

PROPHETIC INTERCESSION

Praying The Voice of God

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YOU WILL MAKE YOUR PRAYER TO HIM, HE WILL HEAR YOU, AND YOU WILL PAY YOUR VOWS. YOU WILL ALSO DECLARE A THING, AND IT WILL BE ESTABLISHED FOR YOU; SO WILL LIGHT SHINE ON YOUR WAYS.

JOB 22:27-28 (NKJV)

The intercessory, prophetic anointing is an unusual one to those unfamiliar with the conditions of the spiritual realm. It can result in various actions, orchestrations, illustrations and proclamations that aren't consistent with mere human intelligence, though fruitful none the less (1 Cor 2:6-16). We will go further into these realities within the depths of this chapter, however, one thing must be first established. God enables his prophetic people, those called to watch upon the rampart like Habakkuk, with special endowment to see beyond the natural spheres and into the heavenly realms (Hab 2:2-3). Peering into such revelatory realms by the allowance of the Holy Spirit, gives accurate direction and strategy for both the present and the future, and invokes confidence for the journey ahead. This standard of operation requires a life consistently connected with heaven, and is a prerequisite for those called to be intercessors. No one can truly take up the intercessory mantle in the local church without first embracing the requirement of consistent communion. This does not mean one is absolute in perfection or has apprehended the

fulness of this reality, but it does mean that you have set your heart on the journey to attain such excellencies as found only in the knowledge of Christ Jesus (Philippians 3:7-10).

THE REVELATORY INVENTORY

Many today claim to have great *revelation*, but unfortunately, it falls short to just being great *information*. You see, great information is ‘light’ to the head, but great revelation is ‘light’ to the heart. It brings change and transformation. If your prayers fall short of the mark, and they are not bearing results in the **NOW FAITH** reality of the present (Heb 11:1), then one must consider that you may be, as a disciple of Jesus, **OUT OF STOCK**. What do I mean by this? Well, consider going to purchase an item from a local clothing store, only to find out that what they advertised on television is no longer in stock when you arrive. There is obviously a measure of disappointment that none are left, which means it is not accessible to you. However, sometimes the clerk may say come back in a week or two, for by then we should receive fresh shipment from our supplier and you can obtain it. Are you getting the picture yet? You see, many of us in our Christian walk advertise and claim to have the goods, but when people are in need of them there is no manifestation. Proverbs 25:14 says, that like clouds and wind without rain, is a man who boasts of gifts he does not give. Unfortunately, this is the dilemma in many Christian lives, as our personal inventories are out of stock. However, God has a remedy for this circumstance, and it is discovered in the verses that are preliminary to those noted in our key scripture, which shows God quickly responding and giving results to prayer. Let’s look at these keys together, and by putting them into practice, we will indeed be consistently connected to our heavenly Supplier, whose goods are always flowing, keeping our revelatory inventory in stock (Psalm 50:10-12, James 1:17). Let’s look at verses 21-25, here in Job chapter 22.

Acquaint yourself with Him (v. 21)

This speaks of us cultivating intimacy and spending personal time with the Lord. It releases peace and grants us confidence in every area of our spiritual life. Doubt and fear can intrude our spiritual walk, hindering our prayers (James 1:6-7), if we don’t develop a lifestyle of communion with God. Many say they spend time with God, but rather they speak of quantity time (talking while driving in the car, communing at work, while they walk on the streets, etc.), and not quality time (time set where it is just them and God, no distractions). I believe we must give God both. God promises that good will come to us if

we obey this command (v. 21), and in this specific context, that good will bring results in our intercession and clarity in hearing His Voice.

Receive instruction from His mouth (v. 22)

To walk in this reality is to obey God's revealed Word, and trust in Him. 1 John 2:6 says that if we are in Christ, then we ought to walk as He walked, but how did the God-man walk? Two of the key principles of Jesus' life, were Him hearing from His Father, saying only what He heard (John 5:30), and Him seeing His Father, thus doing only what He saw (John 5:19). Beloved, this is where prophetic enablement is at its zenith as regards to its purpose. The prophetic anointing on Jesus' life caused him to fully testify of His Father, and the prophetic anointing on our lives will cause us to fully testify of Jesus (Rev 19:10). When we hear His voice, pray His Voice, and act on His voice, we will get results immediately.

Lay up His words in your heart (v. 22)

To lay up His words in our hearts is to study and meditate on what God has said (*logos*), and is saying (*rhema*). This is both true of the *logos* Word (written, inerrant, unconditional Word of God), and the *rhema* Word (conditional, revealed, kairos-activated Word of God). We must fill our hearts with the *logos* Word so that Holy Spirit can bring us into greater truth and illuminate our spirits, by the release of the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Jesus (Eph 1:17-18). We must also keep before us God's prophetic, *rhema* Word. This enables us to establish the purposes of God in the earth (1 Tim 4:14), as well as wage a good warfare, thus defeating the enemy and destroying his strategies over our lives, ministries and families (1 Tim 1:18).

Return to the Almighty (v. 23)

One of the reasons we don't see results in our intercession, is its lack of focus and strategy. Intercession calls for a 'precise anointing' upon our lives which enables 20/20 vision in the spirit. I call it crystal, clear reception. As a watchman, one of your greatest gifts to the body of Christ is your ability to see. If your vision is blurred or confused, then there will be problems for us all (Matt 6:23). One way to be precise, is to learn *to return to the Almighty*. To return simply means that one is dependent upon God for your every move and your everything (Prov 4:5-7). You don't base today's or tomorrow's strategy for victory upon yesterday's instruction. Human wisdom says to do so, but God's ways

are higher than ours, and we must seek Him out (Is 55:9). A perfect example is David returning to God a second time for strategy, after God had given him strategy just hours before that made him victorious (2 Samuel 5:17-25). He didn't take for granted that what had caused him to win on one level, would automatically work for another. He **returned to God** for strategy. If we are to be victorious in our intercession, we must do the same.

🗣️ **Remove iniquity from your tents (v. 23)**

Iniquity speaks of habitual and generational sin. We must be careful not to entertain sin in our lives, as it opens the door for the spirit of death in our bodies (physical and spiritual), families and ministries (Rom 6:23). As those called to be revelators of God's purposes, you must also guard your eye and ear gates specifically, lest your light grows dim. Sin steals the oil from your lamp (Matt 25:1-13), destroys the fruits of your garden (SOS 2:15), and dries up the water in the well of your spirit (Jer 23:10, 44:22).

🗣️ **Lay your gold in the dust, that He would be your gold and precious silver (vv. 24-25)**

Gold here speaks of what we treasure the most. Proverbs 2:4 lends a similar cry to those who have ears to hear. Oftentimes, our gold is representative of the good things in life that hinder us from receiving the God things, and they usually become idols that we hold on to. Some examples of these are our successes in ministry, our jobs, accomplishments, accolades, trophies, relationships and finances. Many people are stuck at one level of operation in the spirit because they fear losing the material more than the Immaterial (Matt 10:17-27). They can't move into greater depths with God because they are committed to pleasing men over God. They can't walk in present truth (2 Peter 1:12), because they fear friends who will ostracize them. If you want to truly reflect God in the earth, you have to understand that persecution and suffering the loss of all things for Christ is part of the program. Paul made it clear that nothing was going to hinder him, neither the good nor the bad, from becoming like Christ and growing in the knowledge of Him (Phil 3:7-11). When we pursue the Lord in this way, not only will we see the results that Paul saw in his ministry, but more, for the glory of God. The scripture also promises that as we commit to this pursuit as we would gold or money, delight will be found in God, and we will look to Him boldly (v. 26). I believe this level of intensity in pursuing God will release the saints into the realm of great exploits (Dan 11:32). Our Christian lives will be full of encounters and adventures with God and we will be delivered from a

boring Christianity. In being transformed, we will become not just followers of His Presence, neither just revelators of His Presence, but custodians of His Presence. Amen!

As we walk and address these principles in our lives, the promise from God is that we will see fruit in our intercession, as our key scripture dictates. Let us therefore make it a priority to align our lives under heaven's fountain, that through us God's water of life can flow. Keep your inventory full of stock!

MANIFESTATIONS OF GOD'S PROPHETIC VOICE THROUGH PRAYER

God's voice may be expressed in various ways through our intercession. As God's watchers, we must be sensitive to these varying mediums of expression, and avail ourselves to His will and execution. As God opens your eyes through what will be discussed below, pray that He will open your appetite to be used by Him in these methods as well.

PROPHETIC ACTIONS

This can be defined as the physical outworking of spiritual strategy that has been given from the Lord, with an intended result. Consider David's battle against the Philistines in 2 Samuel 5:23, where God specifically told him that in order to defeat them, he must circle behind them, and come upon them in front of the mulberry trees, only moving after hearing the sound of marching in the tops of the trees. This may sound ridiculous to men, but God's ways are higher than ours. This strategy actually released breakthrough for David and his men. Consider also Joshua and his military campaign against Jericho. The strategy given to him from God was absurd to men's minds, but again, God enabled them to match the perfect resonance of that wall, thus causing it to fall (Josh 6). Prophetic acts can at times seem weird, but we must be obedient to the Lord, as they bring about God's intervention. One major prophetic action that should be employed by God's intercessors, is that of prayer walking. Not only does it dismember the forces of darkness in the area one is targeting, but it also creates an atmosphere that is conducive to the manifestation of the Kingdom in other areas, such as the winning of souls and the release of the supernatural. From the splitting of the Red Sea by the lifting of Moses' rod (Ex 14:16) to the splitting of the Jordan by the leadership of priests holding the ark (Josh 3), God has always used

prophetic acts to establish His people and His purposes. In Gideon's story, we also see the Lord using prophetic acts which entailed blowing trumpets, breaking pitchers and shouting, to rout the Midianites (Judges 7:16-25). Next time you pray and the Lord gives you a vision that entails action, submit it to your leader (2 Peter 1:20), and don't be afraid to walk it out. In 2 Kings 13:14-19, King Joash of Israel is called to do a prophetic act by Elisha, by striking arrows to the ground. He doesn't follow through but does it half-heartedly, and it results in him not being completely victorious over his enemies. We must therefore be careful in our obedience to God as He speaks to our hearts by the spirit of revelation, lest we give ground to the enemy. Keep in mind however, that the Lord will not supply a rhema (prophetic) word that conflicts with the logos (written) word, and in submitting our revelation to leadership, the Lord grants safety.

PROPHETIC ORCHESTRATIONS

I define prophetic orchestrations as the release of God's purposes through anointed dance, music (singing or upon an instrument), clapping or shouting. Psalm 149:6 says to let the high praises of God be in our mouth, and a two-edged sword in our hand. The scripture illustrates the power of the prophetic song released in prayer. We do great damage to the enemy when we sing the directives that God is giving. Jehoshaphat experienced this firsthand in 2 Chronicles 20:14-22. He sent forth the praise team first into battle before the army, to sing what the Lord was going to do in demonstrating His mercy to Judah. As they sang and gave praise, the Lord set ambushes against their enemies, thus destroying them all. What an awesome sight! In Hosea 10:11, the Lord identifies one of Judah's chief ministries. He says that Judah shall plow. Now Judah represents our praise (Gen 29:35), and therefore we must understand that what we do in our praise to God plows up the soil of men's hearts, and sets the right atmosphere for God to move. Artistic expressions of worship such as dancing and flag ministry can also be used by God to prophetically orchestrate the establishing of His Kingdom (Ps 22:3). Shouting unto God is also a biblical principle (Ps 47:1), and it is the shout of the King that preserves the camp (Num 23:21). Shouting may seem premature as a declaration of victory to the natural mind, but it is an act of faith and rejoicing in the victory that God has wrought ahead of time. When the people shouted, the walls of Jericho fell (Josh 6:20), and even Jesus shouted when He hung on the cross, having defeated Satan (Matt 27:50). Sometimes in intercession, the Lord may release you to pray what is on His mind through song, dance (anointed movement), clapping, shouting or playing an instrument. Be available and ready to obey Him in all things. In my personal life, there have been

occasions where I have only seen breakthrough in intercession concerning a circumstance, as the Lord led me to play prophetically on the keyboard.

PROPHETIC ILLUSTRATIONS

To illustrate means to explain or make clear the purpose of something, through the use of examples or demonstrations. One of the ways God reveals Himself through our intercession is in the place of prophetic illustrations. In this, He makes His Person tangible and real to us, as someone is used to illustrate the qualities, attributes and person of Christ through an example. Jesus demonstrated the character of true leadership by washing his disciples feet (John 13:1-17). It was a prophetic illustration of servant leadership, that caused His disciples to peer deeper into the knowledge of His Person and His Kingdom. This illustration alone broke man-made mindsets concerning leadership, released renewal to the disciples, and provided a platform for the teaching of the Word. The voice of this act may not have been heard in the natural, but it was loud like a trumpet in the spiritual realm, breaking many chains. Prophetic illustrations also solidify the Word received in our hearts. Jesus had told the disciples about what was to come concerning His death (Mark 9:30-32), but in John 12, Mary engaged in a prophetic illustration as she anointed Jesus' feet with expensive perfume and wiped them with her hair. As Judas complained, Jesus said to leave her alone, as this act of worship was intended as a sign to his burial. Mary's unmistakable way of showing devotion to Jesus didn't just highlight her gratitude in Jesus raising her brother, but her acknowledgement of His worth and deity. Sometimes in our local church, especially after the preaching of God's Word, the intercessors are called to pray and cement the purpose of the Word going forth. Not only do they proclaim, but they lead the congregation in prophetic illustrations which encourage them to step out and demonstrate what they have heard. Whether it be a call to sow a financial seed, a call to bow at the altar before God, lift hands in worship, or hold hands across the sanctuary while praying for unity, these prophetic illustrations shift the people of God into acts of humble obedience. The results are hearts aligned with His, with the blessings of obedience being released. As an intercessor, you must be prepared for the Lord to have you participate or lead a people to prophetically illustrate what He is doing and saying, as this is often a key to breakthrough in the lives of many.

PROPHETIC PROCLAMATIONS

In my manual on prophetic ministry, *Releasing the River*, I discuss the notion that many of God's prophetic voices have settled on becoming postmen instead of oracles for the Lord. Let's look at the former of the two. Postmen deliver mail in a passive sense. They come to your house and drop off what they believe is for you, due to their knowledge of your address on the letter. They know enough to tell you if it is from the electrical, cable or water company, but however, they lack the inside scope. Many intercessors called to operate in a prophetic anointing settle for the postman anointing. Their revelatory insight is like that of the postman, and they can only discern what is on the surface, therefore their prayers are not as effectual as they could be. Oracles however, are heralds sent with authority from a king or ruler. Before the advent of newspapers, visual media and telecommunications, the role of the herald was important. They declared with authority what was happening or what was to come, and they did so from a place of being both informed and under authority. They spoke what the ruler wanted to be said, and not what they thought should be said. They had a scepter in their hand, which conveyed their right to decree as a *sent one* from the king, and their knowledge of the details was immense. Even so, we are called as intercessors to stand in the gap as apostolic (sent ones), prophetic (informed) oracles of God. Jesus said in Matthew 16:19, that we have been given the authority to bind and loose by our decrees. In Luke 10:19, He reminds us that we have also been given all authority over the enemy. Matthew 10:27, Jesus again reminds us that what He has told us in secret we are to *herald/proclaim* upon the housetops. Beloved, fervent prayers are not begging prayers, but they are declarations that are filled with divine insight into a situation and its outcome. Therefore one doesn't beg God for something to turn out a certain way, but rather one makes the decree of what will happen, based on prophetic insight. It is interesting to note that Jesus never prayed for people who had circumstances besetting them in their lives. Rather He decreed and declared the purposes of God. He didn't beg the Father to please wake up Lazarus so he could get another shot at life. No! Jesus proclaimed and demanded in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" We too must understand our authority given in Christ, access the possibilities it provides, and manifest Kingdom realities in the earth realm (John 11:43, Luke 17:6, Mark 11:20-24).

As you can see, praying the voice of the Lord is not confined to one's vocal chords, but it is a yielding of one's complete self to the Lord so that He can use you for His glory. As God's intercessor, don't create reservations about the moving of the Spirit of God, but yield to Him, and you will see great fruit in your ministry. Praise God!