

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Strength March 31, 2020 Suzi Armstrong

I heard the Lord say, "I am increasing you in strength. I am making you strong in Me, for I am strength. All strength is in Me. I am pouring prophetic strength into you. This is an equipping strength that breaks through and does not buckle. It is a leading edge strength that prevails and overcomes. It is an inner quality that is demonstrated on the outside as being unstoppable and unmovable in this new era."

In the beginning God gave man dominion. Adam and Eve were given strength to extend dominion in the earth. God commanded them to fill the earth and subdue it. They had strength to break into new territory and bring God's order. There was an intrinsic strength that God put in Adam and Eve to prevail over all things in their environment.

Strength is linked with the government of God – God's kingdom come.

Psalm 18.1-2 NIV

¹ **I love you, LORD, my strength.**

² The LORD is **my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;**
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Verse 1 defines strength as the Lord. He is our strength. This strength is military fortification and force to push back the enemy. The Lord's strength is might and power to subdue, conquer and overthrow. The Lord is our strength to stand and keep on standing. This strength flows through us being rooted in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 18.32-36 NIV

³² **It is God who arms me with strength
and keeps my way secure.**

³³ He makes my feet like the feet of a deer;
he causes me to stand on the heights.

³⁴ He trains my hands for battle;
my arms can bend a bow of bronze.

³⁵ You make your saving help my shield,
and your right hand sustains me;
your help has made me great.

³⁶ You provide a broad path for my feet,
so that my ankles do not give way.

- God arms us with strength.
- Arms are weapons and explosives used to fight wars – to push back what opposes us.
- The same power that parted the Red Sea is given to us as believers.

Ephesians 1.18-21 NIV

¹⁸ **I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know** the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, ¹⁹ and **his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength** ²⁰ **he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead** and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

- Paul prays that we would KNOW. Meaning that we would experience the reality of the Lord's strength in us.
- The Lord has put strength in us and that strength is Him!
- This is the same strength where the God of peace crushes the enemy under our feet.
- It is the same strength that does not allow any weapon formed against us to prevail.
- It is the same strength that is resurrection power.

John 16.33 NIV

³³ "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. **In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.**"

- When trouble comes in the world – and we are in the midst of trouble that has come upon the whole earth. It is called COVID-19.
- We are instructed to "take heart". That means do not lose heart. When we lose heart we lose strength – the strength of the Lord drains right out of us making us weak and unable to stand or advance.
- Jesus says, "I have overcome the world". We have been given supernatural strength to overcome and break through.
- This is the dynamic of advancing the kingdom of God in the earth.
- David said that he looks to where his strength comes from. He looked to the Lord because his strength came from the Lord.
- There will be tribulation or resistance – hard places – but in Christ there is strength to stand and strength to break through and advance.

Apostle Bob King prophesied this word on February 23:

You are being called back into alignment says the Lord. It won't be long. I am going to do it at the speed of a freight train. You will either be on or be off. This is a time of grace to come into a new level. This is a time of outpouring. Hear the voice of Holy Spirit and move when He says move. You are becoming new wine skins in your consecration. I am giving you prophetic clarity, opening your eyes of understanding and your heart of faith.

Satan wants to railroad us. Metaphorically to railroad means to coerce, trick or seduce into a course of action that you would not otherwise choose. The powers of darkness have released an incredible spirit of fear over the earth through COVID-19. The spirit of fear usurps strength and enforces oppression and control. Fear has a voice that intimidates and shuts down. But God says He is giving us prophetic clarity. He is opening our eyes of understanding. This is a place where God is saying to step into greater faith. "Be still and know that I am God. Then you will rise up with My voice of strength and speak," says the Lord.

Right now Detroit is a hot spot for the COVID-19 virus. We declare with prophetic clarity and strength that **Detroit belongs to the Lord!** We send strength into Detroit. Strength to the first responders. Strength to the doctors, nurses and healthcare workers. Healing and strength to the sick. Strength to families quarantined in their homes. Strength to fathers and mothers. **No weapon formed against Detroit will prosper.** Fear will not overtake our city. Fear will not paralyze the people, draining them of strength to stand and strength to advance. Fear will not define our future!

As the body of Christ we stand firm and unmovable in the strength of the Lord, and we declare that **our God reigns** over COVID-19. What the enemy meant for evil God will use for good. We are coming out of this stronger in the Lord, armed with a new strength and a new confidence. There is a new sound, a new roar rising up inside of us that will not be contained or silenced. It is the voice of the Lord being unleashed with laser-like prophetic accuracy.

For a long time we have been silent and held ourselves back. But now, like a woman in childbirth, we groan and we cry out, **"No more!"** We stand. We take our place. The Lord has adjusted our vision, and we see the victory. We stand in overcoming faith armed with strength. The Lord has opened our eyes to His incomparable great power and mighty strength! The fear of the Lord has risen up in our hearts. Out of our mouths comes a sharp two-edged sword – the word of the Lord, His governing word, setting His order in the earth for this time and era. We declare that God has set boundaries. We speak to COVID-19 and say, **"STOP!"** You will not topple Detroit or our nation – setting an unrighteous order in our land. **"NO WAY!"** We decree God's kingdom come and His will be done! We decree the divine order of the Lord is set in place over this time and era.