

Overview/Notes

Strike Force – July 20, 2020

(Twenty is the Number of Redemption)

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Prayer

We are gathered together on Mt. Zion to hear the Word of the Lord. Beverley feels the weight of the Lord as He prepares to speak to us today. He is looking for intercessors to repent of offences directed at the Lord, Himself. He is looking for us to “choose to be chosen” for Kingdom purposes.

Parable of the Marriage Feast in the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 22:1-14)

The First Invitation is Refused (Matthew 22:1-3)

- The Kingdom of Heaven is much more than salvation. Jesus invites everyone to come into the Kingdom, and He explains the dangers of rejecting Him.
- Jesus invites the Jewish leaders to come to the wedding feast, but they were unwilling to come – they refused an invitation to a royal wedding, an event that would normally be prized. They refused to repent, be baptized, and follow Jesus.

The Second Invitation is Refused (Matthew 22:4-7)

- Wake up! It's time to enter into the fullness of your inheritance. The Feast has already been prepared. The door is open to come in.
- But they made light of it and went their separate ways and built their own houses. They made light of their high calling, inheritance, and destiny.
- The King was furious and brought judgement on the offenders, who not only rejected His invitation, but persecuted and murdered the messengers (which may be some of us).

The Third Invitation (Matthew 22:8-10)

- The King persisted in filling His banquet hall, so an invitation went out to all who would hear – good or bad – probably none of them was deserving of the invitation. God is so full of grace and mercy. He extends the Kingdom to the unlikely, like all of us.

The Man Without a Wedding Garment (Matthew 22:11-14)

- This man came with wrong garments and wrong motives of his heart – not to honor the Son, but to eat good food. He was indifferent to the gospel and unchanged by the gospel. He was wearing the garments of sin; not the wedding garments provided for the righteous ones. He suffered a terrible fate, as will all those who reject Jesus as Lord and Savior.

- For many are called, but few chosen. Why did they not come to the wedding feast? Because they refused the invitation, and because they were called, but not chosen. Those who refuse the invitation lose their right to come to the banquet feast.

What does it mean to receive the Kingdom? What would it take for those Jewish leaders and others to repent and accept the invitation Jesus is making? What does it mean to disciple the nations? How can we intercede for the Body of Christ to repent, give up our own plans, turn to Him, and learn his ways?

Burden of the Lord for Repentance in the Body of Christ (While There is Time)

There is still a call going out. It's an invitation to come, repent, and place our faith in the Promised Son and have fellowship with Jesus.

- Repent for treating our high calling lightly, and going about business as usual. The Father sacrificed His Son, so we could we could fulfill His Purposes for our lives and fellowship with Him. Have we truly repented and turned away from sin?
- Jesus takes our filthy rags and exchanges them for clothes of righteousness as we repent, turn from sin, renew our minds, and present our bodies as living sacrifices before Him.
- Will we allow Him to not only sanctify us, but glorify us? Will we invite Him to bring revival and reformation in our lives, as Landa Cope suggests? Will the Body of Christ come out of brick houses? Will we change the way we think? Reformation starts with us.
- What do we need to change? Pray with His perception, not ours. What does change look like?
- Repent of pride. Ask Him to do reformation in us. He is shaking us to show us how far we have fallen. "Thou son of man, show the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern" (Ezekiel 43:10).
- Choose to be chosen – understand holiness. "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid; and for joy over it, he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field" (Matthew 13:44-46).
- The Lord sends His Sons from His House to disciple the nations. We need to learn His Ways, His wisdom, and come under His Government. We must be disciplined by Him, so that we can receive His Kingdom that cannot be shaken. "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" (Hebrews 12:28).

PART 11 "BUT I FOUND NO ONE" (Ezekiel 22:30)

God is not pleased with our response as the Body of Christ. He is not pleased with His Prophets, Priests, Princes, and People. He has found no one to stand in the gap before Him who would build up the wall for the land.

The Sins of the Prophets, Priests, Princes, and People (Ezekiel 22:23-30)

And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, "Son of man, say to her, 'You are a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.' There is a conspiracy of her prophets in her midst like a roaring lion tearing the prey. They have devoured lives; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in the midst of her. Her priests have done violence to My law and have profaned My holy things; they have made no distinction between the holy and the profane, and they have not taught the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they hide their eyes from My sabbaths, and I am profaned among them. Her princes within her are like wolves tearing the prey, by shedding blood *and* destroying lives in order to get dishonest gain. Her prophets have smeared whitewash for them, seeing false visions and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD has not spoken. The people of the land have practiced oppression and committed robbery, and they have wronged the poor and needy and have oppressed the sojourner without justice. **I searched for a man among them who would build up the wall and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it; but I found no one.**

The Lord's is not pleased with the Church (the Body of Christ):

- You are a land that is corrupt and is not spiritually and morally cleansed.
- The sin of prophets who fundamentally take (destroy) instead of give is still a great problem among those who promote themselves as prophets and are not. Fake news is part of the conspiracy in the media against God.
- The priests of Israel did not take their appointed role to serve and teach the people.
- The priests profaned God's Holy things, had no reverence for Holy things, and failed to teach the people distinction between the holy and the profane -- the clean and the unclean.
- The priests failed in their basic responsibilities to honor God's law themselves, and to teach the people to do so (like observe the sabbaths), so God was profaned among them.
- The princes (rulers, leaders) were vicious wolves instead of faithful shepherds. Instead of serving God and the welfare of His people, they were out to get dishonest gain which destroyed the people.
- The walls (government) God wants built rejects what the corrupt priests and princes are building with bricks. God is searching for a man to build His House which would bring strength, stability, and security to the Body of Christ.
- It's time to rebuild the wall and disciple nations as sheep nations.
- Let us "throw off the sin and distractions that so easily besets us" (Hebrews 12::1), repent and turn to Jesus with soft hearts that repent quickly. Let us find our places in God's House.
- Let us repent for not valuing God's call on our lives. Let us count it as a privilege to hear His Word through Rhema and Scripture. Thank You, Father, for speaking to us. We welcome Your disciple and Your teaching us Your ways.
- Give us the gift of repentance that we may stand in the gap as intercessors for the Body of Christ and the nations. May we be the ones God is looking for to

stand in the gap in intercessory prayers between a Holy God and His disobedient, rebellious, profane people. May we pray for change, fight for, and hopefully rescue God's people, communities, and nations from the veils of sin, deception, and destruction.

Keys Issues for Individual Repentance from Small Group Discussion

- Treated the call lightly – we're too busy and need to rest at the feet of Jesus. Not distinguishing between clean and unclean things.
- Too many distractions – need to be in alignment with Him, feeling safe in regards to previous experiences in Body of Christ, fear of man.
- Taking our call seriously with intentionality, making time to spend with God; taking more public verbal stand concerning holy and common.
- Pride in our plans and agendas – what does He want? I've also been challenged by the concept of "where am I willing to go?" How do we disciple (nations)?
- Hoping someone else more qualified will do it – don't know what I should be doing.
- Submission to His Will, not ours – become a servant in prayer and worship.
- Be bold, take steps forward, reject passivity, don't sit around and wait, take the kingdom forcefully (Matthew 11:12).
- Bind and repent for fear of deliverance and the discipline process of going to the roots – forgiveness issues, roots of bitterness, generational issues.
- Taking the call lightly – not treating it as sacred; everything else, such as distractions and sin, are consequences of not taking the call as holy and sacred.

Dreams, Visions, Words in Chatbox

- ❖ I'm hearing Jesus speak in a new way after hearing Bev's scripture last week in Hebrews 12:1-3 "Long ago God spoke to our early fathers in many different ways. He spoke through the early preachers. But in these last days He has spoken to us through His Son. God gave His Son everything. It was by His Son that God made the world. The Son shines with the shining-greatness of the Father."
- ❖ I dreamed that Trump came to visit bearing a gift. The gift was odd shaped and not packaged in any appealing manner. I declined to accept it, but he was gently persistent. In the back and forth, I offered my excuses: I already had enough, my husband already gave me a gift, etc. In the end, I realized the gift was a necessary tool, and accepted...
- ❖ We have to be willing to take the risk of going out to the people (as the church). We need to be willing to risk ridicule; out of love for other (including others in the church). We pray; yes; of course. But it's time to go out. The fields are ripe.
- ❖ Prov. 13:24 (TPT) "If you withhold correction and punishment from your children, you demonstrate a lack of true love. So, prove your love and be prompt to punish them." Discipline = sign of Father's love.
- ❖ I think it's a matter that, because of all the things we've been going through, we don't 'see' the depth of what is hindering us, hindering our walk - but He does. He's the only One Who knows just how much discipline from Him it's going to

take to permanently rid us of our 'stumbling blocks'. Understanding that is what makes the discipline a lot more bearable

- ❖ I had a dream last week that I saw all these people dedicating our country to Buddha as a cultural ceremony, nothing religious. Then I saw these same people picking up their Bibles, so I knew they also called themselves Christians.
- ❖ There is a beautiful crafted prayer by Paul Cox & team called "Prayer for Cleansing the Contamination of the Living Stones" that I think might be useful: <https://aslansplace.com/language/en/prayer-for-cleansing-the-contamination-on-the-living-stones/>
- ❖ Can we ask the Lord today to allow us to be part of this priesthood as we repent? Big anointing on this.

Two Levitical Priesthoods

Zadok and Abiathar were faithful, high priests during the time of King David and King Solomon. While Zadok was faithful to King David all of his life, Abiathar turned against King David's choice for his son, Solomon, to rule next. As a result, he was deposed as high priest. The faithful high priest, Zadok (one who's proved righteous), was faithful when Israel fell into idolatry. In Ezekiel 44:12-14, God metes out punishment to those who fell into idolatry. But to the sons of Zadok He promises the best reward of all -- to minister to God, Himself (Ezekiel 44:15). God says, "I am their inheritance: and you shall give them no possession in Israel; I am their possession" (Ezekiel 44:28).

Let us pray to be proven righteous like Zadok, so that we might come near to Him and minister to Him (Ezekiel 44:15). We ask for the gift of repentance for treating our calling lightly. Let us pray to be like the sons of Zadok to receive instruction. Lord, we ask you to deal with our hearts and heal them of wounds of rejection. Cleanse us of uncleanness and idolatry. We want to minister to You and You only. We want to know You and receive our full inheritance in the Body of Christ Jesus that He may receive the reward of His suffering.

