10 DAYS OF PRAYER

DAY FOUR

Election Spiritual Warfare Prayer State & Local Ballot initiatives, Propositions

Today, our prayers will be different from the previous few days in that we will be praying about preparing ourselves to address the ballot initiatives. This means that we will not be dealing with any particular office holder. It will also be different than the previous days, because we're going to take a step deeper into spiritual conflict. What this means practically is that we will be preparing our heart to pray against the principalities and powers of darkness that insinuate their evil ideologies into the culture in order to turn the culture against God and His law (the laws of nature and nature's God), with the result being that God's law is mocked, evil is promoted, the powerless are oppressed, human life is being destroyed through abortion, euthanasia, drug addiction, crime, and suicide; the free exercise of our religious faith is being undermined; the free-speech of those who want to stand for God, truth, and righteousness are being censored and harassed; honest doctors and researchers who question the efficacy of the vaccine mandates based on empirical data are having their licenses revoked; government agencies are colluding with big tech to illegitimately crush political descent; and the CIA, FBI, and military are increasingly embracing CRT and woke ideology, which perverts justice, undermines meritocracy, and divides the nation on the basis of skin color and Marxist ideology. These evils are not coincidental. They are not the byproduct of a single political party or a single political leader. These evils are the byproduct of the spirit of antichrist which is in the world today. In the words of the apostle John: "And every spirit that does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world." (1 John 4:3) Anti-Christ is not alone. He has many evil spiritual powers assisting him as he orchestrates evil throughout the world. In Ephesians 6:12, the Bible calls these evil agents which we struggle against: "principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age, spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly

places (spiritual realm). In 2 Corinthians 4:4, the spirit being that is coordinating these other evil agents is called the "god of this world" (ESV) or "the god of this age" (NKJV). This world is the realm and time in which he operates - both translations emphasize this essential idea. And in Ephesians 2:2, we find out that this evil agent is called "the **prince of** the power of the air," meaning that he is the chief evil ruler of the other evil spirits. He is also further described as "**the spirit** that is now at work in the sons of disobedience"; as such he is coordinating all of the other evil agents by working through human victims ("the sons of disobedience").

This is why we are experiencing so much chaos in our country today. Through years and years of rejecting God and removing Him systematically from our culture and public life, beginning with the removal of prayer and Bible reading from our public schools under the canard of the "separation of church and state"; instituting no-fault divorce, which crushes the sanctity of marriage; authorizing the killing of children in their mother's womb; and ultimately rejecting all forms of biblical sexual ethics ending in the public parading of immorality under the name of "tolerance" for LGBTQ+, etc. By doing these things, we have invited these evil spiritual beings to fill the void that has been created by our public repudiation of God. This is the point of the parable Jesus tells in Matthew 12:43-45.

MATTHEW 12:43-45 When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest, and finds none. 44 Then he says, "I will return to my house from which I came." And when he comes, he finds it empty, swept, and put in order. 45 Then he goes and takes with him seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last state of that man is worse than the first. **So shall it also be with this wicked generation.**

The key to understanding this parable are the last two words: "wicked generation." This phrase means the parable is not just about an evil-spirit infested person. It's actually about a generation of people, even a nation, since Jesus was talking about national judgment in the previous paragraphs.

America, in the years preceding the first Great Awakening, was filled with lots of sin, debauchery, and evil - both public and private. But with the preaching of Jonathan Edwards and George Whitfield, the nation had a great awakening that fundamentally transformed the moral and spiritual climate in America. That is when the unclean spirits were by and large "removed." Those spirits' influence was weakened to the point that they were unable to effectively rule the nation. This is because America at that time had become heavily influenced by the Gospel, personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and Christian teachings. This can be seen historically in the explosive proliferation of Calvinistic churches, colleges, universities, and seminaries; almost every Ivy League School began as a Christian college. It is estimated that 85 percent of the public elementary schools used a Calvinistic Primer to teach the alphabet through Christian doctrine. Ben Franklin said at the time that Americans knew their Bibles so well that if you quoted a verse in a newspaper article, you did not need to cite the biblical reference since the average American knew exactly the chapter and verse from which it came.

Unfortunately, as noted above, this generation in which we live has fundamentally repudiated much of Biblical Christian doctrine and its moral teachings in public square; and often times, even in many "Christian" churches and organizations, are embracing woke heresy, along with all the other moral evils of this generation. It is currently a slur to call someone a "Christian Nationalist"... They are actually people who believe our nation was founded on Christian teachings (the laws of nature and nature's god) and that we need to return as a nation to that foundation.

Consequently, those evil spirits that were driven out in the First and Second Great Awakenings, as well as in the many Christian revivals throughout America's history, have returned in this generation to occupy the empty space that has been vacated by our public embracing of evil and the rejection of God. According to Jesus, this re-occupation is seven times worse than the original.

The good news is, as Christians who love the Lord Jesus Christ, we are not victims of the spirit of antichrist because his power has been broken; and consequently, Spirit-filled Christ-followers can resist him in the power of the Holy Spirit. God's word explains this truth in Colossians 2:15:

COLOSSIANS 2:15 In this way, He (Jesus) disarmed the spiritual rulers and authorities. He shamed them publicly by His victory over them on the cross.

As a result, because of this spiritual reality, we are not only **not victims**, but we are now appointed to be warriors to fight against the spirit of antichrist and his evil agents which keep people, families, communities, and nations in bondage. We are called by God to wage spiritual war. But to do that, we must be sure we put on the full armor of God. Obviously, we do this before we go into the conflict. As a result, today's reading and prayer will be Part One and tomorrow will be Part Two.

The scriptures we will be praying today: PSALMS 103:1-8 and 139:1-7; 23-24

PSALM 103:1-8 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And all that is within me, bless His holy name. 2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; 3 Who pardons all your iniquities, Who heals all your diseases; 4 Who redeems your life from the pit, Who crowns you with lovingkindness and compassion; 5 Who satisfies your years with good things, So that your youth is renewed like the eagle. 6 The LORD performs righteous deeds And judgments for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel. 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness.

PSALMS 139:1b-7, 23-24 O LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether...

... 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ... 23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.

Here is an example of what today's prayer might look like. You are free to use any style or arrangement, or words you like so long as you follow the basic substance of the passage.

"My Dear Heavenly Father, I come into your presence today to rejoice in Your goodness to me, to thank and worship You — to express my gratitude and love for You! With all of my soul, I bless You, Lord, with all that is in me I bless Your Holy Name. Bless the LORD, O my soul, And forget none of His benefits; 3 He pardons all my iniquities. He heals all my diseases; 4 He redeems my life from the pit, He crowns me with lovingkindness and compassion; 5 He satisfies my years with good things, So that my youth is renewed like the eagle. 6 The LORD performs righteous deeds And judgments for all who are oppressed. 7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the sons of Israel. He has poured out His mercy upon me! 8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious, Slow to anger and abounding in lovingkindness. Therefore, Almighty God, because of your steadfast love, I am yours, and you are My LORD, You have searched me and known me. 2 You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. 3 You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. 4 For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. 5 You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. 6 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is so high I cannot attain it. 7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? ...23 Please Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties; 24 And see if there is any wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting. O LORD God, I ask Your Spirit to evict from my conscious, subconscious, and unconscious mind all control of any wicked powers. Break all of their power and manipulation of my thought processes.

Sweep them away and make my mind clear of any wicked spirit dominion. Renew and sanctify my mind, Holy Spirit. I now ask the Holy Spirit to look all through my emotions on the conscious, subconscious, and unconscious levels. Evict any controlling powers of darkness. Gracious Holy Spirit, take control of my emotions. Fill them with the Spirit's fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, meekness, faithfulness, and self-control. I now ask the Holy Spirit to look all through my conscious, unconscious, and subconscious will for any control of wicked powers. Evict them now to where the Lord Jesus Christ is commanding them to go. Sweep my volition totally clean from evil control and manipulation. I offer my body in all of its parts and functions as an expression of my spiritual worship to my heavenly Father. Holy Spirit, look through all my body for any controlling activity of wicked spirits. I surrender all my physical appetites to Christ's lordship and my sexuality for the glory of God. In the name of my Lord Jesus Christ I pray. Amen."

This concludes today's prayer. If you have prayed this prayer sincerely, then you have completed your third day of the spiritual war that we're engaged in! Your heart should be prepared to go into the very most heated part of the battle tomorrow over the state and local ballot measures. God Bless You!

Until tomorrow, let's stay Faithful, Grateful, And Humble.