



**‘Bradley’s entire life is a testimony to the power of prayer and God’s supernatural hand at work in his life’**

**Dr. Bradley Stuart**

Dr Bradley Stuart is Yada’s founding director. His entire life is a testimony of the power of prayer and an intimate journey with the Lord which led him to this 8 part series ‘Destiny An Intimate Journey.’

*“This work contains Dr. Bradley Stuart’s unique testimony of God’s work in his life, the reality of abiding presence of the Lord, and some deep lessons learned along the way.”*

**Michael Fenton-Jones**

President, Int’l Christian Chamber of Commerce (1996-2002)

*“This series will help every believer live in more intimate and effective union with Christ.”*

**Gary P. Bergel**

President, Intercessors For America



# destiny

An Intimate Journey



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**course 8** – redeeming your city and the nations

Dr. Bradley Stuart

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I trust that you will be blessed as you work through this material and that it will help you to discover your destiny through an intimate journey with the Lord.

Dr. Bradley Stuart  
Founding Director

**LAYING A SCRIPTURAL FOUNDATION**

In our early lessons we learned about sin, transgression and iniquity and we ended our last lessons by seeing how that iniquity can go down to three, four or ten generations. When we studied principalities we saw that many problems begin with sin, which can then lead to transgression and finally iniquity. This starts in an individual, then it can go to their family, their community [city] and then these can finally go to a nation. An example of this is the family of Judah. Judah had an iniquity of lust which went down ten generations to David. As this went through David's line it then affected the nation and we see that Israel then became called an adulterous harlot nation. [Jeremiah 3] This is one of the reasons we could not lift our focus to city wide warfare until we had first laid the solid foundations that we have in the previous seven courses. We will now begin to look at the Father's heart for cities and how He desires us to stand in the gap for them.

So as we begin this lets look at some key foundations that we will be able to follow.

**INIQUITY CAN ALSO RISE IN ITS LEVEL****Genesis 15:16**

*"But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full." The amplified says: " full and complete."*

When the iniquity level reaches fullness it brings judgment. An example of this is Sodom and Gomorrah. That is why you find, as you study communities, cities, and nations, that sins begin in families. From the families, they go to the community, and those iniquities become the strongmen over that community, then from the community it goes to the nation and it becomes a national stronghold.

**Jeremiah 3:6-9**

*"The Lord said also to me in the days of Josiah the king: "Have you seen what backsliding Israel has done? She has gone up on every high mountain and under every green tree, and there played the harlot. (8) "Then I saw that for all the causes for which backsliding Israel had committed adultery, (9) "So it came to pass, through her casual harlotry, that she defiled the land and committed adultery with stones and trees."*

**ENOCH WAS THE FIRST CITY EVER BUILT****Genesis 4:17**

*"And Cain knew his wife; and she conceived, and bare Enoch; and he built a city, and he called the name of the city, after the name of his son Enoch."*

**INIQUITY BRINGS JUDGEMENT AS IN THE TIME OF NOAH****Genesis 6:5-7**

*"The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. (7) So the Lord said, "I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth."*

**AS IN SODOM AND GOMORRAH****Genesis 18:16-33**

*"(20) And the Lord said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, (21) I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know." (22) Then the men turned away from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the Lord. (23) And Abraham came near and said, "Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? (32) Then he said, "Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?" And He said, "I will not destroy it for the sake of ten." (33) So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place."*

**IN EZEKIEL 22:14-24 THE PEOPLE BECOME POWERLESS AND THE LAND IS DEFILED****Ezekiel 22:14-24**

*"As silver is melted in the midst of a furnace, so shall you be melted in its midst; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have poured out My fury on you." 23 And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, 24 "Son of man, say to her: 'You are a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.'"*

**INTERCESSION IS NECESSARY BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE THEREFORE GOD CALLS FOR A MAN TO STAND IN THE GAP****Ezekiel 22:30-31**

*"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. 31 "Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD."*

**HE SENDS HIS OWN SON****Isaiah 59:16-21**

"He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him."

**HE CALLS FOR WATCHMEN****Isaiah 62:1-12**

"For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, and her salvation as a lamp that burns. I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, (7) And give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. (10) Go through, go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; Build up, build up the highway! Take out the stones, lift up a banner for the peoples!

As we have laid this foundation to begin to work from let us look at a few other important scriptures to help us in further laying some foundations.

**Ezekiel 22:22-24 and 22:30-31****Jeremiah 29:7**

"And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace."

**2 Chronicles 7:14-15**

"if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 "Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place."

**Isaiah 1:4-7**

"Alas, sinful nation, A people laden with iniquity, A brood of evildoers, Children who are corrupters! They have forsaken the LORD, They have provoked to anger The Holy One of Israel, They have turned away backward. 5 Why should you be stricken again? You will revolt more and more. The whole head is sick, And the whole heart faints. 6 From the sole of the foot even to the head, There is no soundness in it, But wounds and bruises and putrefying sores; They have not been closed or bound up, Or soothed with ointment. 7 Your country is desolate, Your cities are burned with fire; Strangers devour your land in your presence; And it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers."

As we have laid this foundation to begin to work from let us look at a few other important scriptures to help us in further laying some foundations.

**Ezekiel 14:13**

"Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it."

**Hosea 4:1-3**

"Hear the word of the LORD, You children of Israel, For the LORD brings a charge against the inhabitants of the land: "There is no truth or mercy Or knowledge of God in the land. 2 By swearing and lying, Killing and stealing and committing adultery, They break all restraint, With bloodshed upon bloodshed. 3 Therefore the land will mourn; And everyone who dwells there will waste away With the beasts of the field And the birds of the air; Even the fish of the sea will be taken away."

**Micah 7:13**

"Yet the land shall be desolate Because of those who dwell in it, And for the fruit of their deeds."

All of these scriptures describe the state of the land and the need that this brings for intercessors to stand in the gap FOR THE LAND. They are called to enter in and see the land redeemed through prayer warfare.

**GOD'S CALL FOR US TO REDEEM CITIES**

Therefore He was prepared to save it if there were enough righteous in it and He gave Abraham a chance to stand in the gap for it.

**Genesis 18:16-33**

"Then the men rose from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them on the way. 17 And the LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, 20 And the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, 21 "I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know."

He therefore put elders at its gates to protect it.

**Deuteronomy 19:10-13**

"lest innocent blood be shed in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance, and thus guilt of bloodshed be upon you. 11 " But if anyone hates his neighbour, lies in wait for him, rises against him and strikes him mortally, so that he dies, and he flees to one of these cities,

12 "then the elders of his city shall send and bring him from there, and deliver him over to the hand of the avenger of blood, that he may die. 13 "Your eye shall not pity him, but you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from Israel, that it may go well with you." "If anyone is found slain, lying in the field in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who killed him, 2 "then your elders and your judges shall go out and measure the distance from the slain man to the surrounding cities. 3 "And it shall be that the elders of the city nearest to the slain man will take a heifer which has not been worked and which has not pulled with a yoke."

The elders are placed there to redeem it from any innocent blood shed **Deuteronomy 21:1-9**.

He challenges His people to take up their responsibility and pray for their land, which is made up of cities.

#### **2 Chronicles 7:14-15**

"If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. 15 "Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place."

He raises up men to redeem the cities in which they dwell.

#### **Isaiah 45:1-13**

"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held – To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut."

He places watchmen over them to see them established and cared for.

#### **Isaiah 62:6-7**

"I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; They shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the LORD, do not keep silent, 7 And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth."

He allows His watchmen to see the enemy coming and state of the land so he can intercede for it.

#### **Ezekiel 33:1-33**

#### **Genesis 18:18-33**

He calls men to pray for them so that the people may live in peace.

#### **Jeremiah 29:7**

"And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace."

He says that his redeemer will come and plead for the land because of His love for it which we see illustrated in Jesus.

#### **Jeremiah 50:34**

"Their Redeemer is strong; The LORD of hosts is His name. He will thoroughly plead their case, That He may give rest to the land, And disquiet the inhabitants of Babylon."

#### **Matthew 23:37-38**

"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing! 38 "See! Your house is left to you desolate."

#### **Luke 19:41**

"Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it."

He allows Jeremiah to travail for the city.

#### **Lamentations 1:1-11**

"How lonely sits the city That was full of people! How like a widow is she, Who was great among the nations! The princess among the provinces Has become a slave! 2 She weeps bitterly in the night, Her tears are on her cheeks; Among all her lovers She has none to comfort her. All her friends have dealt treacherously with her; They have become her enemies."

He calls a man to go and help it so that it does not get destroyed.

#### **Jonah 1:1-2**

"Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me."

### **GOD CALLS SPECIFIC PEOPLE TO STAND IN THE GAP FOR THE LAND**

Abraham was called to intercede for Sodom and Gomorrah.

#### **Genesis 18:16-33**

"20 And the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grave, 21 "I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry against it that has come to Me; and if not, I will know."

Moses was called to go to Egypt and see the people of God set free from the bondage of Egypt.

#### **Exodus 3:1-22 & 4:1-17**

"7 And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows."

8 "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites."

Joshua was commissioned to take the people into the land of promise and see it redeemed for the Lord.

#### Joshua 1:1-11

"Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them -- the children of Israel. 3 "Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given you, as I said to Moses."

#### CYRUS

##### Isaiah 45:1-13

"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held – To subdue nations before him And loose the armor of kings, To open before him the double doors, So that the gates will not be shut."

#### JEREMIAH

##### Jeremiah 1:1-10

"10 See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."

#### JONAH

##### Jonah 1:1-2

"Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, 2 "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me."

#### LIFE APPLICATIONS

What do you believe the importance for laying a scriptural foundation? What would some of the foundational points be that you would suggest to others to start with? Provide at least three points with scriptural references.

Would you agree with the following statement: a family's sin could lead to a city's sin, which could lead to a nation's sin. Provide scriptural references to back up your answer.

What is God solution to a city that has become powerless to iniquity?

##### Ezekiel 22

##### Isaiah 59

##### Isaiah 62

How can we redeem our city?

Read the following scriptures and list from them the various ways God calls for us to potentially walk out this redeeming:

##### Jeremiah 29:7

##### Matthew 23:37

##### Lamentations 1:1-11

##### Jonah 1:1-2

## GOD CALLS SPECIFIC PEOPLE TO STAND IN THE GAP FOR THE LAND THE CHURCH

### Ephesians 3:10

*"To the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places."*

## THERE MUST BE A DEFINITE TIME OF DEEP PREPARATION

It took God many years to get Abraham ready.

### Genesis 12 - 18

Moses had to spend forty years in the desert.

### Exodus 2:15-22 & 3:1

*"3:1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God."*

Moses had to have victory over his family affairs before he could go in and do what he was called to do.

### Exodus 4:24-26

*"And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the LORD met him and sought to kill him. 25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, 'Surely you are a husband of blood to me!' 26 So He let him go. Then she said, 'You are a husband of blood!' – because of the circumcision."*

Joshua and the people had to sanctify themselves fully to the Lord.

### Joshua 1:1-11 & 3:5

*"11"Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.' Joshua 3:5 – Joshua and the people had to sanctify themselves fully to the Lord. And Joshua said to the people, 'Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you.'"*

Jeremiah's lips are touched.

### Jeremiah 1:9

*"The LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.'"*

Jonah had to go into the whale's belly.

### Jonah 1:3-17 & 2:1-10

The believers need to win the war at church, home and in their workplace.

### Ephesians 5:18-6:18

*"6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."*

## THE ROLE OF THE WATCHMAN AND PROPHET

Elijah told Ahab that his sin had brought about the drought.

### 1 Kings 18:17-18

*"Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, 'Is that you, O troubler of Israel?'" 18 And he answered, 'I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and have followed the Baals.'"*

Jeremiah is able to see the true state of the land.

### Jeremiah 14:1-6

*"The word of the LORD that came to Jeremiah concerning the droughts. 2 'Judah mourns, And her gates languish; They mourn for the land, And the cry of Jerusalem has gone up. 3 Their nobles have sent their lads for water; They went to the cisterns and found no water. They returned with their vessels empty.'"*

## THE ROLE OF THE WATCHMAN AND PROPHET

He exposes the sins of their fathers.

### Lamentations 5:7-22

*"Our fathers sinned and are no more, But we bear their iniquities. 8 Servants rule over us; There is none to deliver us from their hand. 9 We get our bread at the risk of our lives, Because of the sword in the wilderness. 10 Our skin is hot as an oven, Because of the fever of famine. 11 They ravished the women in Zion, The maidens in the cities of Judah. 12 Princes were hung up by their hands, And elders were not respected. 13 Young men ground at the millstones; Boys staggered under loads of wood. 14 The elders have ceased"*

gathering at the gate, And the young men from their music. 15 The joy of our heart has ceased; Our dance has turned into mourning. 16 The crown has fallen from our head. Woe to us, for we have sinned! 17 Because of this our heart is faint; Because of these things our eyes grow dim; 18 Because of Mount Zion which is desolate, With foxes walking about on it. 19 You, O LORD, remain forever; Your throne from generation to generation. 20 Why do You forget us forever, And forsake us for so long a time? 21 Turn us back to You, O LORD, and we will be restored; Renew our days as of old, 22 Unless You have utterly rejected us, And are very angry with us!"

He warns of coming judgment because of their idolatry.

#### **Ezekiel 14:12-23**

"The word of the LORD came again to me, saying: 13 "Son of man, when a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it, and cut off man and beast from it. 14 "Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness," says the Lord GOD."

He is shown the sins that defile the city.

#### **Ezekiel 22:1-31**

He expresses God's heart to want to bless the land and to make it fruitful.

#### **Ezekiel 36:1-38**

"And you, son of man, prophesy to the mountains of Israel, and say, 'O mountains of Israel, hear the word of the LORD! 2 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because the enemy has said of you, 'Aha! The ancient heights have become our possession,'" 3"therefore prophesy, and say, 'Thus says the Lord GOD: "Because they made you desolate and swallowed you up on every side, so that you became the possession of the rest of the nations, and you are taken up by the lips of talkers and slandered by the people" 16 Moreover the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 17 "Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity. 18 "Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it."

He shows what needs to be done for restoration to take place.

#### **Hosea 10:12-15**

"Sow for yourselves righteousness; Reap in mercy; Break up your fallow ground, For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you. 13 You have plowed

wickedness; You have reaped iniquity. You have eaten the fruit of lies, Because you trusted in your own way, In the multitude of your mighty men."

He brings a word of encouragement about the restoration of the land.

#### **Joel 3:18-21**

"And it will come to pass in that day That the mountains shall drip with new wine, The hills shall flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water; A fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD And water the Valley of Acacias. 19 "Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom a desolate wilderness, Because of violence against the people of Judah, for they have shed innocent blood in their land."

#### **Amos 7:17**

"Therefore thus says the LORD: 'Your wife shall be a harlot in the city; Your sons and daughters shall fall by the sword; Your land shall be divided by survey line; You shall die in a defiled land; And Israel shall surely be led away captive From his own land.'"

notes

**LIFE APPLICATIONS**

Why does God call specific people to stand in the gap for the land?

Why do you believe God chose Abraham to intercede for Sodom and Gomorrah?

Read [Isaiah 45](#) and outline the function Cyrus was positioned for?

What do you believe preparation serves to achieve? List some examples of how one could be prepared? How do you think you would be best prepared for the task of standing in the gap for your land?

What function does a Watchman perform (provide a dictionary definition as well as a bible definition)?

What, if any, difference is there between a watchman and a prophet? Provide references to back up your points.

List some words that a prophet can bring. (See [Amos 7](#), [Joel 3](#), [Hosea 10](#), [Ezekiel 14 & 22](#), [Lamentations 5](#), [Jeremiah 14](#) and [1 Kings 18](#))

notes

## IDENTIFYING INIQUITIES IN OUR SOCIETY AND CITIES

### Ezekiel 22:1-31

God is sharing His heartbeat concerning a city and show some of the things (iniquities) that displease Him in a city

### Ezekiel 22:1-2

"(2) *"And you, son of man, will you judge, will you judge the bloody city? Then cause her to know all her abominations."*

## INNOCENT BLOOD

### Ezekiel 22:3-4

*"a city shedding blood in her midst, so that her time will come, and that makes idols, contrary to her interest, for defilement! (4) You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and defiled by your idols which you have made."*

### Ezekiel 22:3-6

*"Behold, the rulers of Israel, each according to his power, have been in you for the purpose of shedding blood."*

### Ezekiel 22:3-9

*"Slandering men have been in you for the purpose of shedding blood, and in you they have eaten at the mountain shrines. In your midst they have committed acts of lewdness."*

### Ezekiel 22:3-12

*"In you they take bribes to shed blood."*

### Genesis 4:10-11

*"The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground."*

### Ezekiel 36:18

*"I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land."*

Showing us that this grieves God and He takes special note of it. It brings a curse. The life is in the blood and God knows the importance of blood. This is sacred to God. It was by the blood of His Son that He saved us. Abortion, therefore, grieves Him.

## IDOLS

### Ezekiel 22:3-5

*"And that makes idols, contrary to her interest, for defilement! (4) and defiled by your idols which you have made. Thus you have brought your day near and have come to your years; therefore I have made you a reproach to the nations, and a mocking to all the lands."*

### 1 Samuel 15:22-23

Idols are not just statues. Stubbornness can also be an idol. Idolatry causes us to be mocked as we lose our testimony allowing negative words spoken against us. (Cf. [Proverbs 11:11](#))

## DISHONOUR OF PARENTS

This is one of the only commandments with a promise. The attack, today, is on the children and rebellion is increasing.

### Ezekiel 22:7

*"They have treated father and mother lightly within you."*

### Exodus 20:12

*"Honour your father and your mother, that your days may be long."*

### & Ephesians 6:2

*"Honour your father and mother, which is the first commandment with promise."*

## NO CONCERN FOR THE FATHERLESS AND WIDOWS

[Ezekiel 22:7](#) God loves the fatherless ([Psalm 68:5](#)) and in the end times, He wants to restore fathers and sons because if they are not reconciled, it will cause the land to be cursed. ([Malachi 4:5-6](#)) We have lost this reconciliation today and do not see how vital it is. ([Acts 6:1-4](#))

### Acts 6:1

*"There arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. 2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, 'It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 'Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.'"*

### Psalm 68:5

*A father of the fatherless, a defender of widows, Is God in His holy habitation.*

### Malachi 4:5

*Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD. 6 And he will turn The hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."*

**THE SABBATH DAY****Ezekiel 22:8**

"You have despised My holy things and profaned My Sabbaths."

**Exodus 31:13**

"Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I am the Lord who sanctifies you."

**Ezekiel 20:12**

"Moreover I also gave them My Sabbaths, to be a sign between them and Me, that they might know that I am the Lord who sanctifies them."

As born again believers, we have entered the Sabbath rest (Hebrews 4) and we are not bound to the law anymore. However, God knew the importance of rest and therefore, he has shown us what pleases Him and would be best for us. We need to have a holy day for this, but, these days, Sundays are being used for more and more unholy things.

**SLANDER****Ezekiel 22:9**

"Slandering men have been in you for the purpose of shedding blood."

**Proverbs 6:16-19**

"These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: (19) a false witness who speaks lies, and one who sows discord among brethren."

Showing that God hates six things and one is people sowing discord.

**OCCULTIC PRACTICES****Ezekiel 22:9**

"In you they have eaten at the mountain shrines. In your midst they have committed acts of lewdness."

**Jeremiah 2:20**

"When on every high hill and under every green tree you lay down, playing the harlot."

They set up high places and commit adultery by the worship of false gods there.

**SEXUAL ABUSE****Ezekiel 22:10**

"In you they have uncovered their fathers' nakedness; in you they have humbled her who was unclean in her menstrual impurity."

**1 Corinthians 6:18-20**

"Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body."

This is increasing world wide, today, E.g. children's homes, prisons, etc.

**ADULTERY****Ezekiel 22:11**

"One has committed abomination with his neighbour's wife, and another has lewdly defiled his daughter-in-law. And another in you has humbled his sister, his father's daughter."

**Exodus 20:14**

"You shall not commit adultery."

This is a common thing, today, in the world as well as in the church. It is being accepted more and more, as our standards are being lowered.

**BRIBERY****Ezekiel 22:12**

"In you they have taken bribes to shed blood; you have taken interest and profits, and you have injured your neighbours for gain by oppression."

**Isaiah 33:15-16**

"He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, He who despises the gain of oppressions, who gestures with his hands, refusing bribes, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed, and shuts his eyes from seeing evil: (16) He will dwell on high; his place of defense will be the fortress of rocks; bread will be given him, his water will be sure."

**Proverbs 29:4**

"The king establishes the land by justice, But he who receives bribes overthrows it."

Bribery destroys a land. Look at Africa as an example of this.

notes

**LIFE APPLICATIONS**

Define iniquity in your own words from Isaiah 53:5-6 and Hebrews 12:1-2 and provide examples of this from both the bible and what you believe to be modern examples of this.

There are eleven examples listed in this teaching of the various iniquities that effect cities, identify the iniquities that are applicable to your specific city and provide examples of them.

How do you think the idea of rebellion amongst our children is being propagated? (Provide examples as well as suggested solutions)

notes

**UNJUST GAIN**

**Ezekiel 22:12-13** and **Amos 5:11** unjust gain causes man to shed blood and grieve God.

**Ezekiel 22:12-13**

*"In you they take bribes to shed blood; you take usury and increase; you have made profit from your neighbours by extortion, and have forgotten Me," says the Lord God. (13) "Behold, therefore, I beat My fists at the dishonest profit which you have made, and at the bloodshed which has been in your midst."*

**Amos 5:11**

*"Therefore, because you tread down the poor and take grain taxes from him, though you have built houses of hewn stone, yet you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink wine from them."*

**FALSE PROPHETS**

**Ezekiel 22:25** and **28**, **Lamentations 4:13-14** and **Ezekiel 13:1-5** There are more and more false prophets in the last days and we need to be alert to this. (**Matthew 24**)

**Ezekiel 22:25**

*"The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst."*

**Ezekiel 22:28**

*"Her prophets plastered them with untempered mortar, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD had not spoken."*

**Ezekiel 13:1-5 3**

*Thus says the Lord GOD: "Woe to the foolish prophets, who follow their own spirit and have seen nothing! 4 "O Israel, your prophets are like foxes in the deserts. 5 "You have not gone up into the gaps to build a wall for the house of Israel to stand in battle on the day of the LORD."*

**FALSE PRIESTS****Ezekiel 22:26**

*"Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them."*

**Lamentations 4:13-14**

*"Because of the sins of her prophets and the iniquities of her priests, who shed in her midst the blood of the just. (14) They wandered blind in the streets; they have defiled themselves with blood, so that no one would touch their garments."*

**Jeremiah 23:11-12**

*"For both prophet and priest are profane; yes, in My house I have found their wickedness," says the Lord."*

There is less and less responsibility being taken by God's children as His priests and very little discernment, today.

**FURTHER INFLUENCES ON A CITY OBEDIENCE**

When the people of the land are obedient it blesses the land and the land will be fruitful.

**Leviticus 25:18-19**

*"So you shall observe My statutes and keep My judgments, and perform them; and you will dwell in the land in safety. 19 'Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill, and dwell there in safety."*

**Leviticus 26:3-13** lists the blessings for obedience.

*"If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them, 4 then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit. 5 Your threshing shall last till the time of vintage, and the vintage shall last till the time of sowing; you shall eat your bread to the full, and dwell in your land safely."*

**Isaiah 60:17-22** lists the blessing that will flow.

*"Instead of bronze I will bring gold, Instead of iron I will bring silver, Instead of wood, bronze, And instead of stones, iron. I will also make your officers peace, And your magistrates righteousness. 18 Violence shall no longer be heard in your land, Neither wasting nor destruction within your borders; But you shall call your walls Salvation, And your gates Praise. 19 " The sun shall no longer be your light by day, Nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you; But the LORD will be to you an everlasting light, And your God your glory. "*

## DISOBEDIENCE WHEN THE INHABITANTS DISOBEYED IT ALLOWED

Calamities, which will then come upon the land.

### Leviticus 26:14-46

*"But if you do not obey Me, and do not observe all these commandments, 15 and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, but break My covenant, 16 I also will do this to you: I will even appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. 17 I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies. Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you. 18 ' And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. 19 I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. 20 And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit."*

The downfall of a nation.

### Jeremiah 12:17

*"But if they do not obey, I will utterly pluck up and destroy that nation," says the LORD."*

The land to become desolate.

### Jeremiah 18:15-16

*"Because My people have forgotten Me, They have burned incense to worthless idols. And they have caused themselves to stumble in their ways, From the ancient paths, To walk in pathways and not on a highway, 16 To make their land desolate and a perpetual hissing; Everyone who passes by it will be astonished And shake his head."*

## PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS

Prince of Persia and Prince of Greece.

### Daniel 10:12-20

*"Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. 13 "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. 20 Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come."*

## THE BREAKING OF COVENANTS

Saul's house had broken the covenant with the Gibeonites and this brought about a famine.

### 2 Samuel 21:1-9

*"Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the LORD. And the LORD answered, "It is because of Saul and his bloodthirsty house, because he killed the Gibeonites."*

## MAN'S INIQUITY

When David sinned by numbering his army.

### 2 Samuel 24:1-15

*"And David's heart condemned him after he had numbered the people. So David said to the LORD, "I have sinned greatly in what I have done; but now, I pray, O LORD, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly." 11 Now when David arose in the morning, the word of the LORD came to the prophet Gad, David's seer, saying, 12 "Go and tell David, 'Thus says the LORD: "I offer you three things; choose one of them for yourself, that I may do it to you." ' " 13 So Gad came to David and told him; and he said to him, "Shall seven years of famine come to you in your land? Or shall you flee three months before your enemies, while they pursue you? Or shall there be three days' plague in your land? Now consider and see what answer I should take back to Him who sent me."*

The people's sin defiles the land.

### Micah 2:8-10

*"Lately My people have risen up as an enemy – You pull off the robe with the garment From those who trust you, as they pass by, Like men returned from war. 9 The women of My people you cast out From their pleasant houses; From their children You have taken away My glory forever. 10 "Arise and depart, For this is not your rest; Because it is defiled, it shall destroy, Yes, with utter destruction."*

notes

### LIFE APPLICATIONS

There are examples listed in this teaching of the various iniquities that effect cities, identify the iniquities that are applicable to your specific city and provide examples of them.

Compare [Leviticus 26:3-13](#) with [Leviticus 26:14-46](#) and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you potential areas of disobedience in your life.

Define a principality in your own words and provide scriptural references.

How did the peoples sin in [Micah 2:8-10](#) defile the land?

What do you believe the correct posture to this condition to be? (See [Exodus 34:8](#))

notes

**INNOCENT BLOOD SHED**

Earlier we saw that when God is shared His heartbeat concerning a city in **Ezekiel 22** he spoke the most about innocent blood shed and it is interesting that He calls it a bloody city.

**INNOCENT BLOOD****Ezekiel 22:3-4**

*"a city shedding blood in her midst, so that her time will come, and that makes idols, contrary to her interest, for defilement! (4) "You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and defiled by your idols which you have made."*

**Ezekiel 22:6**

*"Behold, the rulers of Israel, each according to his power, have been in you for the purpose of shedding blood."*

**Ezekiel 22:9**

*"Slanderous men have been in you for the purpose of shedding blood, and in you they have eaten at the mountain shrines. In your midst they have committed acts of lewdness."*

**Ezekiel 22:12**

*"In you they take bribes to shed blood."*

**SOME EXAMPLES OF INNOCENT BLOOD SHED**

When Cain killed Abel it affected the land and brought about a curse.

**Genesis 4:1-16**

*"Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?" 10 And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. 11 "So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. 12 "When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth." 13 And Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear!"*

Ahab and Jezebel killed Naboth and it brought judgment on their family.

**1Kings 21:1-25**

*"You shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "Have you murdered and also taken possession?" ' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the LORD: "In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your*

*blood, even yours."'"23 "And concerning Jezebel the LORD also spoke, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.' 24 "The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field." 25 But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the LORD, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up."*

**THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BLOOD****Genesis 9:4-6**

*"But you shall not eat flesh with its life, that is, its blood. 5 "Surely for your lifeblood I will demand a reckoning; from the hand of every beast I will require it, and from the hand of man. From the hand of every man's brother I will require the life of man. 6 "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man."*

**Leviticus 17:1-16**

*3 "Whatever man of the house of Israel who kills an ox or lamb or goat in the camp, or who kills it outside the camp, 4 "and does not bring it to the door of the tabernacle of meeting to offer an offering to the LORD before the tabernacle of the LORD, the guilt of bloodshed shall be imputed to that man. He has shed blood; and that man shall be cut off from among his people."*

*14 "for it is the life of all flesh. Its blood sustains its life. Therefore I said to the children of Israel, 'You shall not eat the blood of any flesh, for the life of all flesh is its blood. Whoever eats it shall be cut off."*

**Deuteronomy 12:23-27**

*"Only be sure that you do not eat the blood, for the blood is the life; you may not eat the life with the meat. 24 "You shall not eat it; you shall pour it on the earth like water. 25 "You shall not eat it, that it may go well with you and your children after you, when you do what is right in the sight of the LORD. 26 "Only the holy things which you have, and your vowed offerings, you shall take and go to the place which the LORD chooses. 27 "And you shall offer your burnt offerings, the meat and the blood, on the altar of the LORD your God; and the blood of your sacrifices shall be poured out on the altar of the LORD your God, and you shall eat the meat."*

**HOW DOES INNOCENT BLOOD SHED AFFECTS THE CITY**

Defiles a city.

**Jeremiah 19:4**

*"Because they have forsaken Me and made this an alien place, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have filled this place with the blood of the innocents."*

Therefore cities of refuge were needed.

**Deuteronomy 19:1-13**

*"When the LORD your God has cut off the nations whose land the LORD your God is giving you, and you dispossess them and dwell in their cities and in their houses, 2 "you shall separate three cities for yourself in the midst of your land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess. 3 "You shall prepare roads for yourself, and divide into three parts the territory of your land which the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, that any manslayer may flee there. 4 " And this is the case of the manslayer who flees there, that he may live: Whoever kills his neighbour unintentionally, not having hated him in time past."*

God judges a city where innocent blood has been shed.

**Ezekiel 9:9-10**

*"The iniquity of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great, and the land is full of bloodshed, and the city full of perversity; for they say, 'The LORD has forsaken the land, and the LORD does not see!' 10 "And as for Me also, My eye will neither spare, nor will I have pity, but I will recompense their deeds on their own head."*

It defiles the land and brings God's judgment.

**Ezekiel 22:3-4**

*"a city shedding blood in her midst, so that her time will come, and that makes idols, contrary to her interest, for defilement! (4) "You have become guilty by the blood which you have shed, and defiled by your idols which you have made."*

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**Ezekiel 22:12**

*"In you they take bribes to shed blood."*

**Ezekiel 36:17-18**

*"Son of man, when the house of Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own ways and deeds; to Me their way was like the uncleanness of a woman in her customary impurity. 18 "Therefore I poured out My fury on them for the blood they had shed on the land, and for their idols with which they had defiled it."*

Jonathan warned Saul not to shed innocent blood

**1 Samuel 19:4-6**

*5 "For he took his life in his hands and killed the Philistine, and the LORD brought about a great deliverance for all Israel. You saw it and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood, to kill David without a cause?"*

It brings God's judgment.

**2Kings 24:4**

*"Because of the innocent blood that he had shed; for he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, which the LORD would not pardon."*

It came as a result of mingling with the heathens.

**Psalms 106:35-39**

*"They served their idols, Which became a snare to them. 37 They even sacrificed their sons And their daughters to demons, 38 And shed innocent blood, The blood of their sons and daughters, Whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; And the land was polluted with blood."*

**Isaiah 26:20-21**

*"Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past. 21 For behold, the LORD comes out of His place To punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity; The earth will also disclose her blood, And will no more cover her slain."*

God calls for His people not to shed innocent blood.

**Jeremiah 22:3**

*"Execute judgment and righteousness, and deliver the plundered out of the hand of the oppressor. Do no wrong and do no violence to the stranger, the fatherless, or the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place."*

The priest and prophets shed innocent blood which brought about judgment.

#### Lamentations 4:12-14

*"The kings of the earth, And all inhabitants of the world, Would not have believed That the adversary and the enemy Could enter the gates of Jerusalem – 13 Because of the sins of her prophets And the iniquities of her priests, Who shed in her midst The blood of the just. 14 They wandered blind in the streets; They have defiled themselves with blood, So that no one would touch their garments."*

### HOW DO WE REDEEM THE LAND FROM INNOCENT BLOODSHED?

The elders of the city were to redeem it.

#### Deuteronomy 21:1-9

*"If anyone is found slain, lying in the field in the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess, and it is not known who killed him, 2 "then your elders and your judges shall go out and measure the distance from the slain man to the surrounding cities. 3 "And it shall be that the elders of the city nearest to the slain man will take a heifer which has not been worked and which has not pulled with a yoke. 4 "The elders of that city shall bring the heifer down to a valley with flowing water, which is neither plowed nor sown, and they shall break the heifer's neck there in the valley. 5 "Then the priests, the sons of Levi, shall come near, for the LORD your God has chosen them to minister to Him and to bless in the name of the LORD; by their word every controversy and every assault shall be settled. 6 "And all the elders of that city nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley. 7 "Then they shall answer and say, 'Our hands have not shed this blood, nor have our eyes seen it. 8 'Provide atonement, O LORD, for Your people Israel, whom You have redeemed, and do not lay innocent blood to the charge of Your people Israel.' And atonement shall be provided on their behalf for the blood. 9 "So you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you when you do what is right in the sight of the LORD."*

We can act as intercessors like Abigail did to turn away the judgment of God by preventing innocent blood from being shed.

#### 1 Samuel 25:23-33

*"Now therefore, my lord, as the LORD lives and as your soul lives, since the LORD has held you back from coming to bloodshed and from avenging yourself with your own hand, now then, let your enemies and those who seek harm for my*

*lord be as Nabal. 28 "Please forgive the trespass of your maidservant. For the LORD will certainly make for my lord an enduring house, because my lord fights the battles of the LORD, and evil is not found in you throughout your days."*

*31 "hat this will be no grief to you, nor offense of heart to my lord, either that you have shed blood without cause, or that my lord has avenged himself. But when the LORD has dealt well with my lord, then remember your maidservant." 32 Then David said to Abigail: "Blessed is the LORD God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! 33 "And blessed is your advice and blessed are you, because you have kept me this day from coming to bloodshed and from avenging myself with my own hand."*

We do this by declaring the finished work of Calvary to the principalities and powers.

#### Colossians 2:15.

*Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.*

By partaking of the communion elements, but not burying the elements or pouring out the wine.

#### Luke 22:13-20 17

*"Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and said, "Take this and divide it among yourselves; 18 "for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." 19 And He took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 20 Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."*

#### Hebrews 9:11-15

*"But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. 12 Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. 13 For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, 14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? 15 And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance."*

notes

Remembering the Passover victory (Exodus 12) and entering Jesus, the door, who came to save us and give us life.

**John 10:9-10**

*"I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. 10 "The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*

For at Calvary Jesus redeemed the land with His own blood.

**John 19:34**

*"But one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out."*

**LIFE APPLICATIONS**

List two examples in the Old Testament where innocent blood was shed?

What do you believe the motive was in the examples you provided for shedding of the innocent blood?

What function does blood serve (both physically and spiritually)?

How do you believe the shedding of innocent blood can affect a city?

What do understand by the term "redeem?" (Provide scriptural references).

What is the importance of being able to redeem a city from the consequences of innocent blood?

How do you believe as believers we can redeem our city from innocent blood? (Provide scriptural references).

notes

**HIGH PLACES**

High places are referred to 90 times in the Old Testament and only once in the New Testament which is

**Ephesians 6:12**

*"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness [iniquity] in the high places."*

**WHAT ARE HIGH PLACES?  
THEY BEGAN AS GOOD PLACES OF  
1) SACRIFICIAL WORSHIP**

As when Abraham went up to a high place to offer his son to God

**Genesis 22:2**

*"Then He said, 'Take now your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you.'"*

**2) SACRIFICE AND SEALING OF A  
COVENANT BETWEEN JACOB  
AND LABAN**

**Genesis 31:44-55**

*"51 Then Laban said to Jacob, 'Here is this heap and here is this pillar, which I have placed between you and me. 52 'This heap is a witness, and this pillar is a witness, that I will not pass beyond this heap to you, and you will not pass beyond this heap and this pillar to me, for harm. 53 'The God of Abraham, the God of Nahor, and the God of their father judge between us.' And Jacob swore by the Fear of his father Isaac. 54 Then Jacob offered a sacrifice on the mountain, and called his brethren to eat bread. And they ate bread and stayed all night on the mountain."*

**3) SACRIFICE AND OFFERING TO GOD**

Gideon was to do this on top of the evil altar which he had broken down

**Judges 6:26**

*"build an altar to the LORD your God on top of this rock in the proper arrangement, and take the second bull and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the image which you shall cut down."*

**4) PROPHETS SACRIFICED THERE**

**1 Samuel 9:12**

*"They answered them and said, 'Yes, there he is, just ahead of you. Hurry now; for today he came to this city, because there is a sacrifice of the people today on the high place.'"*

**5) PLACE WHERE THE  
PROPHETS DWELT**

**1 Samuel 10:5-7**

*"And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying."*

**6) ISRAEL AND SOLOMAN  
SACRIFICED THERE UNTIL THE  
TEMPLE WAS BUILT**

**1 Kings 3:1-4**

*"Now Solomon made a treaty with Pharaoh king of Egypt, and married Pharaoh's daughter; then he brought her to the City of David until he had finished building his own house, and the house of the LORD, and the wall all around Jerusalem. 2 Meanwhile the people sacrificed at the high places, because there was no house built for the name of the LORD until those days."*

**7) PLACE OF SACRIFICING TO GOD  
AND CHALLENGING THE ENEMY  
WHEN ELIJAH CHALLENGED THE  
PROPHETS OF BAAL HE DID IT ON  
THE HIGH PLACES**

**1 Kings 18:19**

*"Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."*

**8) A PLACE WHERE THE ENEMY WAS  
DEFEATED BY JESUS**

**Matthew 4:8-11**

*"The devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, 'All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me.' 10 Then Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'"*

**9) A PLACE WHERE JESUS TAUGHT FROM****Matthew 5:1-2**

"Seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them."

**10) A PLACE WHERE JESUS WENT TO PRAY****Matthew 14:23**

"When He had sent the multitudes away, He went up on the mountain by Himself to pray. Now when evening came, He was alone there."

**Luke 6:12**

"Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God."

**11) A PLACE WHERE GOD'S GLORY WAS SEEN****Matthew 17:1-3**

"Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; 2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light."

**12) A PLACE WHERE JESUS WAS CRUCIFIED****Matthew 27:33**

"And when they had come to a place called Golgotha, that is to say, Place of a Skull."

**HIGH PLACES THEN BECAME EVIL AND USED FOR:****1) SACRIFICING AND WORSHIPPING FALSE GOD'S AS SOLOMON DID****1 Kings 11:4-8**

"7 Then Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the abomination of Moab, on the hill that is east of Jerusalem, and for Molech the abomination of the people of Ammon. 8 And he did likewise for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and sacrificed to their gods."

**2) EVIL STRONGHOLDS AS BUILT BY ISRAEL****1 Kings 14:22-23**

"Now Judah did evil in the sight of the LORD, and they provoked Him to jealousy with their sins which they committed, more than all that their fathers had done. 23 For they also built for themselves high places, sacred pillars, and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree."

**3) SACRIFICING AND BURNING INCENSE****2 Kings 15:4**

"Except that the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places."

**2 Kings 15:35**

"However the high places were not removed; the people still sacrificed and burned incense on the high places. He built the Upper Gate of the house of the LORD."

**2 Kings 16:4**

"He sacrificed and burned incense on the high places, on the hills, and under every green tree."

**4) TO WORSHIP FALSE GOD'S****2 Kings 21:1-3**

"3 For he rebuilt the high places which Hezekiah his father had destroyed; he raised up altars for Baal, and made a wooden image, as Ahab king of Israel had done; and he worshiped all the host of heaven and served them."

**5) SPIRITUAL ADULTERY BY ISRAEL****Jeremiah 2:20-21**

"For of old I have broken your yoke and burst your bonds; And you said, 'I will not transgress,' When on every high hill and under every green tree You lay down, playing the harlot."

**6) SACRIFICING THEIR CHILDREN TO FALSE GOD'S****Jeremiah 7:30-31**

"For the children of Judah have done evil in My sight," says the LORD. "They have set their abominations in the house which is called by My name, to pollute it. 31 "And they have built the high places of Tophet, which is in the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, nor did it come into My heart."

**7) FALSE PRIESTS TO MINISTER****1 Kings 13:31-33**

32 "For the saying which he cried out by the word of the LORD against the altar in Bethel, and against all the shrines on the high places which are in the cities of Samaria, will surely come to pass." 33 After this event Jeroboam did not turn from his evil way, but again he made priests from every class of people for the high places; whoever wished, he consecrated him, and he became one of the priests of the high places."

**2 Chronicles 11:14-15**

"For the Levites left their common-lands and their possessions and came to Judah and Jerusalem, for Jeroboam and his sons had rejected them from serving as priests to the LORD. 15 Then he appointed for himself priests for the high places, for the demons, and the calf idols which he had made."

**KINGS AND THEIR REACTION TO THE HIGH PLACES**

You will see with all of the following kings that it is said that they were righteous yet they did not remove the evil high places which was their responsibility.

**2 Kings 12:2-3 Jehoash****2 Kings 14:1-4 Amaziah****2 Kings 15:1-5 Azariah****2 Kings 15:32-35 Jotham****2 Kings 16:1-4 Ahaz****WHAT RESULTS COME FROM NOT REMOVING THE HIGH PLACES?**

There is definite defeat.

**2 Kings 17:6-18**

"9 Also the children of Israel secretly did against the LORD their God things that were not right, and they built for themselves high places in all their cities, from watchtower to fortified city. 10 They set up for themselves sacred pillars and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree. 11 There they burned incense on all the high places, like the nations whom the LORD had carried away before them; and they did wicked things to provoke the LORD to anger, 12 for they served idols, of which the LORD had said to them, "You shall not do this thing." 15 And they rejected His statutes and His covenant that He had made with their fathers, and His testimonies which He had testified

against them; they followed idols, became idolaters, and went after the nations who were all around them, concerning whom the LORD had charged them that they should not do like them. 16 So they left all the commandments of the LORD their God, made for themselves a molded image and two calves, made a wooden image and worshiped all the host of heaven, and served Baal. 17 And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, practiced witchcraft and soothsaying, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the LORD, to provoke Him to anger. 18 Therefore the LORD was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone."

**WHAT RESULTS FROM REMOVING THE HIGH PLACES**

There is total confidence and victory.

**2 Kings 18:1-8 3**

"He did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done. 4 He removed the high places and broke the sacred pillars, cut down the wooden image and broke in pieces the bronze serpent that Moses had made; for until those days the children of Israel burned incense to it, and called it Nehushtan. 5 He trusted in the LORD God of Israel, so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor who were before him. 6 For he held fast to the LORD; he did not depart from following Him, but kept His commandments, which the LORD had commanded Moses. 7 The LORD was with him; he prospered wherever he went. And he rebelled against the king of Assyria and did not serve him. 8 He subdued the Philistines, as far as Gaza and its territory, from watchtower to fortified city."

The land has rest and peace.

**2 Chronicles 14:1-6**

"2 Asa did what was good and right in the eyes of the LORD his God, 3 for he removed the altars of the foreign gods and the high places, and broke down the sacred pillars and cut down the wooden images. 4 He commanded Judah to seek the LORD God of their fathers, and to observe the law and the commandment. 5 He also removed the high places and the incense altars from all the cities of Judah, and the kingdom was quiet under him. 6 And he built fortified cities in Judah, for the land had rest; he had no war in those years, because the LORD had given him rest."

**2 Chronicles 17:1-6**

"4 but sought the God of his father, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel. 5 Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honour in abundance. 6 And his heart took delight in the ways of the LORD; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah."

The temple is restored and the people are brought back to God.

**2 Chronicles 34:1-9**

"2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, and walked in the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. 3 For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images." (9) "When they came to Hilkiah the high priest, they delivered the money that was brought into the house of God, which the Levites who kept the doors had gathered from the hand of Manasseh and Ephraim, from all the remnant of Israel, from all Judah and Benjamin, and which they had brought back to Jerusalem."

**WHAT HINDERED HIGH PLACES FROM BEING REMOVED?**

The people who were not prepared to do so.

**2 Chronicles 20:31-33**

"33 Nevertheless the high places were not taken away, for as yet the people had not directed their hearts to the God of their fathers."

**WHAT IS GOD'S ATTITUDE TO HIGH PLACES?**

God very clearly condemns them and is so against them that He says that He will deal with them.

**Leviticus 26:30-32**

"I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you. 31 I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas. 32 I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it."

He gave very clear instructions that they were to be totally destroyed and removed.

**Numbers 33:51-53**

"Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you have crossed the Jordan into the land of Canaan, 52 then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, destroy all their engraved stones, destroy all their molded images, and demolish all their high places; 53 you shall dispossess the inhabitants of the land and dwell in it, for I have given you the land to possess.'"

**PLACES IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD?**

We as God's kings and priests have the same responsibility that the kings of old had.

**Revelations 1:6**

"and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen."

**Revelations 5:10**

"And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth."

As the kings of the Old Testament had the responsibility for removing the high places we today have this responsibility resting on. We understand from learning from the past biblical history. We as the church need to do war against these principalities and powers in the high places and declare to them the victory that Jesus won on the cross.

**Ephesians 3:8-12**

"10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places."

**Colossians 2:15**

"Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it."

**WHO MUST DEAL WITH THESE HIGH SOME EXAMPLES OF DEALING WITH HIGH PLACES**

Gideon removed his father's high place.

**Judges 6:23-32**

"Then the LORD said to him, 'Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die.' 24 So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD, and called it The-LORD-Is-Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. 25 Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him, 'Take your father's young

*bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that is beside it; 26 "and build an altar to the LORD your God on top of this rock in the proper arrangement, and take the second bull and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the image which you shall cut down."*

Elijah when he defeated the prophets of Baal.

#### **1 Kings 18:19-40**

*"23 "Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it. 24 "Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken." 25 Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it."*

God calls to Israel showing her the problem of the high places and showing her how to get the victory.

#### **Jeremiah 3:6-4:31**

### **LIFE APPLICATIONS**

How many times is the term "high places" mentioned in the New Testament (State the reference)?

Give three references from the Old Testament where "high places" are mentioned.

What do you believe the function of high places to be?

What are high places? Provide scriptural references for each point.

In your understanding of this study, what do you believe distinguished high places that were good from bad? Provide scripture references for each.

List at least three examples of what you believe to be the modern day equivalent of high places in your city.

What was King Azariah's reaction to high places? (**2 Kings 15**)

What you believe to be the result of removing high places.

Reading from **2 Chronicles 20**, what do you think stood in the way of for the people to remove the high places?

What is God's attitude towards high places (Provide a scriptural reference for each point you make)?

## IMPORTANT ASPECTS ABOUT BINDING AND LOOSING

Binding and loosing should be done in unity, for a kingdom purpose and over a specific strongman.

### Matthew 12:24-29

"Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. (26) "If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? (28) "But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. (29) "Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house."

## PREPARATION FOR BINDING AND LOOSING

Know who you are in Christ. See it as a help for His church and use the keys of the kingdom.

### Matthew 16:13-19

"He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" 16 Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." (17) Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. (18) "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. (19) "And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.""

## HOW DO WE BIND AND LOOSE?

In unity and in God's presence.

### Matthew 18:18-20

"Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. 19 "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. 20 "For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them.""

## HOW CAN WE APPLY THESE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM? PERSONALLY

### 2 Corinthians 10:4-5

"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.

### Matthew 16:21-23

"(23) But He turned and said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.""

### 2 Timothy 2:19

"Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.""

## FOR YOUR FAMILY

### Matthew 12:29

"How can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house."

## FOR YOUR COMMUNITY THROUGH CONFESSION

### Nehemiah 1:2-11

" (4) So it was, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven. I pray before You now, day and night, for the children of Israel Your servants, and confess the sins of the children of Israel which we have sinned against You. Both my father's house and I have sinned."

### Daniel 9:1-27

"(4) And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, (5) "we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments."

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCE

### Jeremiah 1:10

"See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out and to pull down, to destroy and to throw down, to build and to plant."

**WHAT CAN HINDER US FROM BINDING AND LOOSING? LEGAL RIGHT**

Jezebel allowed witchcraft to have a legal right in her life.

**2 Kings 9:22**

*"So he answered, "What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft are so many?""*

When we are not willing to confess something pride can keep us in bondage. We get bound with the thought of fearing what man will say or think about us.

**James 5:16**

*"Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

**FRIENDSHIP**

Until the problem has ceased being our friend and we begin to desire to war against it, we will struggle to get set free:

**Hebrews 1:9**

*"You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness."*

**LIFE APPLICATIONS**

What are the three key aspects of binding and loosing?

How should we go about preparing for binding and loosing?

How should we go about binding and loosing?

How do you see binding and loosing as a personal thing?

How do you see binding and loosing applying to your family?

How do you see binding and loosing applying to your community?

Why is it important to be balanced when we bind and loose?

Can we bind and loose something in someone else who does not want it?

How effective is binding and loosing if that thing is our friend?

What do you learn most from **Hebrews 1:10**?

## PRACTICAL STEPS TO STANDING IN THE GAP FOR THE LAND

### Ezekiel 22:30

*"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one."*

This speaks of entering into intercession and prayer because God has allowed us to see and understand the condition of the land as He showed us here from verse 1-29.

### Jeremiah 29:7

*"And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace."*

We are to pray and seek for the peace of our cities and land by entering into intercession as Nehemiah and Daniel did for Jerusalem and Israel.

### Nehemiah 1-2

### Daniel 9-10

As Abraham did for Sodom and Gomorrah

### Genesis 18:18-33

## CONFESS SIN

We need to confess our sin, transgression and iniquity and the sin, transgression and iniquity of our land as Daniel and Nehemiah did. We repent for what we have done or are doing and confess what others have done.

### 2 Chronicles 7:14

*"if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."*

### Isaiah 1:16-19

*"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes. Cease to do evil, 17 Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow. 18 " Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. 19 If you are willing and obedient, You shall eat the good of the land."*

### Nehemiah 9:1-2

*Then those of Israelite lineage separated themselves from all foreigners; and they stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers.*

## DO HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Hezekiah did research and found out about the sins, transgression and iniquity of the past and dealt with them and understood the importance of this.

### 2 Chronicles 29:1-36

*"Hezekiah became king when he was twenty-five years old, and he reigned twenty-nine years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Abijah the daughter of Zechariah. 2 And he did what was right in the sight of the LORD, according to all that his father David had done. 3 In the first year of his reign, in the first month, he opened the doors of the house of the LORD and repaired them. 4 Then he brought in the priests and the Levites, and gathered them in the East Square, 5 and said to them: "Hear me, Levites! Now sanctify yourselves, sanctify the house of the LORD God of your fathers, and carry out the rubbish from the holy place. 6 "For our fathers have trespassed and done evil in the eyes of the LORD our God; they have forsaken Him, have turned their faces away from the dwelling place of the LORD, and turned their backs on Him. 7 "They have also shut up the doors of the vestibule, put out the lamps, and have not burned incense or offered burnt offerings in the holy place to the God of Israel. 8 "Therefore the wrath of the LORD fell upon Judah and Jerusalem, and He has given them up to trouble, to desolation, and to jeering, as you see with your eyes. 9 "For indeed, because of this our fathers have fallen by the sword; and our sons, our daughters, and our wives are in captivity. 10 "Now it is in my heart to make a covenant with the LORD God of Israel, that His fierce wrath may turn away from us."*

It is important to look at the name of the city.

Who founded the city?

What are the prevalent sins, transgressions and iniquities in the city?

What are the prominent monuments and what do they represent?

What battles may have taken place in the city or its surrounding area?

What predominant occultic centers are in the city?

**GET GOD'S STRATEGY****Luke 14:31-32**

*"Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? 32 "Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace."*

We must count the cost and do the necessary homework before we go into battle. Many intercessors are battered and hurt because they don't do this. For this reason many intercessors that do warfare experience much unnecessary attack.

We asked God why so many intercessors are attacked He told us to look at the Old Testament and see that whenever He sent them into battle they got the victory. Therefore we need to wait on God for His strategy and direction in order to be assured of victory. We must also know who we are in Christ.

**Proverbs 20:18**

*"Every purpose is established by counsel and with good advice make war."*

Jesus our commanding officer wants to lead us into battle but this must be done in the correct way.

**Proverbs 24:6**

*For by wise counsel you will wage your own war, And in a multitude of counsellors there is safety.*

We must get God's support and others support before we go into warfare. When we go out to do major warfare we need to do so as teams and not just individuals unless so led by God. In a natural army does each man go off and do his own thing? No, there is a team spirit so we must be wise in spiritual warfare. This will protect us, especially the woman.

**WHERE DO WE START?****WAIT ON GOD****Isaiah 40:31**

*"But those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint."*

**Song of Songs 4:6-16**

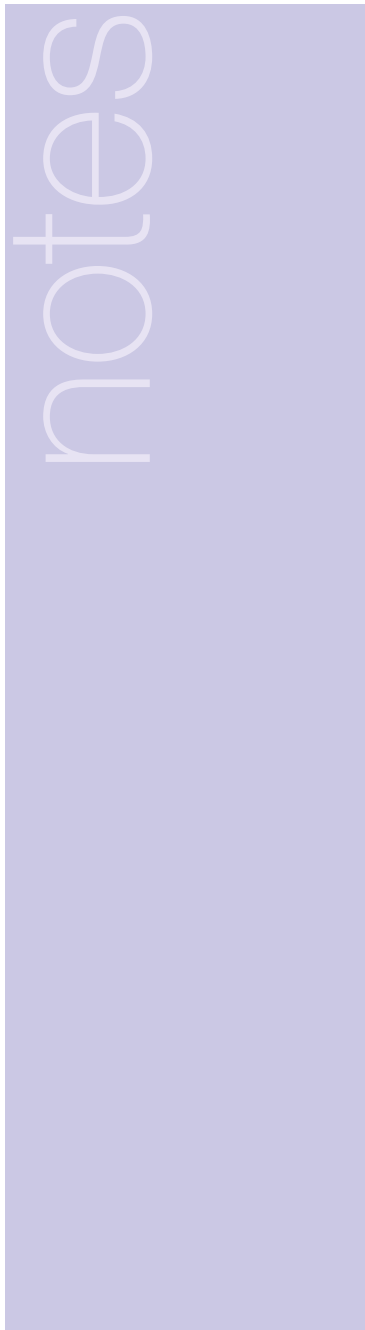
*"Until the day breaks and the shadows flee away, I will go my way to the mountain of myrrh and to the hill of frankincense. 7 You are all fair, my love, and there is no spot in you."*

**LISTEN****Isaiah 42:9**

*"Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them."*

**Amos 3:7**

*"Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets."*



### LIFE APPLICATIONS

What do you think the function of intercession is?

Can you identify any practical solutions given from [Luke 14:31-32](#), [Proverbs 20:18](#) and [24:6](#) when people intercede for their City/Nation?

What is the difference between confession of one's own sin and the confession of a cities sin [sins or iniquities of the forefathers?

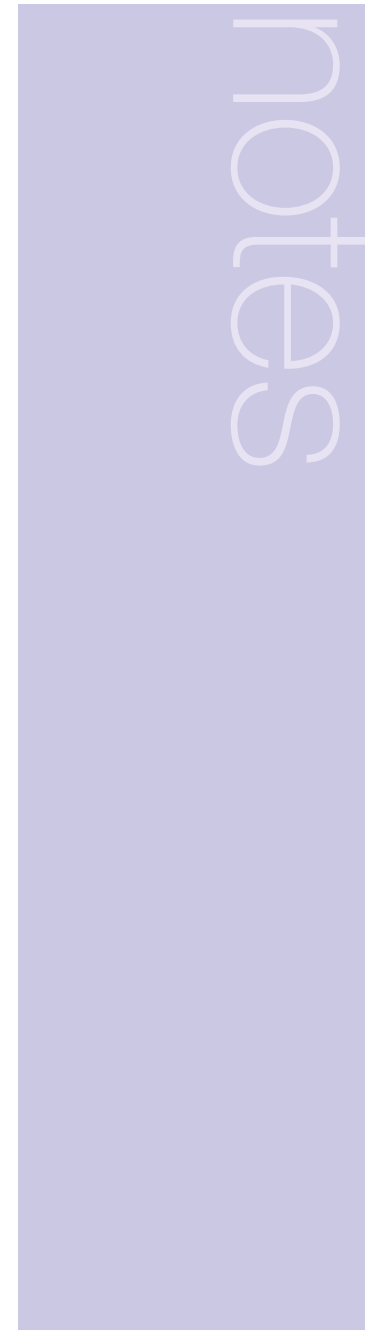
How do you believe the confession of sin paves the way for the restoration process to take place?

List some practical examples of the kind of research can be made on your city to discover potentials areas of bondage?

Read [Jeremiah 26](#) and [Jonah 3](#) and comment on how God used these men to call a city to repentance.

List at three practical steps that can be taken to call your city to repentance.

What forms of media do you think could play a role in communicating this call to repentance? For each reference given, state how proficient you are on each.



**TIMING****Song of Songs 8:4**

*"I charge you, O daughters of Jerusalem, Do not stir up nor awaken love Until it pleases."*

**Jeremiah 42:7**

*And it happened after ten days that the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah.*

Any military strategist will tell you that timing is the key! God gave the land little by little. The most painful experiences have been the most valuable ones.

**DO RESEARCH****Numbers 13:1-2**

*And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 "Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the children of Israel; from each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a leader among them."*

**Joshua 2:1-24**

*"Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho."*

**Joshua 7:2-3**

*"Now Joshua sent men from Jericho to Ai, which is beside Beth Aven, on the east side of Bethel, and spoke to them, saying, "Go up and spy out the country."*

**Acts 17:15-34**

*"16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. 17 Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the Gentile worshippers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. 22 Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, "Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; 23 "for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you."*

Do your research to know what is at the root of the problem.

**GET STRATEGY****Exodus 17:9-16**

*And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."*

**Joshua 3:10-4:24**

*"11 "Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over before you into the Jordan. 12 "Now therefore, take for yourselves twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one man from every tribe. 13 "And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap."*

**Joshua 6:1-26**

*"Now Jericho was securely shut up because of the children of Israel; none went out, and none came in."*

**Joshua 8:1-29**

*"Now the LORD said to Joshua: "Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed; take all the people of war with you, and arise, go up to Ai. See, I have given into your hand the king of Ai, his people, his city, and his land. 2 "And you shall do to Ai and its king as you did to Jericho and its king. Only its spoil and its cattle you shall take as booty for yourselves. Lay an ambush for the city behind it."*

With each situation there is a specific strategy and we must therefore wait and listen to know God's timing doing research before we move into warfare. Don't keep on following after yesterday's strategy. You must get God's fresh strategy for each situation not relying on yesterday's strategy.

**GET STRATEGY****Jeremiah 42:8-22**

*"Then he called Johanan the son of Kareah, all the captains of the forces which were with him, and all the people from the least even to the greatest, 9 and said to them, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, to whom you sent me to present your petition before Him: 10 'If you will still remain in this land, then I will build you and not pull you down, and I will plant you and not pluck you up. For I relent concerning the disaster that I have brought upon you. 11 'Do not be afraid of the king of Babylon, of whom you are afraid; do not be afraid of him,' says the LORD, 'for I am with you, to save you and deliver you from his hand. 12 'And I will show you mercy, that he may have mercy on you and cause you to return to your own land.' 13 " But if you say, 'We will not dwell in this land,' disobeying the voice of the LORD your God, 14 "saying, 'No, but we will go to the land of Egypt where we shall see no war, nor hear the sound of the*

*trumpet, nor be hungry for bread, and there we will dwell' – 15 "Then hear now the word of the LORD, O remnant of Judah! Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'If you wholly set your faces to enter Egypt, and go to dwell there, 16 'then it shall be that the sword which you feared shall overtake you there in the land of Egypt; the famine of which you were afraid shall follow close after you there in Egypt; and there you shall die. 17 'So shall it be with all the men who set their faces to go to Egypt to dwell there. They shall die by the sword, by famine, and by pestilence. And none of them shall remain or escape from the disaster that I will bring upon them.' 18 "For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel."*

#### **Judges 6:23-32**

*Then the LORD said to him, "Peace be with you; do not fear, you shall not die." 24 So Gideon built an altar there to the LORD, and called it The-LORD-Is-Peace. To this day it is still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites. 25 Now it came to pass the same night that the LORD said to him, "Take your father's young bull, the second bull of seven years old, and tear down the altar of Baal that your father has, and cut down the wooden image that is beside it; 26 "and build an altar to the LORD your God on top of this rock in the proper arrangement, and take the second bull and offer a burnt sacrifice with the wood of the image which you shall cut down."*

#### **2 Chronicles 20:1-29**

*"14 Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jahaziel. 15 And he said, "Listen, all you of Judah and you inhabitants of Jerusalem, and you, King Jehoshaphat! Thus says the LORD to you: 'Do not be afraid nor dismayed because of this great multitude, for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 'Tomorrow go down against them. They will surely come up by the Ascent of Ziz, and you will find them at the end of the brook before the Wilderness of Jeruel. 17 'You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!' Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you."*

## SOME EXAMPLES FROM SCRIPTURE

### **Exodus 7-12**

How God dealt with the god's of Egypt

### **Numbers 33:51-53**

*"Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you have crossed the Jordan into the land of Canaan, 52 'then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, destroy all their engraved stones, destroy all their molded images, and demolish all their high places; 53 'you shall dispossess the inhabitants of the land and dwell in it, for I have given you the land to possess.*

The process of Israel entering the Promised Land.

### **2 Chronicles 29:1-36**

Hezekiah cleanses the temple.

## FROM TODAY

Zimbabwe Ruins

Cove Rock

Bermuda Triangle

Zululand

Azusa Street

Cape Henry

Vancouver Washington

## PRECAUTIONS AND HELPS FOR REDEEMING THE LAND

- 1) This is most effective when it is done by a group of churches rather than by a single Church.
- 2) Wait for God's timing don't go in too soon or too late.
- 3) It is best for woman not to do this on their own they need men or a man with them.

notes

### LIFE APPLICATIONS

Is there any cost in standing in the gap for a city? If so, then provide what you believe some of those costs might be.

In waiting for God's timing what do you believe the purpose of research to be?

Write a short paragraph on what you believe it means to wait on God and listen to Him for His timing.

Read [Exodus 17:9-16](#) and [Joshua 6:1-26](#) and outline the specific strategy given. Provide modern day contextualization of those strategies.

Practice your research skills by doing research on the following three places:

- 1) Bermuda Triangle
- 2) Azusa Street
- 3) Zimbabwe Ruins

Be sure to make use of the internet, libraries, encyclopedias etc. For each area highlight what you believe to be the main points/keys to revival and intercession.

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