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March 2021 "WORSHIP 1: INTRODUCTION"

Dear Friends,

Revival...revival...revival! This is the cry of preachers throughout the Body of Christ. It is a clarion call to the Church. Amos 3:7 states, ***Surely the Lord will do nothing but He revealeth His secret unto His servants the prophets.*** What happens then? The prophets begin declaring what God has revealed unto them. That is what I've been hearing as one prophetic voice after another is declaring that the greatest revival in all of history is about to break forth throughout the world. Many are saying that the revival has already started, which is what the Lord revealed to me not long ago. He shared that we are in the early stages of revival, what I would call the basic framework of the glorious picture about to unfold.

There have been many revivals throughout the history of Christianity. They have taken place in many different nations and impacted millions upon millions of people. Countless numbers have been born again, filled with the Holy Spirit, healed, delivered, restored in fellowship with God, experienced miracles, and much more. One constant in all these revivals is prayer. In some cases, the revivals began when just one or two people began praying and seeking God; other people began joining the times of prayer and eventually, revival broke forth. This alone should explain that revival is not some kind of sovereign move of God; He clearly stated in 2 Chronicles 7:14 ***IF My people***, indicating we have a responsibility to do our part to facilitate a move of God.

But another notable aspect of every true revival is presence...the presence of God. When referring to God, a Hebrew word used in the Old Testament for presence is "panim or paneh." It means, "a face, a person's appearance, countenance." There are numerous occurrences of this word in reference to God interacting with man.

Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. (Psalm 16:11)

¹⁹Oh how great is thy goodness, which thou hast laid up for them that fear thee; which thou hast wrought for them that trust in thee before the sons of men! ²⁰Thou shalt hide them in the secret of thy presence from the pride of man: thou shalt keep them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues. (Psalm 31:19-20)

¹Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered: let them also that hate him flee before him. ²As smoke is driven away, so drive them away: as wax melteth before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. (Psalm 68:1-2)

The earth shook, the heavens also dropped at the presence of God: even Sinai itself was moved at the presence of God, the God of Israel. (Psalm 68:8)

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; (Acts 3:19)

[The Greek word for “presence” in this New Testament verse is “prosopon,” which is similar to the Hebrew word “panim.”]

There are many other places in scripture speaking of God’s presence. But if we examine only the five passages above, here is what God’s presence brings:

- The path of life (guidance and direction; God’s will).
- Fullness of joy.
- Lasting pleasure (a place of fulfillment, satisfaction and contentment).
- Protection.
- Emotional stability during times of conflict.
- Victory in all spiritual warfare.
- Miracle-working power.
- Refreshing (rest, deliverance, peace, renewal, contentment, etc)

Therefore, if any of these are missing from a Christian’s life, it would indicate there is a void of God’s presence to some degree. The question then would be, “What can I do, as a Believer, that will enable God’s presence to fill my life in greater measure?” The answer can be found in the following verses:

¹I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart; I will shew forth all thy marvelous works. ²I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High. ³When mine enemies are turned back, they shall fall and perish at thy presence. (Psalm 9:1-3)

¹O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. ²Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. ³For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁶O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. (Psalm 95:1-3, 6)

¹Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. ²Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. ³know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. ⁵For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. (Psalm 100:1-5)

Surely the righteous shall give thanks unto thy name: the upright shall dwell in thy presence. (Psalm 140:13)

The primary key to experiencing God’s presence is worship. Every Christian, no matter how long they’ve been born again, can experience an immeasurable encounter with God’s presence through genuine, determined, focused worship. Some people might say, “But those verses are all from the Old Testament, and we’re living in the days of the New Testament.” That is true, but those verses have absolutely nothing to do with keeping the Law given by God through Moses to the Jews. Those verses are all about a relationship and fellowship with God, and they are as alive today as they were when first written.

Not only will a void of God's presence greatly impact the individual lives of all Christians, a void of His presence will also significantly impact each and every church. Consider the following example of what happens when people begin to worship God in unity,

¹¹And it came to pass, when the priests were come out of the holy place: (for all the priests that were present were sanctified, and did not then wait by course: ¹²Also the Levites which were the singers, all of them of Asaph, of Heman, of Jeduthun, with their sons and their brethren, being arrayed in white linen, having cymbals and psalteries and harps, stood at the east end of the altar, and with them an hundred and twenty priests sounding with trumpets:) ¹³It came even to pass, as the trumpeters and singers were as one, to make one sound to be heard in praising and thanking the LORD; and when they lifted up their voice with the trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and praised the LORD, saying, For he is good; for his mercy endureth for ever: that then the house was filled with a cloud, even the house of the LORD; ¹⁴So that the priests could not stand to minister by reason of the cloud: for the glory of the LORD had filled the house of God. (2 Chronicles 5:11-14)

The above passage is from the Old Testament. The people worshiping God were not even born again, let alone filled with the Holy Spirit. In spite of that, when they joined together "as one" (verse 13) in focused unity to worship God, He responded by filling the place where they were with a holy presence so powerful people fell to their knees. They were not worshiping God according to the Law; they were worshiping Him because they loved and honored Him. If He would do that for them, do you honestly not think He would do something similar if a church congregation of His blood-washed, born again children began worshiping Him in focused unity?

Here is what the Lord is impressing on me:

Many ministers, pastors and congregations have been praying more than they have in the past, especially praying in the Spirit. There has been a call to repentance and holiness. This season of prayer, repentance and holiness will not end, but it has ushered in the early stages of the next level in the spirit, which is God's presence. The prayer, repentance and holiness have been preparing the hearts of Christians for moving beyond the veil of the flesh into the presence and glory of God. The door into this presence and glory has WORSHIP emblazoned in golden letters, burned deeply into its grain. What awaits on the other side is an experience with God few have ever known. It is the presence and the glory of God that is fueled by the purity of His love, the very essence of His eternal existence. Signs, wonders, healings and miracles are common in this flow. The hearts of the lost are confronted with their hopeless condition without Jesus as their Savior. It is revival, a move of God that will not stop until the return of Jesus.

Here is a way to summarize this: Prayer has taken Christians to a place of repentance and holiness. This has been the path to a place of worship that is more intense than possibly any of us have participated in and experienced. It is a total abandonment of time for self in exchange for time with God. As this deeper level of worship grows and matures within congregations, church services will change and there will be a greater flow with the leadership of the Holy Spirit.

There will be many wonderful results of this increase of God's presence in these churches. Here are just a few:

- The lost will call upon the Lord for salvation.

- Christians will be filled with the Holy Spirit.
- There will be healings, miracles, deliverances, restoration, etc.
- Christians seeking a greater experience with God will start attending these churches.

But there will also be results that some may not be anticipating. A few examples are:

- Some of the carnal, lukewarm Christians who refuse to flow in this move of God will leave these churches.
- God is going to convict parents who have been lazy in the spiritual training of their children. Many parents will not find this to be a very pleasant experience.
- Rebellion in the hearts of Believers will rise to the surface, resulting in a possible time of conflict within churches. But this conflict will not last because those guilty of the rebellious attitude will either repent or leave.
- Accusations of doctrinal error, proselyting, and “you’re a cult,” will come from other churches and Christians.

However, none of this will stop these churches. They are going to press deeper and deeper into God. Some of the criticisms will be a result of jealousy on the part of pastors and church members in churches not experiencing this increase of God’s presence.

Again, worship is the most critical key in experiencing this release of God’s glory and presence. I am greatly challenged to put into words how crucial and essential worship is to experiencing God’s revival presence. It is for this reason that God has impressed upon me to begin teaching on worship through these letters. Until He directs otherwise, my letters each month will focus on worship. Some of them will include prophecies about worship He has given during various church services. It is my hope and prayer that these teachings will serve to encourage and inspire those who read them to give themselves over to worship like never before; that pastors will begin to see the need for their churches to worship like never before. We **WILL** experience a outpouring of both God’s glory and His presence, and we **WILL** see revival!

In His Grace,

Jim

GOD SEEKS WORSHIP (prophecy)

Give to Me that which I am truly seeking, that is your love, and your worship. There are many churches that profess Me and many churches that preach Me, but out of them all, there are so few that give Me what I am really after: your heart, your love and worship.

You’ve begun to enter into a realm of worship that you have not known in the past. For many of you, this has been a challenge. Many of you are still reserving yourselves because your flesh is uncomfortable with releasing out of your mouth the praise, the worship and the adoration that is in your spirit.

I say unto you, you must go beyond your flesh, you must go beyond your emotions and your feelings and you must open your mouth. You must release unto Me that which is in your heart. For you see when you became born again, worship became a part of your nature. So I would say to you, submit to the operation of your spirit. Dominate your flesh and do that which now seems uncomfortable but will soon seem very natural. For there are many churches, but few give Me what I am truly seeking: your heart, your love and worship.

But you have been pressing deeper as a church into My presence through your worship. Your songs have rung through Heaven. Your songs have reached My throne. Your worship has reached My ears; for the greatest worship is that which is not planned, but that which is birthed out of your heart.

Your worship has reached My ears and I say unto you, if you will continue, if you will press deeper into this, you will continually dispel the powers of darkness in greater and greater measure. You will open up a realm of the spirit where My glory and My presence can penetrate and fill this place.

I say, there will come a day when sinners will not need to hear a sermon preached, but My presence released through your worship will convict them, will draw them to the cross, will draw them to repentance, will draw them to salvation.

I say unto you, you are a church that is pleasing unto Me, for you have come so far. Yes, there is further yet to go, but you have come so far. There are other churches which have begun like this, but they have faded. Some have even come to the point of stopping this worship before I could complete the work that I wanted to do in these times of worship.

But you are a learning people, you are a growing people. And I say to you, be encouraged. I say unto you, be encouraged, for I am pleased with what you are doing. I am pleased with where you have come from to where you are. And I say unto you, continue in this; continue in this and always, always press beyond your flesh to enter into these times of worship, for it is there you will begin to experience Me in a new dimension. Your worship is a key to this revival.

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P.S. – For more teaching on worship, use the form below to order a CD of the sermon, *The Worship of the Priests*.

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