

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Battle Is At the Gate October 10, 2023 Suzi Armstrong

Isaiah 28.6 NIV

⁶He will be a spirit of justice
to the one who sits in judgment,

a source of strength

to those who turn back the battle at the gate.

- This is a day to be intentional, purposeful, and focused – the battle is at the gate!
- Psalm 24 – So wake up, you living gateways! So the King of Glory may come in, mighty in battle!
- Be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.
- Hear strategy and timing.
 - In the place of intimacy with the Lord you will hear His strategies.
 - Be still and know God – don't strive, don't fret, don't allow anxiety or negativity or fear to speak into your heart. ALL POWER AND ALL DOMINION BELONG TO THE LORD!
 - Wait on the Lord and let Him confirm to you His signs, wonders, and miracles at the gate.
- You have been mantled with authority in the Name of Jesus, and by His blood, to resist the devil and all of his schemes and lies – to turn back the battle at the gate.

We are to be intentional in what we do, how we respond, what we say, and how we think. We are to be purposeful in our actions and reactions. We are to be self-controlled – setting right boundaries. We are in a spiritual war – stand strong!

Isaiah 26.3 NIV

³You will keep in **perfect peace**
those whose **minds are steadfast,**
because they **trust in you.**

- The MESSAGE says, People with their minds set on You, You keep completely whole, steady on their feet, because they keep at it and don't quit. Depend on God and keep at it because in the Lord God you have a sure thing.
- Know where your confidence is – know where your help comes from.
- Perfect peace means safety, completeness, welfare, health, prosperity, and VICTORY!
- These are qualities for you and for our city.
- Steadfast mind – set on things above. Hearing the voice of the Lord.
- Trusting in God, not leaning on the narratives of the world.

1 Peter 5.8 NLT

⁸**Stay alert!** Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, **looking for someone to devour.**

- Be alert, aware, observant, and perceptive – keep your eyes and your ears open to what is happening. Do not be blindsided.
- Seek God, hear His direction on how to be positioned and what to do.

1 John 3.8b TPT

...The **reason the Son of God was revealed was to undo and destroy the works of the devil.**

Colossians 2.15 NIV

¹⁵ Then **Jesus made a public spectacle of all the powers and principalities of darkness, stripping away from them every weapon and all their spiritual authority and power to accuse us.** And **by the power of the cross, Jesus led them around as prisoners** in a procession of triumph. He was not their prisoner; they were his!

Luke 10.18-19 TPT

¹⁸ Jesus replied, "While you were ministering, **I watched Satan topple until he fell** suddenly from heaven like lightning to the ground. ¹⁹ Now you **understand that I have imparted to you all my authority to trample over his kingdom. You will trample upon every demon before you and overcome every power Satan possesses.** Absolutely nothing will be able to harm you as you walk in this authority.

Ephesians 6.10-12 NIV

¹⁰ Finally, **be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power.** ¹¹ **Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.** ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Daniel 6.26-27 NIV

²⁶ "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must **fear and reverence the God of Daniel.**

"For he is **the living God** and he **endures forever;** his kingdom **will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end.**

²⁷ He **rescues and he saves;** he **performs signs and wonders** in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions."

In Israel the battle is at the gate. Israel is an ally of the United States. The war in Israel has strong ramifications here in Detroit and in our nation. We pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for Israel and the surrounding nations. We pray for the preservation of life in the Name of Jesus. We pray that God would expose the truth about this attack so that all who were involved would face justice.

Israel was blindsided by this attack. They were focusing their attention on Iron Dome defense and did not pick up on other gates into the nation. The battle came through ultralight hang-gliders that radar does not pick up and through pre-positioned bulldozers. This was unprecedented. The enemies of God are operating in unprecedented ways that are unexpected and out of the box. The group Intercessors for America wrote in an article, "One huge reason that these gatekeepers have been blinded is because of their secular worldview, which ignores or mocks the biblical reality of satan and the demonic...the gatekeepers are no longer guarding the gates...instead of warning Israel and preparing for the clash with jihad, these gatekeepers have become partners in peace with their mortal enemies. They have fallen asleep on the job."

The battle is at the gate – even if you don't see it. Be alert! Stay focused! Watch and pray! Align with God. He will reveal the secret strategies of the enemy and the plan for victory.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

Over Detroit and Michigan, we speak Psalm 46:

¹ Detroit, God is your refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, ³ though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging. ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. ⁵ God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. ⁶ Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts. ⁷ The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is the fortress of Detroit.