

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Greater One On the Inside May 6, 2025 Suzi Armstrong

1 John 4.1-5 NIV

¹ Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but **test the spirits to see whether they are from God**, because many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² This is how you can recognize the Spirit of God: Every spirit that acknowledges that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ but every spirit that does not acknowledge Jesus is not from God. This is **the spirit of the antichrist, which you have heard is coming and even now is already in the world.**

⁴ You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because **the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.** ⁵ They are from the world and therefore speak from the viewpoint of the world, and the world listens to them.

- It is important to test the spirits – to discern the voice that is speaking. There are many false narratives that are coming from the antichrist spirit.
- Who is the “them” that we as children of God have overcome? The antichrist spirit!
- Why? Because Christ in us and we are in Him. The Greater One is on the inside of us.
- The world listens to the antichrist spirit, but we listen to the Spirit of God and speak what He speaks.

I heard the Spirit of God say that the Greater One is on the inside of Michigan, on the inside of Detroit. In Greek, the word “greater” means majesty and sovereignty of God. It is further defined as exceedingly great, strong, surprising, violent, mighty, extraordinarily wonderful, more exalted, and more majestic. The emphasis is on the magnitude of God’s works and the profound impact of God’s actions.

When I heard the definition of sovereignty for the Greater One, I remembered the winning horse in the Kentucky Derby on Saturday was named Sovereignty. Sovereignty beat Journalism, the second horse. When I watched a video of the Kentucky Derby it was incredibly muddy, and the face of Sovereignty and the jockey were caked with mud after the race. The picture is very clear – the sovereignty of God is greater and more powerful than journalism who is the voice of the world’s systems. The Greater One, the Sovereign Lord, is at work and it can be messy in the trenches. The Spirit of God is drawing attention to the Sovereign One at work in us and at work in our City.

When Jesus went into the temple after returning from the devil tempting Him, He turned the scroll to Isaiah 61 and declared, “The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives, and release from darkness for the prisoners.”

The Greater One is on the inside of us and the Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is at work in our City, in our families, and in our communities. And He is anointing us to go into the trenches – the messy places – to proclaim the Good News to those who are captured in death structures, to speak freedom and release from darkness.

1 John 1.5-7 TPT

⁵ **This is the life-giving message we heard him share and it’s still ringing in our ears. We now repeat his words to you: God is pure light.** You will never find even a trace of darkness in him.

⁶ **If we claim that we share life with him, but keep walking in the realm of darkness, we’re fooling ourselves and not living the truth.** ⁷ **But if we keep living in the pure light that**

surrounds him, we share unbroken fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, continually cleanses us from all sin.

- The Greater One on the inside of us is at work in our City and Nation and is the Light of the world. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness cannot comprehend the light.
- The light of God shines through us as sons and daughters of the Greater One, the most holy and majestic Sovereign God.
- This past week, Michigan cities hosted multiple prayer and worship events for the National Day of Prayer. Governor Whitmer proclaimed May 1 as a Day of Prayer in Michigan. In past years of Governor Whitmer's administration she has not always acknowledged the National Day of Prayer.
 - The Greater One is at work in our State and cities!
 - The Light is shining brighter in Michigan!
 - Worship and prayer to God Most High continue to saturate the airwaves of Detroit and Michigan. The land is being saturated with that sound, releasing light and life into our communities. Setting captives free!
 - Church attendance is soaring. Many are hearing the Gospel, being born again, and being baptized.
 - Detroit is a harvest field. We call forth the harvest.

1 John 4.14-16 TPT

¹⁴ Moreover, we have seen with our own eyes and can **testify to the truth that Father God has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.** ¹⁵ **Those who give thanks that Jesus is the Son of God live in God, and God lives in them.** ¹⁶ We have **come into an intimate experience with God's love,** and we trust in the love he has for us.

God is love! Those who are living in love are living in God, and God lives through them.

1 John 5.4-5 TPT

⁴ You see, **every child of God overcomes the world,** for our faith is the victorious power that triumphs over the world. ⁵ **So who are the world conquerors, defeating its power? Those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God.**

Luke 10.19 NIV

¹⁹ I have given you **authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy;** nothing will harm you.

- To be given all authority means to be given the ability, right or power to do something.
- 1 John 3.8 ...the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil's work. In this we are set free.

Psalm 85.9 NIV

⁹ Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, **that His glory may dwell in our land.**

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

Father, we are thankful that you alone are the Most High God, the Sovereign One and our hope and future are in You alone. In the name of Jesus, we decree righteousness and justice will be preserved in our City, our communities, families, and our Nation. We decree that systems of darkness in our land are being exposed and brought to justice. Where politics and money have entered into alliances that promote evil ways, they will be exposed and brought to justice. The wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands. Evil people have said, "Come let us destroy this Nation and blot out the Name of the Lord". With one mind they plot together, and they form an alliance against righteousness. We decree freedom over our land.

We stand on the plumb line of God's justice, and we say that as it is in Heaven so shall it be on earth – in our political system and in our elected officials, in our State and Nation. We stand in the gap and tell wickedness to let go of this land and the people. We release the light of God into our government. **We declare that wickedness is being uprooted, and we plant righteousness in the Name of Jesus.**