



Sharing

Elijah Prayer Discipleship School

Becoming an instrument of prayer

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Building Fathers House

A Dwelling Place for God by the Spirit

(Discipleship=doing the will of God walking in submission to the authority of God so that you can become an instrument of authority)

Workshop no. 17 : "Prayer evangelism" - Spiritual Warfare and Prayer Evangelism - part two - waging the war.

*Exodus 14:14 -16 The **LORD shall fight for you**, and ye shall hold your peace. And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward: **But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it:** and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.*

Purpose of this workshop: To look at spiritual warfare as being exercised through the power of prayer.

Intended Goal: To understand the believer's responsibility in spiritual warfare - in extending the Kingdom of God.

Scripture readings :

Deuteronomy 1:30 The LORD your God which goeth before you, **he shall fight for you, according to all that he did for you in Egypt before your eyes;**

Deuteronomy 3:21-22 And I commanded Joshua at that time, saying, Thine eyes have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto these two kings: so shall the LORD do unto all the kingdoms whither thou passest. **Ye shall not fear them: for the LORD your God he shall fight for you.**

Judges 1:1-2 Now after the death of Joshua it came to pass, that the children of Israel asked the LORD, saying, Who shall go up for us against the Canaanites first, to fight against them? And the LORD said, Judah shall go up: **behold, I have delivered the land into his hand.**

Judges 11:32 So Jephthah passed over unto the children of Ammon to fight against them; and **the LORD delivered them into his hands.**

2 Chronicles 20:17 *Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the LORD with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the LORD will be with you.*

2 Chronicles 32:8 *With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the LORD our God to help us, and to fight our battles. And the people rested themselves upon the words of Hezekiah king of Judah.*

Jeremiah 1:19 *And they shall fight against thee; but they shall not prevail against thee; for I am with thee, saith the LORD, to deliver thee.*

Ruth 2:12 *The LORD recompense thy work, and a full reward be given thee of the LORD God of Israel, under whose wings thou art come to trust.*

Matthews 16:18-19 *And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.*

John 8:31-36 *So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you abide in my Word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." They answered him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, 'You will become free'?" Jesus answered them, "**Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**"*

1John 5:3-5 *For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous. For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: **and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith. Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?***

1 Timothy 6:12-13 *Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses. I give thee charge in the sight of God, who quickeneth all things, and before Christ Jesus, who before Pontius Pilate witnessed a good confession;*

2 Corinthians 10:3-6 *For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war after the flesh: (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;) Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ. And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled*

Food for thought :

As we said that evangelism is to prepare a way for God to establish His kingdom in the hearts of people. Likewise is prayer evangelism as a instrument of spiritual warfare to prepare a way for the people to submit unto God and unto His kingdom. The first part of spiritual warfare dealt with preparing for war by repentance on behalf of the people and the second part is to wage the war by preparing a way for the people to submit unto God in obedience, for the **battle is a battle of submission.**

In considering that the **battle is a battle of submission.** Submission to God which is faith (*faith - Free Adventure In Trusting Him*) or submission to the enemy which is fear (*fear - False Evidence Appearing Real*). The story of Moses and the Red Sea make even more sense, it was a battle of submission. Submit to God in faith in His ability or to submit to the fear of death by the Egyptian soldiers.

The preparation started in Egypt where God showed Himself able to perform far above the ability of the Egyptian sorcerers, this lead to repentance and participation in the passover meal. The war was however waged at the Red Sea, where Moses filled with faith in God and in His ability, said unto the people, **fear not** (*do not submit to the rulership of the enemy*), but **have faith** (*submit to God and trust in Him*) and see the victory that God is going to perform on your account. Then God gave unto Moses the orders for the battle, "**But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.**" In the midst of the cry of the people **the battle orders were clear, "stand in faith on the knowledge of who I AM and based of the authority I gave you."** God used one man who knew Him, who trust in Him to set a nation free.

In our own lives often this implicates the same as for the Israelites, our submitting to God brings life, but submission to the enemy brings death.

When considering David, we learn that while he was still looking after his fathers sheep, he were prepared as God taught him to trust in God. He remembered when **God delivered the lion and the bear into his hands** when they attacked the sheep. On the basis of the mentioned he had **faith in God to deliver Goliath into his hands**, as God did. David did not rely upon his own skills to defeat his enemy. he however learned to rely on God. While on the other hand the Israel army, although they knew God, they did learn to trust in Him to fight for them, they still looked at themselves in comparison to Goliath. But God used one man who was prepared to trust in Him to secure a victory for Israel.

Jesus as the Son of God, attained the victory on the basis of submission when He prayed and said "not My will be done, but Thy will be done". He attained a victory for all, again God used one to attain a victory for all mankind on the basis of submission in the knowledge of God.

Likewise in Christ, we have been ordained to bear fruit through prayer *John 15:16* *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.* We have been called and prepared in Christ Jesus, to rebuild an altar to the glory of God. It is as we place our faith in God through prayer that He is glorified and the enemy bow in defeat to God, and a path is prepared for the people to come unto God as He have been glorified.

In the natural army, the enemy use a strategy called "disinformation" proclaiming a false victory/ information with the intention of demoralization, which is to undermine the confidence of the opposition. Today the media is at the disposal of the enemy to undermine our confidence in God, but God is calling on His *faith full ones* (**those full of faith as they trust in God**) to build a dwelling place for Him in the spirit proclaiming their faith in God, so that the glory of God can manifest on earth as it is in heaven.

Gideon and the 300 showed their faith in God, when they blowed on the shofar to announce their presence and broke the clay jars to show their position. **It is not about fighting a battle but showing our alliance to God that give us the victory.**

Jesus said that **He will build His Church on the knowledge of who He is, the rock of our salvation (our victory)**, and in battle the gate of hell will not be able to stand against His church. We overcome as we show our faith in Christ and in His ability, making a public display of our faith as we place our trust in God through prayer, in the likeness of Jesus.

True stories :

***Matthew 4:3-11** And when the tempter came to Him, he said, If You are the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But He answered and said, **It is written**, "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." Then the Devil took Him up into the holy city and set Him upon a pinnacle of the Temple. And he said to Him, If you are the Son of God, cast yourself down. For it is written, "He shall give His angels charge concerning You, and in their hands they shall bear You up, lest at any time You dash Your foot against a stone." Jesus said to him, **It is written again**, "You shall not tempt the Lord your God." Again, the Devil took Him up into a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me. Then Jesus said to him, **Go, Satan! For it is written**, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve." **Then the Devil left him.** And behold, angels came and ministered to Him.*

1 Samuel 14:1-14** Now it came to pass upon a day, that Jonathan the son of Saul said unto the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over to the Philistines' garrison, that is on the other side. But he told not his father. And Saul tarried in the uttermost part of Gibeah under a pomegranate tree which is in Migron: and the people that were with him were about six hundred men; And Ahiah, the son of Ahitub, Ichabod's brother, the son of Phinehas, the son of Eli, the LORD'S priest in Shiloh, wearing an ephod. And the people knew not that Jonathan was gone. And between the passages, by which Jonathan sought to go over unto the Philistines' garrison, there was a sharp rock on the one side, and a sharp rock on the other side: and the name of the one was Bozez, and the name of the other Seneh. The forefront of the one was situate northward over against Michmash, and the other southward over against Gibeah. **And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for there is no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by few.** And his armourbearer said unto him, **Do all that is in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I am

with thee according to thy heart. Then said Jonathan, Behold, we will pass over unto these men, and we will **discover ourselves unto them.** If they say thus unto us, Tarry until we come to you; then we will stand still in our place, and will not go up unto them. But if they say thus, Come up unto us; then we will go up: for the LORD hath delivered them into our hand: and this shall be a sign unto us. And both of them discovered themselves unto the garrison of the Philistines: and the Philistines said, Behold, the Hebrews come forth out of the holes where they had hid themselves. And the men of the garrison answered Jonathan and his armourbearer, and said, Come up to us, and we will shew you a thing. And Jonathan said unto his armourbearer, Come up after me: for the LORD hath delivered them into the hand of Israel. And Jonathan climbed up upon his hands and upon his feet, and his armourbearer after him: and they fell before Jonathan; and his armourbearer slew after him. And that first slaughter, which Jonathan and his armourbearer made, was about twenty men, within as it were an half acre of land, which a yoke of oxen might plow.

In a children's play park in Israel is a huge water container that is placed on a swivel. The children will wait underneath the water container to be filled through a dripping tap. As soon as it is filled to the brim, it turns over and all the water splashes on the children. The mentioned is a illustration of the effect of the fervent prayer of the righteous. We will pray, and see no immediate effect, but God is waiting for the prayer bowls to be filled up in heaven Rev.5v8 in order to release His blessing, Kingdom over a community. This results in a direct impact on the community and the lives of the people. We need to be like that dripping tap, pouring out our prayers into the bowl that God keep, and then we will see what God can do. Remember prayer is sowing, and sowing the incorruptible seed of God's promises.

God's authority :

Psalm 4:5 Offer the sacrifices of righteousness, and put your trust in the LORD.

Psalm 18:2 The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

Psalm 20:7 Some trust in chariots, and some in horses: but we will remember the name of the LORD our God. They are brought down and fallen: but we are risen, and stand upright. Save, LORD: let the king hear us when we call.

Psalm 37:40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

Matthew 4:16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.

Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

Luke 11:33-37 No man, when he hath lighted a candle, putteth it in a secret place, neither under a bushel, but on a candlestick, that they which come in may see the light. The light of the body is the eye: therefore when thine eye is single, thy whole body also is full of light; but when thine eye is evil, thy body also is full of darkness. Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. **If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light.** And as he spake, a certain Pharisee besought him to dine with him: and he went in, and sat down to meat.

John 1:4-8 In him was life; and the life was the light of men. **And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.** There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light.

Acts 13:47 For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, **I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldest be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.**

2 Corinthians 4:3-4 **But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:** In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

1 Peter 3:12-13 For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears open to their prayers. But the Lord's face is against those who do evil. And who is the one who will harm you if you become imitators of the good?

Revelation 12:11 And they overcame him because of the blood of the Lamb, and because of the word of their testimony. And they did not love their soul until death.

Luke 7:8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers. And I say to one, Go, and he goes; and to another, Come, and he comes; and to my servant, Do this, and he does it.

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. **Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you, and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty.**"

Mark 14:58 "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'"

1 Samuel 15:22-23 And Samuel said, Does Jehovah delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of Jehovah? **Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice! To listen is better than the**

fat of rams! For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idol-worship. Because you have rejected the Word of Jehovah, He has also rejected you from being king!

Conclusion :

In considering our heroes of faith, they expressed their faith as they built an altar to the glory God. The mentioned is consistent with the Word of God that says faith without works are dead. The act of rebuilding the altar is a declaration of faith, putting our trust in God and **not in idols or in self.**

In rebuilding an altar to the glory of God, we engage in warfare. Proclaiming and manifesting the Kingdom of God as we stand in faith, considering not what we see! Moses proclaimed the glory of God as he told the people that they will see the victory of God, then he took his staff in faith, considering not what he saw, but considering God and His ability. Likewise Jonathan first proclaimed the glory of God when he said unto his armor bearer, that God can deliver the enemy unto them whether they are many or few, and then manifested the Kingdom as he put his faith in action.

Prayer evangelism come into effect when after we proclaim God's glory we express our faith as we rebuild an altar to the glory of God through prayer, and our works of faith draw people unto God. **Prayer is the act of faith**, if we do not pray, we do not believe. If the world do not see us praying (rebuilding an altar to God in confident assurance in Him), we do not express confidence in God and the light that Peter spoke about will not rise up in the hearts of unbelievers, for what they see is not an expression of what we believe. *2 Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:*

When we consider the church in Acts, it is clear that the believers prayed together, building an altar to the glory of God in such a way that their faith had been witnessed by the people, resulting in fear of God and favour. But God used the mentioned to add to their numbers *Acts 2:42-47 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*

Jesus gave us the **keys to bind (declare unlawful on earth that what is unlawful in Heaven)** and to lose (**declare lawful on earth that what is lawful in Heaven**) as weapons of our warfare. As we come together in prayer, we proclaim (declare) in the spirit what is unlawful and what is lawful as we have been appointed as priest and kings for God and His Kingdom. But as a soldier only have authority as long as he walk in obedience to his superior officer, we receive this authority as long as we walk in submission/obedience to God and His Word. For this reason it is required that we as the body of Christ unite in building the church of Christ as a dwelling place for God for the Word says that where brothers dwell together God commands a blessing.

As we build an altar (house of prayer) in an expression of faith and in obedience to God's Word. God's glory will illuminate the area as a light on a hill. This light will fall on the treasures hidden in dark places, and the treasures will be revealed to the glory of God. A community is people living together and every person is a treasure to be revealed, for when we come into the light our true nature is revealed. Waging the war, is nothing else than worshipping God in spirit and in truth so that His glory may be revealed. As we have been reminded by dagon, that in the presence of God, the enemy bow in defeat. We must only manifest God's presence, for He will fight for us. That's why The Lord says My House is a House of Prayer and I will draw the strangers and fill them with joy in My House of Prayer.

Questions to be answered :

1. What is the purpose of waging war?
2. Explain the battle Moses waged at the Red Sea?
3. How did the heroes of our faith express their faith?
4. When do prayer evangelism in spiritual warfare come into effect?
5. What keys did we receive?
6. What is the effect of building an altar to God?
 - 6.1 on the community
 - 6.2 on the believers