

# FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

## Live In Truth – Strength To Persevere May 14, 2024 Suzi Armstrong

### Genesis 1.26-28 NASB

<sup>26</sup> Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and **let them rule over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." <sup>27</sup> God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. <sup>28</sup> God blessed them; and God said to them, "**Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over** the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

- Adam and Eve lived in the truth of what God spoke to them in the beginning.
- There was no conflict. There was no fear or battle with the environment or the animals or anything in the realm of the Garden God had placed man in.
- There was an intrinsic strength God put in mankind for them to prevail over all things in their environment. There was no battleground in the Garden.
- They were given strength to extend their God-given dominion in the earth. God commanded them to fill the earth. They had the strength to break into new territory and bring it under God's order.
- When Adam and Eve ate the fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, this created a battleground in them. Fear entered their hearts and reasoning entered their minds. Now Adam and Eve had to choose what truth they would live in.

### John 16.33 NASB

<sup>33</sup> These things I have spoken to you, so that **in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world.**

- This is a reestablishing of God's divine order.
- This strength comes through Jesus.
- There will be tribulation and resistance – hard places – but in Christ there is strength to break through and advance.

### 1 John 5.4-5 NASB

<sup>4</sup> For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and **this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith.**

<sup>5</sup> Who is the one who overcomes the world, but **he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?**

### Hebrews 12.1-3 NIV

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us **run with perseverance** the race marked out for us, <sup>2</sup> fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For **the joy set before him** he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. <sup>3</sup> **Consider him who endured such opposition** from sinners, so that **you will not grow weary and lose heart.**

- We are surrounded by faith and God gave us a measure of faith in our spirit man. In faith we can access the prophetic dynamic between truth and strength.
- v2 highlights how Jesus lived in prophetic truth and gained strength. Part of what enabled Him to walk out His destiny on the cross was that He kept the vision of truth before Him and the joy of the work of the cross completed gave Jesus strength. The joy of the Lord is our strength.
- Otherwise, He could have grown weary and lost His heart to finish. Truth and strength connected.
  - Where there is no clear prophetic vision of truth, people quickly wander away and become victims instead of breaking through.

## 1 John 5.19-20 NASB

<sup>19</sup> **We know that we are of God**, and that the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. <sup>20</sup> And we know that the Son of God has come, and has **given us understanding** so that we may **know Him who is true; and we are in Him who is true, in His Son Jesus Christ**. This is the true God and eternal life.

Satan has been eternally defeated. Christ has all dominion and power. Even though gross darkness covers the earth, God's command to us is to arise and shine because our LIGHT has come, and the GLORY of the Lord rises upon us! There is nothing impossible for God! The earth is the Lord's and everything in it. Time is in His hands. He is giving us strategy to take back our City. Accompanying the strategy is truth and strength – right now, cutting through and forming the new! Live in the truth God speaks – this was God's original intent.

## Psalm 18.1-2 NIV

<sup>1</sup> **I love you, LORD, my strength.**

<sup>2</sup> 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 is our strength to stand and keep on standing. This strength flows through us being rooted in Christ Jesus.

## Strength = Power

- Power or ability to exert force – push/move forward. This is a time to advance!
- Power or ability to resist force – being pushed against. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.
- God GIVES us His strength.

All strength is in the Lord. This is an equipping strength that breaks through. It is a strength that cuts into the new without buckling. It is a leading-edge strength. This is a strength that prevails and overcomes. It is an inner quality that is demonstrated on the outside as being unmovable and unstoppable.

## 1 Corinthians 16.13-14 NIV

<sup>13</sup> **Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong.** <sup>14</sup> **Do everything in love.**

## Isaiah 45.5 NIV

<sup>5</sup> I am the LORD, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God. **I will strengthen you...**

## DECLARATION:

**We release strength over the top of DETROIT, our state and our nation in the Name of Jesus.**

- D** DETROIT, drink from the rivers of God's life and stand tall.
- E** Eat, DETROIT, at the feast of God's goodness and splendor, being in awe of Him.
- T** Take your victory, DETROIT, by force. You have the authority of Heaven.
- R** Rule in righteousness, DETROIT, receive the strength of the Lord.
- O** Overtake the power of darkness and outrageously shine, DETROIT, to the nations.
- I** Instruments of integrity are you, DETROIT. Release the sound of Heaven – your Kingdom come, God!! Your will be done, God!! Here on earth as it is in Heaven.
- T** Time is now, DETROIT. For now is the time to go forth in truth and walk triumphantly!! You are restored to your former glory and more in the Lord!!

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