

Intercession

Concept:

One of the greatest mysteries in the Word of God is how history can be put back into right order by the prayer of a few people praying in faith. Imagine one person standing up against odds that are overwhelming in the natural but by using God's word as a weapon they are able to turn the tide of defeat and bring a great victory for the Kingdom of Light. A nation is released out of bondage because Daniel persevered in prayer. We see Abraham praying for Sodom and the city would have received deliverance if there had just been 10 righteous people. In Jeremiah 5:1, we see the heart of the Lord, when He states, that if one righteous person will cry out, the Lord will deliver a city. Imagine the destiny of a city can be changed if one person will seek the face of the Lord. II Chronicles 7:14 illustrates this point the best. This scripture tells us that if we will pray, God will heal our land. Imagine having the poison removed because we pray, having the violence taken away because we pray, or having the plague of moral decay reversed because God's people will just ask Him to intervene.

A discouraging verse is found in Isaiah 59:16, when the Lord was looking for someone to pray and no one would. Not one person was found who would champion the Lord's cause for deliverance. But the heart of the Lord is shown to us because He sent His Son to be that champion. The Lord wants to change history back to His Story.

Proverbs 21:1 states that king's heart is in the Lord's hand and He can direct it. We see an example of this in Ezra 1 when the Lord turns the heart of Cyrus into the purposes of the Lord. With our God, there is nothing impossible. We can see why the Lord states that we need to pray for those in authority so He can direct their heart into doing the Lord's purposes. It seems like the Lord is challenging us to pray for the most impossible situation and then watch Him bring the walls down. Romans 13:1 remind us that the Lord establishes rulers. He can certainly exalt or remove since they are under His authority. The question is will anyone pray and call on the name of the Lord and believe that the Lord will use that prayer for a doorway for His power to change the situation.

Intercession "usually" takes time and that can make it difficult and a challenge of choice to each of us. I Kings 18 presents to us a picture of Elijah praying seven times before anything was seen to change. In Revelation 5:8, there is a picture of containers that store the prayers of the saints. The idea is that the prayers are liquid and they fill part of the containers. As we pray more and more liquid is stored up in the containers. As they become filled, Revelation 8:3-5 shows us that the Lord adds His power to our prayers and the answer is thrown to the earth with such force that earthquakes and thundering are used to describe the scene. God's power answering our intercession will change history back into where God purposed for it to be.

There is a fullness of time, which is measured by the Lord's clock and not ours, but we have to pray like today is the day of breakthrough. We are to drive the enemy back with our weapons that are mighty through God and continue to keep our focus on the promises of God that are yes and amen to every believer. We must always remember that it isn't our power but His power that will accomplish the impossible. So we must use His wisdom and His strategies if we are going to have victory. Zerubbabel, in Zechariah 4:7, allowed the power of the Lord to level the mountain, by simply shouting grace to the mountain. In Mark 11:23, we are told that we can speak to situations that look as big as mountains and they will be removed. Can you imagine what will happen if we would just believe the Bible!

Pour out a spirit of supplication (Zechariah 12:10), wake up our watchmen on the wall (Isaiah 56:10), and provoke everyone to take up their position as intercessors, so we can make a difference in our world. The Bible is filled with people who made a difference by allowing the Lord to work through them. The Lord uses people to accomplish His purposes here on the earth, will you allow Him to use you?

Definitions:

Intercession: (Hebrew) paga: To reach; to meet someone; to pressure or urge someone strongly; to meet up with a person; encounter, entreat; to assail with urgent petitions. Falling upon something in battle, our prayer catches up with a superior, reaching God. (Spirit Filled Bible)

Intercession: (Greek) entunchano: To fall in with, meet with in order to converse. Pleading with someone on behalf of another, at times it means the petition is against another. (Spirit Filled Bible)

Scripture Application:

1. Genesis 18: 16-33
2. Genesis 17:8-15
3. Exodus 32:32
4. Numbers 12:13
5. Numbers 14:17
6. Numbers 21:4-9
7. Deuteronomy 9:18-26
8. Joshua 7:6-13
9. I Samuel 7:5

10. I Kings 13:6
11. I Kings 18:36-37
12. I Chronicles 21:17
13. II Chronicles 7:14
14. II Chronicles 30:18
15. Ezra 8:23
16. Nehemiah 1:4-10
17. Job 42:10
18. Psalms 122:6
19. Psalms 106:23
20. Isaiah 37:14-20
21. Isaiah 59:16
22. Daniel 6:10
23. Daniel 9:1-19
24. Isaiah 53:12
25. Luke 22:32
26. Luke 23:34
27. John 11:38-44
28. John 14:16
29. John 17:9
30. Acts 4:24-31
31. Acts 12:5
32. Romans 8:34,35

33. Ephesians 1:15-23

34. Ephesians 3:14-21

35. Ephesians 6:10-20

36. Philippians 1:3-6

37. Colossians 1:9-14

38. II Thessalonians 3:1-5

39. I Timothy 2:1

40. Hebrews 7:25

Summary:

As we have studied about intercession, we know that the Lord has stirred your heart to be a person that will change history. We are to Re Present Christ here on the earth, so we need to model prayer. The Lord works through people; so let's let Him work through us. We can be His voice here on the earth as we prophetically declare His purposes. Not what we see at the present but what He desires situations to look like? Isaiah 62:6, states that the watchmen need to be vocal and saying the same thing. Will you be vocal and say the Word of God? That Word will not return void but it will accomplish what the Lord sent it to accomplish. He sent His Word to save us. We can speak the Word and watch it save people. That salvation can be in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, or the uttermost part of the world. We know, according to the Word of God, what everything is supposed to look like and we are going to intercede until there is a change.

Action:

Select an issue that God is placing on your heart and begin to stand in the gap. Use a given amount of time each day and pray over the issue on your heart that needs to change. Fill up that container and watch the Lord throw down His power and cause the mountain to be removed into the sea. Intercession will make a difference!