

New Years notes for 2004 from The Gate DC

When The Gate met in January to seek the Lord for 2004, more than 25 people spoke of their visions, prophetic words, anointed teaching or impressions from Holy Spirit. Three talked of visions they had seen. In the Soaking Rooms one member of the worship team saw a dam and a trickle of the glory was flowing from it. The dam was holding back a mighty river. Then it broke and a mighty prophetic river began to flow. Later a woman that had not heard the first vision also testified of seeing a dam but nothing was flowing from it. Then something golden began to trickle down. It looked like golden coins but the Lord said, "No, something more precious is coming. This is the release of my glorious presence." At that point a spontaneous song broke forth with the Lord asking, "Now do you believe? Now do you believe? The dam is broken. Now do you believe?" The vision was confirmed a third time when another man that knew nothing of the first two reports had a vision of a small stream that became a mighty river until it became a flood of the Fathers love.

2004 will be a year of PROPHETIC FLOW, of HIS GLORIOUS PRESENCE and FATHER'S LOVE poured out like a mighty river.

As we began to worship one intercessor saw angels standing around the room. He asked, is this only in my imagination? The Lord said, "They are around the room. They are around the building. They are around the area. They are around the city. They are around the region." Another intercessor said they saw concentric circles of intercessors. One circle inside another circle. Around and around. Another proclaimed that generals of God would come from all over the world to the city to develop strategy during 2004. As yet another saw or sensed an angel he was led to blow the shofar. There was a cry to gather at the wall. A call to repentance and to battle. A proclamation; "The trumpet has sounded. The angelic and the body of Christ are coming together to accomplish God's purpose in the city. There are circles of angels declaring that the King is in the city."

2004 will be a year when the AIR FORCE and PRAYER FORCE work together.

One by one worshippers, intercessors, lovers of Jesus spoke the living word. "Fresh revelation is coming and a greater release of the manifest presence of God." One woman had a vision of Jesus holding a book of her personal life with his hand on the future pages. He was ripping out the pages of the past. "It is a new day. A new thing. New revelation is coming of the Kingdom and our King." As we prayed He answered. "It is given to you to know revelation. It is given to you to know the mysteries of the Kingdom." A woman prophesied, "I declare that the shift for us is from the outer court to the inner court and into the Holiest of Holies. So it is time to pay no attention to the spirit of religion and the spirit of tradition. But pay attention to the voice that says come up here. The voice that says "Come behind the veil." One woman broke into a spontaneous song singing, "This is the year of revelation. Let your voice be heard in the nation."

2004 will be a year of FRESH REVELATION.

Someone saw the glory resting on a young woman and said, "I looked and saw a door open in the heavens. I saw a door of revelation about the glory on the sons and daughters. I saw the coming of His glory. Like Moses we must ask, "What am I holding?" We are holding the revelations of the glory of God. And the Lord would say to her that just as she confessed me before men so will I confess her before the Father. This is the year of revelation. This is one revelation. We are for His glory but He is going to glorify His name in the Church." A spontaneous song broke out, "The past is past. It's over and done. There is a new chapter being written. The past is past. It's over and done. There is a new chapter being written. We will walk in it." A woman said, "A lot of people are in positions they are not supposed to be in. Many people must shift into their position. To move and come into what God calls them into. Those afraid, will step up and ask me and I will set them in the right place in Jesus name." A shift is coming.

2004 will be a year of CHANGE.

A young man said, "I saw the Father's hand. It was extended open and the Lord said give. Give, in times of abundance. Give in times of lack. See my hand provide for you." Someone prophesied. I will guide and direct your path this year. I will give you our provision and establish your future on a firm foundation this time." We moved into extended intercession for the Church in the region. Someone called us to prophesy and pray for facilities in the city. We lifted prayer for land to be released to the churches and congregations. We declared that the scepter was extended to open places in the city. The scepter of authority has been extended to open facilities and places for ministry. We declared this coming year as a year of release in the physical realm in the city. Freedom for people to enter into what God has called forth. Someone declared a release of finances and buildings for those who do not have buildings and money for those that have buildings so that they can afford them. Yet another declared a release of intercessors, crying out for the Lord to bring them forth. A young man prayed for the intercessors to have open eyes to see the facilities and the buildings the Lord wants to release to the people of God. Calling upon the people of God to "Declare it and call it forth." Another man began calling it forth, saying, "We declare provision and faith. Provision for the people of God. Cause things to fall into place. Cause people to come into their place. Remove those that would hinder what God is doing. This is the year of Cyrus who released resources for the Kingdom to build the temple. Release resources for the tabernacle of David to be rebuilt."

2004 will be a year of PROVISION.

Someone prophesied of believers with a Joseph anointing that will rise and take their place in the Church. In the spirit he called. "Come forth Joseph and take your place." One woman said she had heard that word from the Lord about herself. We brought her up to pray over her because God has called her a Joseph. When we prayed that she would not only be a Joseph but a mother of Josephs, Holy Spirit spun her around and to the ground, shaking under the power of God. Then seven more came forward saying they sensed the Joseph call on their lives. We broke the power of evil spirits that would drive them from the market place. All received ministry in the name of the Lord. Someone broke into a

spontaneous song, "Jehovah Jihreh. My provider. Your Kingdom is here." Another spontaneous song followed, "Kingdom come, your will be done, Lord here on earth as it is in heaven. Let it be known. This is the time of your coming." Someone proclaimed, "This is the year of release. It is a gift of the Father." Another said, "The Lord is calling us to say No to the old ways of thinking and No to the finances. Yes to a new way of looking at finances. Yes to a new way of doing Church."

2004 will be a year of RELEASE.

We are not building a first century church or trying to become that. We are called to do what they did. We are called to move in signs and wonders and miracles and proclaim the Kingdom of God. But "you will come into a place like Ruth and give up everything to follow Him. He has called us with a jealous love. He is jealous for our focus. He is jealous over us with a spirit of jealousy. A spontaneous song proclaimed; "Prophetic voices prepare the way. Prophetic voices prepare the way of the Lord." "He is Holy" One worshipper exhorted us, "The Lord is calling forth an anointing of unity. There is one body and one new man." A woman responded saying, "Lord, you are delivering us from an individual mindset into a corporate mindset." One woman broke off demonic strongholds and ask the Lord to release the joy of the Lord. Another woman cried out, "I proclaim Holy joy. Lord release holy laughter on this city. Come forth in the name of Jesus." We declare a new release for the whole church. Lord we cry out for those who are lost and those who have moved away from the Church. We call them out. Let them come. We call them home, Lord.

2004 will be a year of HARVEST.

Someone said, "This is what the Lord is asking. "Do you believe.? Do you believe what I say. Do you believe who I am? Do you believe who I have called you to be? Don't be afraid. Don't be afraid to move by my Spirit. Don't you know you hear my voice? Don't be afraid to make a big mess. For I will never let you go." Another said, "It's not so much that we don't believe God is who He says He is as much as it is that we don't believe God is for us. Believe He is what He says He is. Break off fear so we can trust you and believe you are for us."

FAITH will increase and we will BELIEVE in 2004.

While we were worshiping I looked at a man God has anointed as a teacher and I saw a bread machine. It was as if the Lord said he was like a kneading machine. Folding the dough over and over. It was as if the bread of life, the Word of God was forming in Him. He is an anointed teacher and we called him to minister the Word the lord had formed in him. A short and anointed teaching on the Love of the Father flowed forth. He spoke of the intimacy that was coming with the Lord and the Father. "Papa loves you so much. You have been transferred into His kingdom. This is the year of revelation. The unveiling of the kingdom of god. The kingdom is released whenever we respond to the Lord. This is a year of revelation when strongholds of deception and tradition that have kept us from manifesting the kingdom will be brought down...by grace. It is time for a shout of victory

in 2004. What happened to Saddam in the natural is happening in the Spirit. Strongholds are being broken. As His kingdom is revealed we will all begin to manifest the glory and the presence of the Lord. As the kingdom is unveiled we all begin to manifest the Glory in the presence of the Lord. We must speak of the revelation of the one body and one city. We are coming to see Truth revealed. The strength of the ONE body in the City. It is a glory to see truth revealed. Surprise us Lord. You do things we have never imagined. This is the year of revelation. Let it come forth in Jesus name."

2004 will be a year of HIS TRUTH BEING REVEALED.

A prophetic-teacher came forward and read the Lord's prayer as recorded in John 17 and we began to proclaim the unity and call it forth in His glorious name. "Let us be ONE, Lord, even as you and your precious Son are one. In the mighty and powerful name of Jesus we pray. Amen."

January 2004 – The Resting Place

The Gate began on January 10 with one woman testifying the healing God worked in her life during a time of waiting on the Lord. God revealed those she needed to forgive and as she released them she was set free. She was healed emotionally and spiritually. Her testimony of the faithfulness of Jesus opened the heavens and released everyone at The Gate to seek His face for mercy and to forgive others. We entered into a time of just waiting and resting in the Lord. Emotional, spiritual and physical healing followed. Holy Spirit had prepared one of the young women for what was going to happen because she spent the day developing an anointed teaching on The Resting Place. Waiting on the Lord or soaking in His presence is something we value at The Gate. So much so that another ministry was birthed when Tracy opened The Soaking Rooms in Washington.

Lives are being transformed. People are being set free and healed. We believe the teaching that came through The Gate will be a blessing to you. May you rest in His glorious presence.

The Resting Place

by Jozina Pierce

God is inviting us into a new place of fellowship with Him. This new place of intimacy will result in the works of the kingdom being released through us - His body/church - into the world. The demonstration of these works - signs, wonders, and miracles - will capture the hearts of non-believers and result in their salvation and birth into the family of God. God has opened the resting place as that place. In response to His invitation, we must grab hold of it, not just corporately, but individually in order to bring about His plans and purposes in the earth.

We have been called to wait on the Lord and in calling us to wait or rest in Him, the Lord has released to us.

Habakkuk 2: 1-3

I will climb up into my watchtower now and wait to see what the Lord will say to me and how he will answer my complaint. Then the Lord said to me, "Write my answer in large, clear letters on a tablet, so that a runner can read it and tell everyone else. But these things I plan won't happen right away. Slowly, steadily, surely, the time approaches when the vision will be fulfilled. If it seems slow, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed." (NLT).

Since we are called to wait or rest (I will use these terms interchangeably) I think it beneficial to define the words waiting and resting. Let them be a guide to the place of rest God is inviting you to. To wait means to stay in one place, or remain inactive in expectation of something. Isaiah 40:31 reads, "But those who wait on the Lord will find new strength. They will fly high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint."(NLT) Psalm 27:14 encourages us to "wait patiently for the Lord. Be brave and courageous..." To rest describes a similar state: to relax from exertion or labor; repose, sleep, a pause or interval. Hebrews 4:9-10 describes a "special rest

waiting for God's people. For all who enter into God's rest will find rest from their labors..."(NLT). When we wait and rest, we are refreshed and renewed, given time away from our work and labor.

Of great significance to us is Jesus' instruction to His disciples to wait to be filled by His Holy Spirit. In Luke 24:49 he said, "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry [wait] ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high." (KJV) That word "endued" elicits a particularly interesting image, which I like a lot. Endue means to invest, or endow with some gift, quality or faculty; to put on, or to clothe. Strong's explains that endue gives the sense of "sinking into a garment" (1990). When we wait on God, we are being filled or endued with his spirit.

"Soaking" appropriately captures the image of being endued by Holy Spirit. When we are soaked, we become thoroughly wet or saturated because of immersion. We drink excessively of His Spirit and thus become drunk. I like that! When we wait on God, we should be soaking in His Presence. Let me emphasize the obvious: You want to be soaked in God's presence and soaked in His Presence often.

So, we know we are to rest, but did you know that there is a place of rest? For Habakkuk, the place of rest is described as a tower or watchtower. Interestingly, in the King James, the word for tower is called a "rampart". A rampart is defined as a "fenced" or "fortified place". That word brings to mind several images. Since this waiting place is fenced, we get the impression that it is set aside, or assigned a specific purpose (hearing from God). There is also the sense that it is secured and protected so that those who are "fenced in" have a sense of safety, comfort and intimacy. Proverbs 1:33 reinforces this image: "But whoever listens to me will dwell safely, and will be secure without fear of evil." (NIV).

As individuals in the body, we need to establish a fenced place in order to listen to God. We need our own rampart. This place should be protected from distraction - external stimuli that can interfere with hearing directly from God. We should be proactive in creating an atmosphere where He is welcome. (My husband and I are seeing the rewards of investing in instrumental, devotional CDs that enhance soaking time). Friends, this is not just a corporate endeavor. I specifically write "individually" to convey the need for each member to establish his/her place and time to meet with the Lord. We need to be refreshed and renewed, daily. We need to hear and see what the Lord has to say to us.

I have gleaned new insights to soaking through reading the word and through mine and others' experiences. As I you read them, pray that they infuse you, becoming a part of who you are as you respond to God's invitation.

First, we must be purposeful about meeting with God in the His waiting place (Hab 2:1). If we are seeking more of God, we must determine "to wait to see" or it just won't happen. Hebrews 4 encourages that we be "diligent to enter that place of rest" (verse 10, NLT). Predetermining a daily time to meet with God and sticking to that time will be helpful to those who want more of Him. My husband and I meet with God at 4AM for an hour in the morning before He prepares for work. We know of another couple that soaks at 6AM. Those times may not work for you, but find a time when it does and stick to it!

Second, a place of rest is a place of receiving what God has for us. For those who have been looking for more of what God has for us - more of His Kingdom and how to operate in it - God's word is clear. We have been given to understand the secrets of the kingdom of heaven and the secrets of God's wisdom (Matt.13:11A and I Cor. 2: 7). But, it is

revealed to us by His Spirit (I Cor. 12). How are we given the secrets of God? When we position ourselves to receive it. We receive, like Habakkuk did, revelation (NIV), the vision (KJV), the answer and the words (NLT). Really, all that God wants to unveil to us in His myriad of ways He does through His Spirit and He, too, unveils through soaking.

A place of rest is a place of receiving and not doing. For many of us in the body, resting is difficult. We are, in a way, a lot like Martha (Luke 10: 38-42). We are busy with a lot of activity and details that tend to keep us in the outer courts but never in His inner sanctuary. Resting seems a foreign concept. Is it hard for you to rest and receive? . . . Think about it. Though it may be a challenge, God is still calling us to it. Ask Him to reveal to you the stumbling block to your resting. He will show you if you are heart-felt in your diligence.

Third, resting or soaking takes time. I will write it again: Resting or soaking takes time. God told Habakkuk to "wait patiently, for it [the vision] will surely take place" (emphasis added). You cannot effectively soak for fifteen minutes. Surely, those few minutes are used to simply get our minds clear of daily concerns. A friend shared that in the first 10 to 15 minutes of soaking she makes a mental list of concerns and then hands them to God. Then, she is ready to receive. You will get more out of an hour with God. You will get much more when you spend two hours with Him. That's the way it works.

In addition, I have discovered that long resting periods reinforces and forms within us a more receptive mindset. We are in such a place of inactivity and our hearts are so tuned to God that it becomes more natural to receive. It is as if we have said, "Lord, I give you me in this time. Come talk to me; I am listening." Some of what God wants to reveal will be "slow and steady and sure" (Hab. 2: 3, NLT). We cannot rush God. We, instead, adjust our schedules and time around His. Let's give our time to waiting on Him; He is worth it.

When I shared this at The Gate, I felt God's strong admonition on these words: Quit wasting time on things, events, activities that have nothing to do with God. They mean nothing to the kingdom of God. God pointed out that television, in particular, has become a big time-waster. Do those words resonate in you? Curb your intake of TV. Invest your time with someone that has eternal value. "Why spend your money on food that does not give your strength? Why pay for food that does you no good? Listen, and I will tell you where to get food that is good for the soul." (Isaiah 55: 2)

Fourthly, and most importantly, we want to soak in His Presence because He has invited us to. Friends, he loves us and longs to spend His time on us. "Come to me, all you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28). Remember the story of Mary and Martha as described in Luke 10? Though Martha was chided for her busy-ness, Jesus hailed Mary's discovery of the "one thing" or "good part". What was that "good thing"? The answer is found in verse 39. "Mary sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he taught" (NLT, emphasis added). Where do you want to be found? His words directly to us will change us more than anything we ever do for him. Let us be found at his feet, listening, soaking in His words and His Presence.

God's people are responding to His call to rest and the results are wonderful. Through The Gate, the Soaking Rooms have opened on a weekly basis. Members of the body from different denominations in and around the city are encountering God individually and as a group. Through soaking, people's hearts are knit together as God reveals each other's hearts so others can pray. Unity is happening in the body!

In addition, in these meetings, people are being healed. One woman shared that God

healed her of old memories, in particular old memories where others have said or suggested mean things to her. Her healing is liberating. Another woman, in her 70s, at one point found it difficult to get out of bed in the mornings. But she testifies that with every soaking session she is being refreshed and restored. As one woman witnessed upon seeing the 70-year old after a few weeks, "You look twenty years younger!" God is restoring His people.

Personal soaking times have emerged. Attendees of the soaking time have found that once a week soaking times is insufficient. Surely, two hours in seven days is not enough! Couples have established personal soaking times together. These times have re-solidified and brought new depths to relationships. Some have described it as the best hours of their day. Others say that He comes so powerfully and sweetly that it's hard to leave when the set time has come to an end. People are falling in love with Jesus all over again when they soak in Him.

I must deliver God's warning on rest. Though we are free to respond in any way to His invitation, there are consequences when we don't choose Him. We can hear or read this word but, for whatever reason, dismiss or forget it. We can hear and not hear, see and not see; that is, we doubt.

Hebrews 3:12-15 and 18-19:

"Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. You must warn each other every day, as long as it is called "today", so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God, just as firmly as when we first believed, we share in all that belongs to Christ. But never forget the warning. "Today you must listen to his voice. Don't harden your hearts against him as Israel did when they rebelled'... And to whom was God speaking when he vowed that they would never enter his place of rest? He was speaking to those who disobeyed him. So we see that they were not allowed to enter his rest because of their unbelief." (NLT)

Listen, we were not the first to receive the invitation to enter the place of God's rest. The children of Israel chose to see God from a distance and miss out on His glorious plans for them at that time. We don't want to miss God. He has so much invested in us.

Truly God is releasing the miraculous, signs and wonders, healing - his Kingdom works demonstrated visibly in the earth. We are moving into what was commonplace for the first disciples - the many awesome works of God! He promised that we would do even greater works because of our belief in Him (John 14:12). I think it no coincidence that the Lord would ask us to wait to be soaked in Him, just as He instructed his disciples in Luke 24. They waited and His infusion of them resulted in works that changed their world for His Glory. Don't you want to do the same? Don't you want to bring God's Kingdom- reign and rule - in the earth. Respond with a "yes" to his invitation. Rest in the Lord.

~ Jozina Pierce, Teaching @ The Gate

February 2004 – Let Your Kingdom Come

Washington Worships in February was intimate and powerful as worshippers and intercessors moved from places behind the veil to command positions on the wall. In the opening watch the Lord lavished His people with His love. In the second watch someone had a vision of lamps with bulbs being placed in them by God bringing light to the whole city. Then another saw Jesus with arms outstretched bringing healing to the city. Someone prophesied, "What you want is what the Lord wants. The Lord has heard the sound of His people. He will wipe away the tears and bring healing." (Exodus 15:26 I am the Lord who heals you.) "He will bring light to the dark places. He will change the atmosphere of the city and cause His light to be seen. There are forces of darkness trying to keep you from what I have called you to do. Stay. Stay. Stay. Seek first the Kingdom of God. Stay."

One worship warrior who had traveled four hours from New York spoke of passing the communities of Rising Sun and North East and said the Lord spoke to him saying that the Rising Sun would rise up over the northeast corridor. He also had a vision of a giant angel with a huge sword who was surrounded by darkness but as he swung his sword it cut through the darkness. The morning watch captain read Hebrews 12:22-29 followed by a song about Mount Zion and the cloud of witnesses that surrounds us. We prayed that our eyes would be opened like Elisha's servant to see those God has placed around the city. (2 Kings 6:15-17) In the afternoon watches the focus moved from the city-region to the nations with spontaneous rejoicing and singing: "Let the nations rejoice. Rejoice in the Lord. Let the nations rejoice. Let the nations lift up their voice and praise Him. Let the nations receive him. Let all nations worship Him. Come and worship the King of all nations. Worthy is the Lamb. Worthy to receive glory and honor and power."

As we lifted Him up He began to draw us to Himself. "I don't hide myself from you but I cover you." It was a simple statement and an invitation. A spontaneous song broke out. "You cover us beneath your wings, in the cleft of the rock...on your wings we fly." Someone began to speak of the pearl of great price and the beauty of the Lord as he covers us in His presence and we reflect on His beauty and majesty. Another said that He covers us the same way Boaz covered Ruth with His love and provision. Another said they heard Him saying to the Bride. "Marry me" Like Eliezer going to find Rebekah we felt the presence of Holy Spirit drawing us and calling us to the Bridegroom. (Genesis 24) Responsive singing broke out. "Come to me. Come to me. I will be your covering. Come to me. I will be your covering." And in response "Lord I come. I hear your call. I come with my whole heart oh lover of my soul." In response "Marry me. Marry me."

As we moved into the final watch held by The Gate someone shared a vision of a comet that was at first far away and then as he looked again it was very big and upon him and on it was written the words "Right Now" The worship team broke out into a powerful song with the words, "Right Here. Right Now." The kingdom of God is near. It is here. Today is the day of our salvation. Right here. Right now. Throughout the night the theme of the immediacy of the Kingdom of God echoed. We moved into a time of deep intimacy and the responsive singing that was begun earlier returned as the voice of the Bride and the Bridegroom were heard in the worship. The heart of Jesus was revealed. We moved into a place of quietness where the weight of the presence of the Lord silenced every voice. Like Esther we have come to the King but instead of half the kingdom He

gives it all to us.

One rose up to bring a powerful teaching from Psalm 23 on the Kingdom of God revealing the shepherd who has given us everything we need right here and right now. He has blessed us with boldness and confidence so that we may sit down and feast in the presence of our enemies. He has taken away all of our fear because it is His good pleasure to give us the kingdom. Right here. Right now. The Kingdom of God is manifest every time we obey and follow Him. Not everyone who says Lord, Lord will enter the Kingdom but those who do the will of the Father. Every time the sick are healed, the oppressed set free and delivered from the kingdom of darkness then the Kingdom of God is advanced. He has called us to seek first the Kingdom of God and to seek it with our whole hearts. The Kingdom suffers violence and the violent take it by force. Those who pursue the Kingdom of God are obsessed. They take it by force. They are caught up. Captivated. Consumed by the Kingdom. They are like a man who finds a treasure hidden in a field and sells all to buy the field, or like a merchant finding a pearl of great price who sells all to buy the pearl.

These are the ones that seek the Kingdom. They hear the voice of the Lord saying. "Marry me. Will you marry me?" They forsake ALL others and give themselves only to Jesus. They hear the Song of Songs. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the Kingdom of God. Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of God. They are needy, hungry, and desperate for the Kingdom. They do not stop coming, crying out for more of the Lord like the woman that kept coming to the Judge. Persistent until in her persistence the Judge gave her what she needed. They are like the woman that kept pressing Jesus, seeking the Kingdom of God because her daughter was sick until her daughter was healed because healing is the children's bread. It is time to set aside everything that is taking our attention from Jesus and we must seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and as we do all the things we need shall be added to us. All things will be added to us because He is the good shepherd. The Kingdom of God is at hand. Right here. Right now. On earth as it is in heaven.

The teaching moved into anointed impartation as worshippers pressed in and the Spirit moved like the dancing hand of God touching one and then another and then falling upon every hungry heart. The fire of God burned upon the altar of living stones as Jesus answered the cries of his people. Cries of bridal passion for the King of Kings who always answers the prayer He taught us to pray, "Let your Kingdom come and your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." The worship team finished the 24-hour worship weekend with wild abandonment singing a simple but challenging song over and over. "Step out of the boat. Walk on the water." God is calling us to be supernaturally natural as citizens of The Kingdom of God and as the Bride of Christ that is to be filled with His glory until the glory of the Lord fills the earth as the waters cover the seas. You are carriers of His glory!

March 2004 – Travailing at the Gates

Prophetic Word Given by Rick Ridings
Saturday, March 6 and Sunday, March 7, 2004
at Glory Tabernacle and The Gate DC

For the Lord would say that this is going to be a very pivotal time in Washington, and this next three months is very, very key for the future of this nation. The Lord would say that there are many hidden things going on at this time and I have not called you to pray in reaction to the news. I have called you to make news. And the Lord says to His intercessors in Washington, to His intercessors for Washington, the next three months are very, very key and will set the course for years to come. And the Lord would say, even as I began to give breakthrough in this city and began to break the hard nut, the hard shell around Washington 5 years ago and different ones gathered together in Baltimore and prayed and sought God, and something happened with that shell being broken as they sought God. The Lord would say that the enemy is trying to bring the hard shell back over Washington in the next three months, and it's important to guard the gates. It's important to guard the gates, that's why the key has to be used to guard the gate to the Hill, but there are other gates.

And God says to the gatekeepers of Washington, guard your gates. Guard your gates. He says to the intercessors, know the gate that you are assigned to and help guard that gate that you are assigned to. For the enemy is going to try to come back into this city with a spirit of death, and that is why you must stand even as Esther and as Mordecai and stand against that spirit of death. That you not allow that spirit of death to rise up again in a strong way in this city as it's desiring to do. For it wants to bring that hard shell of death over this city again, but I've called you to stand against that covenant of death, to stand against the plans of the enemy, to know his plans. To not just pray in reaction to the news, but to know what's really going on beneath the surface. This next three months are key, says the Lord, and its pivotal; it will set direction for this city and this nation for years to come.

Because of that, the Lord would say, I am calling some of you to an intensity of intercession that will be expressing itself in some of you in fasting. There will be some of you that will be called to extended fasts. During that time of fasting, you will begin to get direction to help close the doors to the enemy and help push back this overwhelming flood of evil that is trying to come into the gates of Washington. And I'm calling you to stand in the gap at this time. Some of you will be called to fast certain activities, and certain just good, valid things like maybe a certain television program, a certain activity that you do. And the Lord will say for the next three months or two months or one month, He'll say I want you to stop that particular activity and give yourself during that time to intercession.

How many of you know that when a woman is ready to have a baby she goes into travail? There's a lot of good things that she could be doing that she doesn't do during that time, because she has to give herself. I was there, by the grace of God for the birth of our three children, and my wife had to just give herself at that moment to get that baby out there, to travail to birth that baby. And the Lord is saying this is a season for travailing prayer. You can't keep up that intensity all the time. How many women here have had

babies? Could you keep up that travail all the time? No. But there was a time to go into labor, to go into travail. The Lord says this is a time, during this three months, there will be seasons. Listen to me, says the Lord, there will be a week, sometimes a month, a particular season that you will go into travailing prayer before me because it's a very, very pivotal time for the future of this city and the future of this nation.

Hidden things are going on even now, even now says the Lord. In the places of hiddenness and darkness, things are going on, plans are being laid to shift this city into its hard shell and into its darkness, but it is not inevitable. It depends upon my intercessors crying out to me. And the Lord would say to you from Isaiah chapter 28 - the Lord gave me these verses for the Washington intercessors for this time, verses 5 & 6. "In that day, the Lord Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of His people. He will be a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, a source of strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate." And the Lord says, it's time to turn back the battle at the gate. It's time to turn back the battle at the gate.

And the Lord said, it's as you look at Me, as I am your glorious King, as I am your glorious crown, that you receive the strength, and I will show you how in justice, to sit in judgment. The Lord said, I've called you to sit in the gates and judge the city, and I will put my judgment in your mouth. Even as it says in Psalm 149, you will come with the high praises of God in your mouth and a two-edged sword in your hand to carry out and execute the judgments of God. And I believe the Lord is saying that there will be times, in terms of this nest of snakes, God will identify certain snakes at certain times that you're to proclaim judgment over. That's not a popular word, people don't like the word judgment. Most churches don't preach anything about judgment, but how many know that God is a God also that brings judgment? But His judgments are good. In Isaiah 26, He says that when your judgments come upon the earth, then they nations will learn righteousness. Why does God judge? To turn us away from that which would destroy us. God is going to be guiding, this is in corporate groups and corporate groups of prayer that are under spiritual authority, God will guide at times proclamations and words of judgment that will be precise and will root out certain evil people out of this city, and will expose that.

One last thing that the Lord gave me about Washington... He said that the enemy knows that it's harvest time in Washington. And one of the reasons he's trying to do this attack at these gates over the next three months is because he wants to cut short the harvest in Washington. And the Lord would say, I want a harvest in Washington. I want a harvest in Washington. Press in for it, keep praying for it, keep believing for it, keep sharing the Lord with others. This is a key time; God is using this movie, The Passion, to awaken people to who Jesus really is. But this is not a time just to assume that the harvest is going to come in, we've gotta battle for the harvest. And the Lord is saying, battle for the harvest, and don't let the enemy cut the harvest short. Don't let him cut it short. His desire would be to abort it. There's been like a spirit of spiritual abortion over this city that time after time a move of God has begun in this city and it would come, and it would cut it short, and it would abort it. And I believe God is wanting the intercessors to stand against a spirit of spiritual abortion in this city. It rose up obviously in the Supreme Court at a particular time to bring physical abortion throughout the land which brings terrible judgment upon this land. But we have been crying out to God for forgiveness and for mercy for that. But it's time, the Lord says, not only to pray about the physical abortion,

but about the spiritual abortions that have been happening in this city. That the move of God, that the harvest not be aborted in Washington, but that it comes to fulfillment.

April 2004 – Birthing Revival Through Intimacy

Throughout April at The Gate DC we entered into deep places that left us speechless. Corporate experiences in Holy Spirit changed our lives and transformed us. The Lord took us deeper into places of intimacy and relationship with Him than ever before. We became lovesick and undone by His presence. One night in April we read an email from Matt Sorger describing meetings in Iowa where God was speaking the same words and touching him and the people the same way as He had been at The Gate. Soak in this word. Let Holy Spirit come and reveal more of the Lord to you that you and we might know Him more intimately.

BIRTHING REVIVAL THROUGH INTIMACY

The next move of God will be birthed out of intimacy.

by Matt Sorger

What an incredible night we had. It was the last night of our Signs and Wonders Conference in Iowa at Heartland Assembly of God. There was a serious impartation granted by the hand of God Himself. As we went deeper into worship the glory of God came into the room. The air was heavy with His presence. As I lay on the floor soaking in His Glory the power of God so overwhelmed me, my body began to shake under the intensity of the visitation. I heard the inner audible voice of God speak to me about the next move of His Spirit. He told me "This move will not be brought by any one man. It will come from My Spirit." I then saw the Lord dancing with a baby in His hands. I knew the infant was the next move to be birthed by the hand of God. I was aware that the presence I was experiencing was the very breath of God and a foretaste of the next wave of His Spirit.

A WHITE GLORY MIST FORMED IN THE RAFTERS OF THE CHURCH

As I stood to the pulpit, all I could do was bury my head in my bible. As I held onto the podium the worship team continued to play. The Lord spoke that He would strengthen me to be able to share the word He had written on my heart. As I lifted my head I could visibly see a white mist glory cloud hovering near the ceiling of the church. Several others could see it too. It was the manifest glory of God. All around the sanctuary people were weeping and shaking, some on their knees and some standing. The Lord was impregnating us with the seed of revival. He began to speak to me that revival would be birthed out of intimacy.

He brought me to Gen. 1:2 "The earth was without form and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters."

Then to Gen. 2:7 "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being."

THE BREATH OF GOD WAS RELEASED

During our time in worship, the Holy Spirit hovered over us the way He overshadowed Mary when she became pregnant with the Christ child (Luke. 1:35). There was a genuine seed of revival deposited in our spirits. At one point during worship the manifest breath of God, the "ruach" of God, was breathed into us and we were filled with new life. The worship leader could no longer stand behind his keyboard but could only lie across the altar groaning under the weight of His presence. It was like when the cloud of glory filled Solomon's temple and the priests could no longer stand to minister because of the cloud (2 Chron. 5:14).

The Lord spoke to me about this next move being birthed out of intimacy. He brought me to Song of Solomon 3:1-4.

"By night on my bed I sought the one I love; I sought him, but I did not find him. "I will rise now," I said, "And go about the city; in the streets and in the squares I will seek the one I love." I sought him but I did not find him. The watchmen who go about the city found me; I said "Have you seen the one I love?" Scarcely had I passed by them, when I found the one I love. I held him and would not let him go, until I had brought him to the house of my mother, and into the chamber of her who conceived me."

There were several important principles the Lord revealed to me out of this account of the Shulamite woman searching for her beloved.

1. She was so longing for the one she loved that she was willing to be inconvenienced in the middle of the night to get out of bed to go search for him. She couldn't wait til morning. The Lord is causing His church to arise out of the bed of our comfort and complacency to search for Him.
2. She didn't find him right away. She had to look and search for him. The Lord is not always easily found. Sometimes there has to be a persistent search for God until we find Him.
3. The watchmen couldn't tell her where he was. There are those times where we need to find God for ourselves. We can't live off of someone else's experience or anointing. We have to dig our own well and find the presence, power and anointing of God in our own lives. Other people's testimonies can encourage us. But we must always press in to find God for ourselves.
4. When she finally found him she wouldn't let him go. When we find the Lord we must not be easily satisfied. Many times when we are spiritually seeking and pressing in to God we get a taste of His presence and then stop seeking or holding onto Him. This is where we miss it. We must be like Jacob who wrestled with the Angel of the Lord all night until He blessed him. He would not let Him go. This is how we must be with the Lord. We must not let Him go until we have the fullness of what He wants to bless us with. When Jacob wrestled with God there was a name change from Jacob to Israel. He went from "Deceiver" to "Prince with God." There was a deep transformation that took place in Jacob. As we wrestle with God and refuse to let Him go until we have His full blessing and favor, there will also be a deep transformation in us as we become more like

Him being transformed into His image.

5. They entered the chamber of intimacy. This is where new birth is conceived, in the secret place with God. It is in this chamber of deep intimate love with God that His seed of revival is imparted into us.

THE OVERSHADOWING OF GOD'S SPIRIT

The next move of the Spirit will be birthed out of this place of intimacy with God, with the overshadowing of God's Spirit in our lives. Psalm 91 declares "He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." The shadow of God is the place where His glory covers our lives. It's a place of refuge and protection from all the plots of the evil one. It's also the place where God infuses His strength and life into us.

In Gen 1:2-3 there is a creative force and life released under the hovering of the Holy Spirit in Creation. Under the shadow of the Spirit there is creative power and authority released to bring order out of chaos and light out of darkness. It was under the shadow of the Holy Spirit that God spoke creation into existence. When we are under His shadow there is a creative power released in us and through us to declare into existence those things that God desires to manifest in the earth.

In Luke 1:31, 35-38 it was under the overshadowing of the Spirit that Mary became pregnant with the Christ child. What was impossible became possible. The supernatural became natural. The key to Mary receiving the impartation she received from God to carry the seed of the greatest move of the Spirit in history, the birth of the Son of God, was her simple act of agreement. Her response to the Lord was "Let it be done unto me according to your word." In verse 45 it says "Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of those things which were told her from the Lord." God just needs our agreement and simple faith to receive the fullness of all He wants to give us.

As the presence of the Holy Spirit overshadows His church in this hour, there is coming an impartation to carry the seed of the next move of God. The secret place of intimacy with the Lord is vitally important to receiving the fullness of all He wants to birth in the earth. It will be out of this place of abiding under His shadow that the creative force and power of His Spirit will be released in our lives, including the move of extraordinary signs, wonders and miracles. This demonstration of God's power through His people will be a direct result of the time spent in the secret place, under the shadow of His glory. We must guard our time with God and guard the seed He places in us. Out of the secret place of intimacy will come the release of life and power to see the glory of God cover the face of the earth.

May 2004 – Watchman on the Wall

Chuck Pierce and Dutch Sheets were in Washington, DC for the National Day of Prayer Conference that helped pave the way for the National Day of Prayer on the first Thursday in May. The following prophetic words are consistent with the prophetic word spoken over the city in March through Rick Ridings. (See March Gatepost) This word has a call to action and gatekeepers and intercessors in the city intend to follow through with daily early morning prayer that will end on the evening of Pentecost. We encourage Pastors, Ministers, Leaders, Gatekeepers, Intercessors and all believers to join in this time of prayer and seeking His face for the city and the nation. Please prayerfully read the message from Chuck Pierce...

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On Tuesday morning I shared from Psalm 18. Verses 7-12 say:

"Then the earth shook and trembled; the foundations of the hills also quaked and were shaken, because He was angry. Smoke went up from His nostrils, and devouring fire from His mouth; coals were kindled by it. He bowed the heavens also, and came down with darkness under His feet. And He rode upon a cherub, and flew, He flew on the wings of the wind. He made darkness His secret place, His canopy around Him was dark waters and thick clouds of the skies. From the brightness before Him, His thick clouds passed with hailstones and coals of fire."

The Lord told me to lead the people in asking for hailstones to fall on Capitol Hill to verify His word. Dutch Sheets then began to prophesy, "There is going to be a confrontation in Washington DC this week. There is going to be a clash of Ahab, Jezebel, Baal and Asherah. There is going to be a clash of those with my Spirit. Then we are going to find out who is God."

I then began to prophesy: "For this is your time of connecting. For you have been plowing and plowing and plowing, but now this is a time to plant and root. I am beginning to 'root in' that which will 'sprout forth' at the time of harvest by the end of September. Root now, root now, root now so you will begin to spring forth and begin to sprout in a new way by the time of harvest! Watch that which is working at night, for at night the seeds are being stolen. This is a time that you will stand for 21 days from 12 to 3 at night and you will say that you will protect that which is being planted," sayeth the Lord.

I actually began to see a window forming at the end of August into September. I continued prophesying, "Protect, protect, protect that which is being planted in the Spirit NOW so that the darkness and the watchers in the night cannot uproot that which I am putting in now. You will overthrow that force from the outside that will uproot. So root now, protect and watch the sprout occur.

Do not be confused by that which will be flying through the air throughout the summer months of this particular city. For it will be like vultures in combat over this city. But they will not be able to remove this word. Even though the locust would come to devour you, I will restore. I have a restorative plan to not allow the locust to eat the crop where the seeds are being planted now. My restorative plan is being planted deep. Do not

let the deceiver remove My restorative plan. Plant deep now! You will have victory, so you will have victory over those locusts.”

That same day hail covered the city!

Chuck Pierce

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Several days later at The Gate we released this word and others prophetic words that resonate with it. Someone pointed out that this is the year of the 17 year locust and the geographic location that most of the 17 year cicada emerge from the ground is near the Watergate. This is in the natural realm but we began to declare that the assault on the rivers of living water that are to flow through believers would be broken. We began to intercede for the Church. We broke off the spiritual assault of the locust that would come to destroy flow of Holy Spirit and harvest. This is an area for prayer and intercession so that the enemy will not emerge and gain a foothold in this area. Interestingly enough the cicada will invade the city-region about May 9th and tens of thousands of them will cover the ground for two to three weeks starting about May 9th. This is the same 21 day period we are called to prayer from midnight to 3 AM. If there is an assault at our "watergate" we must push back the enemy at the gate.

Chuck Pierce prophesied about turning back the battle at the gate and echoed the word through Rick Ridings in March. Both spoke of the spiritual warfare over a 3 month period. Both spoke of the warfare at the northgate where The Gate meets and the warfare coming against the other gates and gatekeepers in the city. Both spoke of Isaiah 28:5 and 6 and the written word became a living word for Washington, DC gatekeepers and intercessors. "In that day the Lord Almighty will be a glorious crown, a beautiful wreath for the remnant of His people. He will be a spirit of justice to him who sits in judgment, a source of strength to those who turn back the battle at the gate." We are in a season where the prophetic voices are clear. Having heard the trumpet sound it is time to rally at the wall, rally at the gates, and turn back the enemy at the gate. As we do this we will gain strength.

Give us ears to hear what Holy Spirit is saying to the Church. The Lord has established His presence in Washington, DC. The Lord's name is exalted in the city. The Lord God almighty, the King of Glory has entered into the city and those that have sown in tears over the years will soon rejoice in the harvest as the spirit of revelation and the knowledge of the Lord moves upon the people and those that are in darkness come to His glorious light. It is time for us to rise up in worship intercession and proclamation to protect that which is rooted and coming forth as harvest in due season. We urge you to come together in prayer from 12 midnight and 3:00 AM Eastern every morning until May 30th as week to pray for the seed that has been sown, to see that it is fully rooted and pray until the harvest has come.

This is a call to watchmen in Washington DC but because this city influences the nation and the nations of the world we ask that prayer be lifted up on all cities and nations during this season. May He bless you and your city with a double portion of your blessing.

June 2004 – A Gathering Storm

The last weekend in May was Washington Worship weekend and worship teams had created an atmosphere for the presence of the Lord on Friday night and throughout the afternoon and evening Saturday. Saturday night at about 9:00 PM we prayed for a couple renewing their vows of marriage on their 11th anniversary. Although they have lost two children they testified of God's faithfulness. The Lord strengthened them and they declared their trust in Him to bring forth children. We prayed for new sons and daughters. Then God spoke about barren women and released an anointing for birth as we called forth babies and gathered around to "protect the seed" of newborns.

This was a powerful time of hope and while we have been praying for the prophetic seeds to come to harvest the Life Giver, even the Lord Jesus, has begun to move in power to open the womb and call forth life in the wombs of women who have been barren. Tracy also spoke the word that the Lord has given her about His Holy Spirit coming to refresh the womb of the Church so that the Church, which has been barren will begin to bring forth sons and daughters. Someone spoke the words of Malachi calling the hearts of the fathers to the children and the children to the fathers so that He will come and fill the Church with His glory and bless the land.

During May, The Gate and many other congregations and groups of intercessors kept watch for 21 days between the hours of Midnight and 3:00 AM. (May archives) The 21 day worship watch began early at 10:00 PM and we pushed through until 3:00 AM. Some time about the word of the Lord came as someone prophesied, "Will I conceive and not bring to birth?" He sang and broke through with power and passion. The text came from Isaiah 66. Others also had the verses open and ready to read when the meeting simply exploded with the call to birth that which God was bringing forth. A woman began to sing "Push DC, Push DC" and the worship team and all the intercessors became like midwives bringing forth what God desires. These same verses and call of God were confirmed by another group keeping the watch in Waldorf. The Lord led them into Isaiah 66:7-23. There will be no more barren woman. The Lord has conceived and will bring to birth that which He has in His heart.

Earlier Jim Ferguson had a vision of the gathering storm. This has come several times during the three weeks we have been keeping the midnight watches. When Chuck Pierce encouraged the Church to watch between Midnight and 3:00 AM during a National Day of Prayer observance he read several verses from Psalm 18. We encourage you to read all of it. It speaks of the gathering darkness at the feet of the Lord. Jim saw the dark gathering storm and the Lord riding the cherub on the wings of the wind. And then saw ordinary people at the center of the storm as God empowered each one to do signs and wonders and do His will.

In Mid May, these Psalm 18:13, 14 were read and the instruments began to prophesy calling us to commission the ordinary people in our midst. Psalm 18:13 "Out of the brightness before Him there broke forth though His thick clouds hailstones and coals of fire and He sent out His arrows and scattered them and He flashed forth lightning and put them to rout." Then the drums began to sound like a clock and we knew it was time for commissioning. Holy Spirit came in great power and many could not stand. As we lay hands on them, a natural storm passed over and radical lightening flashed on all the windows of the Brickyard. There is a gathering storm and the Lord is at its center, calling

ordinary people to do extraordinary things.

A storm is gathering and it is not of evil but it is of the coming presence of the Lord. Read again Psalm 18. Remember that Chuck Pierce referred to some of these verses when the Lord had him call the city-region to prayer. He is coming on the wings of the wind in the gathering storm. Listen now for the voice of the Lord. Look to see what the Lord is saying to the Church. (Habakuk 2:1:2) The 21 days have passed but do not abandon the wall or leave the gates of the city until the Lord brings to birth all that He has spoken. This is the hour to look to see what the Lord is saying to the Church. Listen to His voice. The Lord answered Job out of the storm. (Job 38 to Job 41) Let us hear His voice and be transformed as we see Him. Job 42:4, 5. "You said, Listen now, and I will speak; I will question you and you shall answer me. My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you." Lord give us eyes to see, ears to hear and hearts of understanding as we watch for you in the storm. You are a great and awesome God and you are our glorious coming King.

He is birthing what He has called forth prophetically. Smell the coming rain that follows the storm when the seeds will break forth and there is harvest. This is seed time and it is harvest. The seeds have been sown in fertile soil and will come forth bearing 30, 60, even 100 fold. Watchmen and gatekeepers, you are gardeners preparing the harvest of the Lord.

August 2004 – Forty Days in His Presence

At the meeting of The Gate on August 21 we entered into His presence and were called to 40 days of pressing in to know the Lord, to seek His face to establish the next four years. Holy Spirit moved among the people setting each one on fire with passion for Jesus and desire for more of Him. It was as if the tongues of fire recorded in Acts 2 had come, not resting on each one but settling down, setting bones on fire and hungry hearts ablaze. One person saw what appeared to be a huge fire in the middle of the room. Another saw the people of God taking torches and extending them into the blaze and then setting the ground on fire. In the Spirit he saw a line of fire spread out in front of each person.

Someone said that the Word of the Lord was a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. This is the time to walk in the path of fire to fulfill Gods plans and purposes in our lives. Decree the things of the past are over. We will press forward in the light of the Lord. As we began to worship, someone spoke of Moses who saw the burning bush. He turned aside and then the Lord spoke to him from the burning bush. He listened. He became the friend of God and spoke with Him face to face. Then the Lord set Moses on fire and he went out to Pharaoh and spoke the words of God to Pharaoh. As God caught our attention with His presence like fire so He wants us to be set on fire and speak the word of the Lord. The burning bush. Do you want to see one or be one?

We were encouraged to listen carefully to the voice of the Lord throughout the night. As we worshipped, someone said it was if a river of fire flowed through the room. Another read from Daniel 7:9-10 speaking of "His throne ablaze with flames, It's wheels were a burning fire. A river of fire was flowing and coming out before Him." The Lord is enthroned on the praise and worship of His people. One worshipper said that she had seen people rising up a mountain and the mountaintop was covered in fire. Some held back and did not go up. Others entered the blazing mountain and then streamed back down setting fires wherever they went. Another read from Exodus 24:15-18.

"Then Moses went up to the mountain and the cloud covered the mountain. And the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days and on the seventh day He called to Moses from the midst of the cloud. And to the eyes of the sons of Israel the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the mountaintop. And Moses entered the midst of the cloud as he went up to the mountain; and Moses was on the mountain forty days and nights." The word became like a living word to those gathered in worship at The Gate. The one reading declared. "We are those that choose to go up into the consuming fire of God." Another said a new realm had opened. A singer said she saw coals of fire coming together and broke into a new song. "When the coals come together in the wind of the Spirit the fire rises." We worshipped.

We were reminded of the prophetic words spoken from Isaiah 28:6 over the city in April and May to turn back the enemy at the gate and gain new strength. There was a trumpet call to rally to the gates of the city: a call to 21 days of midnight prayer and intercession. The word through Chuck Pierce saying that the months of May, June and July and even August were critical and that believers in Washington DC were to press in and then word, "By September I am going to shift you over and will establish the next four years." This night was like a culmination of the prayers and intercession. Someone said it was as if "Your bowls are full and ready to be tipped over on the city."

It was as if we had been called up to the top of the burning mountain. But we are not

called to Mount Sinai, we are called to Mount Zion. Heb.12: 18-29. The next 40 days will be critical. Forty days will end on September 30 taking us through the seasons of the feast of trumpets, atonement and into the feast of Tabernacles, which is the feast of His presence and His appearing. We were encouraged and exhorted to press in; to soak in the presence of the Lord; to wait upon Him and to listen intently to His voice during these days and to be established. These forty days will be critical in setting us in place during the next four years. It is a time to listen for personal and corporate direction and vision. It is a time to learn to hear His voice as He softens our hearts and reveals His plans and purposes so that we will not be shaken in the coming years of shaking. May you know His presence as you seek His face and press in to know the Lord.

September 2004 – BE a Life Giving Quickening Spirit

The last Saturday in September, Doug Fortune challenged us at The Gate to BE! This is a theme that has echoed through the months at The Gate. So often the Church is so busy it appears that the Lord called us to DO something all the time. Jesus blessed Martha and was blessed by her ministry but he was drawn to Mary who sat at his feet and remained with Him. The anointing is to DO the works of Jesus. His presence is where we come to BE with Him and in His presence our lives are transformed into His likeness. We are created in His image. We have received a quickening spirit to transform us into His likeness. The Church must BE like Jesus to usher in the Kingdom God in all the earth.

You are a life giving, quickening spirit. You are the tabernacle of God. The house of God. The gate of heaven. Through you the glory and the presence of God is manifest in every place you set your foot. You bring the government of God into every situation. Let us go on to know Him in the most intimate way. Let us know Him such that we are transformed and our thoughts become His thoughts, and our words His words, and our actions are those that we see Him doing. This is the season of harvest. This is the season of fruitfulness. This is the season of His appearing. The season of His light and His glory being revealed in His people. He is coming to accomplish all of His plans and purposes in you and in His Church and in the earth. He is coming first to His Church. He is coming for a bride that has made herself ready. Not by human effort but by the transforming power and glory of His Holy Spirit creating life and filling each of us with His quickening spirit so that not only will lives be transformed but even the creation will be transformed by the coming of those that are carriers of His glory. Romans 8. We must come and just BE with Him and then we will know what we must DO! Jesus does all things well. He will do all things well with you and in you and through you and through the Body of Christ who is the Bride of Christ. This is a vision that Deborah had Saturday night during worship. It speaks of the season we are in.

As we worshipped tonight, I saw a nice size green tent. Then I saw angels come and move the stakes out much further. The tent stretched to the new size and the peak rose higher so it was stretched out in all directions, somehow even the foundation became deeper. Then I was inside the tent and it was the blue of revelation. As I looked up the blue became an open heaven as the top became transparent. Then a tallit came over it as the presence of the Lord manifested in a new dimension in the midst of the tent. As I am writing this, I am reminded that the Feast of Tabernacles is next week. I feel this is a prophetic picture of what God wants to do over DC and the bride of Christ during this season. It is time for a deeper engagement. It is time for the barren woman (Is 54) to expand her borders and become fruitful. Deborah

This is the season of His appearing. As He makes known His glory in His Church, His glory will begin to fill the earth. We welcome the presence of the Lord. This is the season of harvest. This is the season of His coming in greater manifestation in the Church in the city and the nations. Prepare the way of the Lord. Be the carrier of His glory and go into the marketplace expecting to see the power and the presence of the Lord transforming your surroundings. He has manifest His glory in you so that He can flow through you to the world. He is calling us into the kind of intimacy that He had with the Father so that we will be one, with Him, with the Father and with one another as the Bride of Christ is

formed in the earth so the world will know that the Father sent His Son Jesus into the world to save it.