

Sunday May 27, 2007 Prayer Series (Part-12) Interceding for Cities and Nations

Over half the world's population live in urban centers. It is estimated by 2010, about 75% of the worlds population will live in cities. So if we want to win nations, we must win their cities.

God's Heart for Cities and Nations

God is interested in groups of people – whether small communities, cities or nations.

God addresses Cities (a few examples):

- Sodom and Gomorrah Genesis 18:20,21
- Nineveh Jonah 1:1,2 Jonah 4:9-11
- Jerusalem Micah 6:9 Luke 19:41-44

God instructed His people to pray for the City Jeremiah 29:7

God promised to answer prayer and bless the entire land 2 Chronicles 7:14

God is involved in the rise and fall of nations Acts 17:26

Spiritual Dynamics over a City

- 1. God's purpose for the city
 - Cities were designed and uniquely gifted by God for a specific purpose(s)
 - We need to get heaven's perspective of our city see the city as God sees it.
- 2. Areas of demonic strongholds
 - Satan perverts God's original design and unique gift of a city to further his evil intentions
 - Jerusalem was ordained by God to be a city of peace and joy. Psalm 48:1-2. Today it is a hot-bed of conflict and pain.
 - Pergamos Revelation 2:12-13
- 3. Sins of the city
 - God notices the sins of the city
- 4. The Body of Christ in the City (The Citywide church)
 - God has His people ("salt and light") in the city

Watchmen of the city

The concept of watchmen in the Old Testament:

- (a) For protecting fields from thieves and animals, especially during harvest time
- (b) For protecting cities by looking out for messengers (2 Samuel 18:24-27) or enemies

Isaiah 21:6-8 Isaiah 62:6,7



Characteristics of a Spiritual Watchman:

- 1. Keeper, Guard, Protector
- 2. Bodyguard
- 3. Doorkeeper or Gatekeeper
- 4. Preserver or Maintainer
- 5. Observer (pay attention) Ezekiel 3:17 Ezekiel 33:1-7

"Shepherd the City" (September 2006)

God has called us to shepherd the city. Part of this responsibility is to be watchmen for the city.

A pastor is a watchman over the flock entrusted to him. Intercessors are watchmen.

Interceding for the City

1. Praying for the Citywide Church

A house or kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. It is weak and powerless. Mark 3:25

- Pray for unity and kingdom mindedness in the Citywide church
- Pray for strong apostolic leaders to arise who will assume a sense of corporate responsibility toward establishing the Kingdom of God in the City – and not be exclusively focused on building individual churches or ministries
- Pray for spiritual strength and maturity in the citywide church
- 2. Confessing the sins of the city
 - Identificational repentance we repent on behalf of others in the city
 - Reconciliation Ceremonies where possible we perform acts of reconciliation
- 3. Praying for God's visitation to the city
 - Luke 19:44, 1 Peter 2:12
- 4. Taking spiritual authority over the city
 - Identifying and pulling down spiritual strongholds
 - Spiritual mapping
 - Prayer walks, marches, journeys
- 5. Praying for the government
 - 1 Timothy 2:3,4

Action Plan

Strategic and informed praying

1. Cell Groups

Spiritual Warfare Action Team (SWAT) Team in every Cell Group Identify strongholds in your area

- 2. Praying for the City as a local church
- 3. Praying for the City as a Citywide Church "It takes a Citywide church to win a citywide war".



Taking a city does not happen in a day. It could take months and even years of ongoing spiritual conflict to see results. The key is to be involved in the process of seeing souls saved and cities transformed for Jesus Christ.



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