</sup> Olukoya, D.K., *“Prayer Rain,” Lagos: MFM Press, 1999*
3. Hansen, Mark Victor and Allen, Robert G., *“The One Minute Millionaire,” New York: Harmony Books, 2002*
4. Jeffrey, Grant R. *The Signature of God.* Nashville: Word Publishing, 1998