

Title: Rise Above It

Brandy Helton, Garden Gathering, 10/8/23

Hallelujah. Well, today I have entitled this *message*, "Rise Above It." We have spoken at the beginning of our worship about our prayer for Israel. Now, Lauren has spoken as well on how to pray more specifically for Israel. I just want to encourage everyone that prayer for Israel should be the believers lifestyle. It is a part of our life. I know we all come into the realization of Israel, and God's heart for Israel, from the word. Then through Holy Spirit's revelation, our hearts are turned to understand the fullness of the covenant and the great plan God has. As the Church, we are blessed indeed to join with the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost to pray and intercede for Israel, that His perfect will be done. We are so thankful. Say, "It is my lifestyle."

Proverbs 18:10 NKJV

"The name of the Lord is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and they are safe." This is a picture of a bomb shelter in a dear friend's apartment in Jerusalem that I got to sleep in when I was there with the Caldwells. That scripture was written on the wall. I took a picture of it, because I thought that makes sense. That is a good verse to put on the wall of a bomb shelter. I have never forgotten that, and I have kept that picture to myself. This morning, I thought it would be appropriate to show you that, because many have found themselves in bomb shelters. Some are still in that place at times.

But, notice this, it is the name of the Lord that is the strong tower. Though we do our best to protect, to safeguard, and be in the strongest fortification we possibly can. The reality is, "It is the name of the Lord," that is the strong tower. That is the bomb shelter. That is the hiding place. That is the safe place. That is the place of protection. It is the "name of the Lord, and the righteous run to it." You understand? The righteous run to the "name of the Lord," and we are safe. Amen. I wanted to show that to you, in light of all that we are going through now. Pray and keep this before you. Declare that over the people. Amen.

Psalms 18:1-3

Now this was a direct word for our flock. We know that all the words of the Lord are yes and amen. But, there are times when the Holy Spirit is directing us to a place and to a word. Not only will we need it, but there is a place that He wants to bring us into, to encounter Him there. Because, you see, "the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two edged sword." The Word of God is life. God's word cannot return void. It is the very breath of God. When He brings living words to us at specific times, we are to run to that word. So, I review this again, in light of everything in the world, and where we walk personally and intimately with Christ. "I love you, oh Lord, my strength." Just getting you to say that, getting you to sing that, and getting you to confess that, no matter what you are going through good, bad, indifferent, or just in the journey. He needs you to say that in worship to Him. "I love you, oh, Lord, my strength." Yes, when you are weak, you really want to say this, "I love you."

Many can go before God and say, "Lord, you are my strength," and leave love out of it. But, no, no, no, we are to love Him with all of our heart, soul, mind, will, and strength. "You are my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, my strength, my trust, my horn, my shield, my salvation, my stronghold." You hear it? "The name of the Lord is a strong tower. The righteous run to it and are safe." He will bring you through into the truth of what He is revealing to you, because God brings us from revelation to revelation. We are all growing. We are maturing from generation to generation, from era to era. We are growing. We are maturing in the name of the Lord. Those who have an ear to hear, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

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"I call upon the Lord. He is worthy to be praised." You see his heart turn to worship there. Knowing and trusting that He has heard our prayers and the convincing faith, "I shall be saved." You hear it? "I shall be saved. I shall be saved from my enemies." That word saved is salvation unto God, *with* healing, protection, deliverance from evil and anything that has me bound. That salvation is great to prosper me, to give me peace, and to give me a sound mind. "I shall be saved from my enemies."

Psalms 18:46-50

The Lord lives! The Lord lives! God is not dead they say. But the Lord lives, "ever to make intercession for us." He is our Great High Priest. He is not just alive. He has subdued and conquered all things under His feet. He has complete and total Lordship and dominion now and in the ages to come. He is King. "The Lord lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted. It is God who avenges me, and subdues the peoples under me. He delivers me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise up against me." He lifts you up above. "You have delivered me from the violent man." Therefore, here is his worship. "I will give thanks to you, Lord, even among the Gentiles. I will sing praises to your name. Great deliverance He gives to His king and shows mercy to His anointed, to David and to his descendants for ever. Even now, you will lift me up above those who rise against me."

Psalms 18:48 NLT

"You hold me safe beyond the reach of my enemies."

Psalms 18:48 ESV

"You exalted me above those who rose against me, and you delivered me from the man of violence."

"You exalted me above those who rose against me. You hold me safe beyond the reach of my enemies." You will deliver me from my enemies. You also lift me up above those who rise against me. Though the enemy comes in like a flood, yet we rise above. We are lifted up on wings of eagles, into the presence of the living God. The presence of the Lord is here. You can feel your spirit man lifting and rising to worship God. That is the greatest call upon the Church and upon the Bride of Jesus, to worship Him in spirit and truth, no matter what. We are beside the King, in heavenly places. Giving Him all the glory and worship and adoration and honor. Submitted to His headship over us, and trusting in the name of the Lord. Heaven rejoices when the Bride rejoices.

Heaven is strengthened through the unity of the Spirit, in, with, and through the Bride of Christ. Yes, until such a time that all of Israel is saved, and it shall happen. But, the Father God is overall, in all and through all. Our greatest way that we can overcome is to go and "rise above it all." Let the glory of the Lord lift you up. Be lifted up. Let the glory presence of God lift you above your enemies, your struggles, your needs, your arguments, your battle, your sin, your flesh, your anointings, your giftings, and your callings on your best day. Let Him lift you up. Rise up in the glory of the Lord. That is a place of God's presence.

Colossians 3:1-4

We have been seated with Christ in heavenly places if you have been born again. So, if you were raised with Christ, the call is to "seek the things which are above." Okay, that is our call, living here on the planet, but really seated with Him in Heaven. While we are here, set your mind on the things in Heaven. That is a God thing. "Where Christ is," so set your mind on the things above. It is very specific.

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Colossians 4:2-5

You hear this oneness with the Spirit. You hear the oneness with the Father. He is undergirding the relationship, the fellowship, the prayer and intercession of the saints. Our heart and our mind are fixed on Him, our Great High Priest, moving with Him. Knowing His heart, knowing how to pray, knowing when it is war, and knowing when there is peace. He says, "continue earnestly in prayer." This will not end until you see Him face to face. This is not just something the Church did in the 1700's, or something that you did for awhile when you were 20, but you are over that now. No, this is our lifestyle. It will only increase, and He wants us to submit further into this. "Continue earnestly in prayer." You hear that? Be vigilant, right? Be vigilant and be thankful. So, we have to always bring thanksgiving into our earnest prayer to God. Be thankful, means just like I told you earlier. Father, I shall be saved from my enemies. Thank you God, and I rejoice over you for bringing that word to pass. Yes, that is what it looks like.

The apostle was saying, pray for us as we, the church, continue to bring the Word to those in need, that all would be saved, and doors will be opened for us to bring the word. When the apostles are ministering in prayer and the word, that doors will open so that people will know and believe that Jesus is the Christ. That is it. That is it. It is continuous. It is not just for the head chiefs to do all the praying. It is a Body. Amen. Redeem the time. Redeem the time. Redeem the time, time, time. That is where we are.

Ephesians 5:15-18

Walk wisely now, in redeeming the time unto the Lord. What does the Lord want me to do? What does the Lord want me doing? Not, what I want to do. Not my will, but your will be done, Father. It is that time. "Oh God, here I am for such a time as this. What do you want me to do?" Not what I want to do for you. Even if it is great and good and gloriously Christian, right?

"Let Me teach you My ways." Those who have ears to hear, let them hear. Then there is a lining up of the hearts that redeem the time and receive the wisdom of God to understand the heart of the Lord. That is our call, His heart. Know the heart of the Lord, His mind, His thoughts, His heart, and His heartbeat. When I get in His presence my heart races and runs. It was racing and running when I met *my husband*, Jeff, you understand? Your heart races and runs with an expectancy of the glory of the Lord, and of the goodness of God to manifest. That is setting our heart and our mind on the things above. Rise above, there is a call and there is anointing to rise above.

Intercession sometimes can have a bad rap as being "just for that weird group of women over there with all those weird, prophetic activations and stuff. Blowing horns, putting communion in the ground." Doing all kinds of stuff, right? Praying at all times in the Spirit.

II Timothy 1:6-14

This is rich. This is gloriously rich. The Apostle Paul is reminding Timothy to "stir up the gift of God and to pray in the Spirit at all times." To pray in Holy Spirit with the Lord. "Edify your most holy faith, by praying always in the Spirit," Jude says.

Stir up the gift of God that you have been given. Stir it up. That means use it, do it, and exercise it, "through the laying on of hands, through impartation that was given." God has not given us the spirit of fear, but power, love and a sound mind. That is above it. That is above it. No fear, but power, love and a sound mind.

Those in Christ should be the greatest leaders of all times right now. There is a time to mourn and grieve. Christ is looking to us to lead. He needs leaders. He needs leaders in households. Leaders of every age in the family of God. Leaders, male and female, young and old. He did not give the spirit of fear, but power, love, and a sound mind. It is one generation. He needs

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leaders who can govern, and who can bring wise counsel in every round of life. He needs leaders who will move with knowledge of the Lord, because you have been above it. You have risen above it, and you are with Him in heavenly places, hearing the counsel of the Lord and bringing it to Earth. Leaders in that, leading with power, love and a sound mind.

Do not be ashamed of the testimony of Jesus and know that we were appointed for such a time as this, even through sufferings and the testing of our own faith. Christ is being revealed and this is our life. This is it. We have to have faith and know, "I am persuaded, and I am absolutely convinced." I am persuaded that you God are able to keep what you gave me, what you called me to do, what you want me to be, and how you want me to lead. I am persuaded that you will not leave me, fail me or forsake me. I am persuaded that "I will see the goodness of God in the land of the living."

Intercession in the Holy Spirit, who is the Spirit of intercession. He is the Spirit of Truth. "Well, I just intercede when it gets bad." Oh yes, you will cry out to God when it gets bad. But, that is not the heart of the Father. The heart of the Father is to abide in the Rock, now. Amen.

Romans 8:26-27

We like to quote this. "The Spirit also helps in our weaknesses." I am so thankful for that. This is good news. Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Intercession. Jesus is the Intercessor. He came in between us and hell, and brought His blood to redeem us. That is how much He interceded. He came in between us and damnation. The Spirit of Intercession ever lives, to hear the heart of the Lord and the King, and reveal it to the Church, and for us to join Him.

Kind of "rise above it," and allow yourself to be taken into that glory, where He is. Where flesh and blood do not work. Where the Spirit comes up front and center Oh, right there, and you just stepped into something. All of a sudden, something is coming out of your belly, that you had no way of knowing. You had no knowledge or schooling or great education in how to pray. But, that great Intercessor, the Spirit of Intercession, is in you, and comes up and out of you to pray "effective, fervent prayers of a righteous man that are going to avail much." We are not on defense, Beloved. Though it feels that way most of the time.

I have demonstrated more than once with Psalm 91 and using this pulpit. *Kneeling under or behind the pulpit*, believers have protection, right? But, we are doing it from a *position of defense in the spirit of fear, quietly saying* "I will trust in the name of the Lord our God. He will surely deliver me from the snare of the fowler and deadly pestilence. The name of the Lord is my strong tower." That is in the spirit of fear.

But, when you stand and go boldly before the throne of grace and you stand and declare Psalm 91, you are doing something in heavenly places, that is going to invade your atmosphere! That is the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is a difference. I know. Ask me how I know. I do not tell you anything that I do not do, or have not overcome. I am not a hypocrite. "The name of the Lord is a strong tower!" Amen. We have the mind of Christ.

Proverbs 28:1

I have been quoting this for awhile. The wicked flee. They are running and there is nobody chasing them. Who are they running from? But, "the righteous are bold as a lion." You need that. I need that boldness. Who gives me boldness? The Spirit of Intercession, the Spirit of Truth, the Holy Ghost. Yes, power, love and a sound mind. Intercession in and of itself is a gift from God. Let's join the Lord in the spirit of prophecy and declare what Heaven is saying. Stand and pray and receive His encouragement, His word, and His direction today as from Him.

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Father, I thank you. We thank you that when we read your word, we we know you, we see you, and we can hear what you are saying. When we read your word, our hearts open and trust what you are saying. Your word does not return void. So Lord, I ask that you continue to give us ears to hear what the Spirit of the Lord is saying, and eyes to see what you are doing, and a heart that understands you, God. That we can manifest the word of the Lord on our watch, in our time. That everything we have set our hands to do would be blessed. We thank you, Holy Spirit. We thank you for making us bold and strong. Thank you, Jesus. Yeshua, the One who reigns forever. Amen.