

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Time to Pray from the Fire August 4, 2020 Suzi Armstrong

Many leaders in the church have said that August is a very significant month. A month we need to be alert. A month to pray and to declare with the authority and power given by God. A time to be passionate – to be baptized in the fresh fire of God. August is a turning point month – with fire and passion – we are to pray and declare God’s heart and His words over our nation and over our cities. 2 Timothy instructs us to pray for our elected officials and all those in authority that we might live peaceful lives. These are not days of peace in our nation; but days of chaos and confusion, violence and control.

Isaiah 60.1-2 NASB

¹ **“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.** ² **“For behold, darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples; But the LORD will rise upon you and His glory will appear upon you.**

- Arise – wake up and separate yourself from your surroundings. Change your position – become alert. No longer sit back in a relaxed position but stand up – stand so the God of peace can crush satan under your feet!
- Shine – be set on fire. Know the urgency of the day.
- Behold – means you are to perceive what is going on and move shrewdly.

BE ALERT!

- Awake – not complacent. Aware of circumstances. Aware of who you are in Christ. Aware of the Kingdom of God. Aware of what God is speaking and how He is moving. Aware of truth as defined by God. Aware of who you are connected to. Aware of the times and season.
- Attentive.
- Prepared.
- Ready.
- Expectant.
- Intentional.
- Observant.
 - Move in discernment and wisdom by the Spirit of God.
 - Keep your eyes on Jesus.
 - Stay in alignment with the Lord’s purposes.
 - Being alert puts you in the right place at the right time.
 - Being alert connects you with the provision of God.
 - Being alert is a state of readiness.
 - Being alert keeps you on course and moving forward.

Proverbs 3.3 TPT

³ **Hold on to loyal love** and don’t let go, and be faithful to all that you’ve been taught. **Let your life be shaped by integrity, with truth written upon your heart.**

- Let the word of God and the leading of Holy Spirit shape your response to what is going on in the earth.
- Stay humble and teachable before God.
- Keep a heart of worship in the midst of all.
- Remember that the greatest quality of all is love – love never fails.

1 Peter 5.8-9 NIV

⁸ **Be alert and of sober mind.** Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ **Resist him, standing firm in the faith,** because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

Colossians 3.1-2 The Message

¹⁻² So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, *act* like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. **Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from *his* perspective.**

There is a spirit of lawlessness that is increasing in our nation. There is chaos in the atmosphere. The spirit of antichrist is roaring like a lion seeking whom it can devour. It is filled with intimidation and manipulation. The spirit of antichrist has come into our government, into education, into media – in some instances even into the church!

God is saying be alert! See through His eyes. Discern by the Spirit and stand with Him. He will put His word in our mouth as we seek Him, and we will speak into the chaos and bring order as God spoke into the chaos in the beginning when He said, "Let there be light!" Praying as Jesus taught His disciples, **"Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. For Yours is the power and glory forever!"**

God created the heavens and the earth and they are His! They are two different dimensions – one visible and one invisible. When God spoke on the mountain to the Israelites His voice sounded like thunder because the invisible dimension of the King and His kingdom had come into the dimension of the earth. The earth shook, and there was lightning.

God created us to respond to what is going on in the earth. Darkness covers the earth. **God commands His people – arise and shine.**

A friend of mine, a fellow Detroitter and fierce intercessor, had a dream last week. And in her dream she saw Psalm 108. We are going to come into agreement with her declaration over Detroit, Michigan and the United States.

We declare to Detroit. We heard the promise of God: "In My triumph, I will be the One to measure out the portion of My inheritance to My people. I will secure the land as I promised you Detroit, Michigan and America. They are still Mine! God says Detroit will continue to produce godly leaders and lawgivers; Michigan will produce great warriors. The United States of America will become My lowly servant and likewise serve My purposes." **We lift up a shout of victory over the land of America!**

Today is an Election Day in Michigan. We declare peace and order in the voting process. We declare that only those legally eligible to vote will vote. Any duplication of voting or illegal voting will be exposed and not accepted in the count of ballots. We declare that the counting of ballots will be done with integrity and honesty. Any corruption or manipulation in the counting of ballots or turning in of ballots will be quickly exposed and made right. We speak a covering over the election in our state today. We bind spirits of intimidation and corruption and shatter any plans of evil in regards to our election process. We declare freedom for all voters to vote their conscience with no reprisal. We speak the grace of God over all election workers and declare they will operate in integrity.

We bless the name of the Lord. We bless Detroit. We bless Michigan. We bless America in the mighty name of Jesus! Blessing releases heaven on earth. Blessing is inclusive, not exclusive. Blessing is filled with light and breaks the grip of darkness. Blessing is linked with the love of God. The earth is the Lord's and everything in it. The world and all who live in it. **Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me; bless His holy name!**