

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

Feasting At the Table August 1, 2023 Suzi Armstrong

Psalm 23.5 NIV

⁵ **You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.** You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows.

- The Message – You serve me a six-course dinner right in front of my enemies.
- NLT – You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies.
- We have a table that God has prepared for us right now. And we can go to that table and feast!
- The beginning of Psalm 23 says that the Lord is our Shepherd, that He will lead us, we will not lack, and we should fear no evil.
- This is how we are to live right now.
- Whenever we see something happening that is evil or feel the presence of your enemies, ask Holy Spirit to show you where God's table is so you can feast.
- Be strong and courageous – do not fear.

These are days that the enemy is mocking God. The enemy is cocky and self-absorbed. He is not hiding as he was in the past, but now he is flaunting his anti-Christ agenda throughout the earth using the weapons of manipulation, control, lies and more lies, intimidation, fear, and threats. Psalm 23 says that in the middle of all of that, the Lord has set a table for you and me – a place where we can feast, a six-course dinner right in front of the enemy's face. Like Jesus, we have food to eat that the world knows nothing about. This food is nourishing and life-giving.

The enemy wants us to believe him as he throws his lies and intimidation at us. Scripture says that we are not mere humans – we are new creations in Christ Jesus and through our union with Christ we are supernatural and beyond human. We are seated next to Christ, far above powers and principalities and all wickedness. Our name is united with the Name of Jesus.

The devil wants to distract us and get us entangled in his lies. Now is the time to untether from the lies of Satan. The Bible tells us multiple times to set our mind on things above. Look at what God is doing; hear what God is saying. The God of peace crushes Satan under our feet. Many Christian leaders have heard the Lord say that something is coming this fall that is going to shake the world as we know it. But the Lord is saying again and again, do not fear. He is saying, remember that I have a table set for you in the presence of your enemies. Look to see and eat from My table. My table is the table of life and life more abundantly – taste and see.

Paul prays that the eyes of your heart would be opened so that you can see the incomparable great power of God that is at work. God is saying be aware of your oneness with Christ for in that oneness is everything that you need and beyond. Turn your attention to your spirit-man and connect with the power of God in you. And your brain will start to re-wire with the frequency of the truth that your heart knows. This is the truth of Jesus Christ. And the truth will set you free from apprehension, frustration, and fear of the unknown. You will start to live out of the overflow of your heart instead of the overflow of your mind. The Kingdom of Heaven is within you. Tap into the Kingdom of God and His glory within you. All of this is part of the table God has set before you – this is the feasting table! You do not have to wait for God to come and rescue you – He has already rescued you. He has joined Himself in oneness with each of us. Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

Deuteronomy 8.1-3 NIV

¹ **Be careful to follow every command I am giving you today, so that you may live and increase and may enter and possess the land** the LORD promised on oath to your ancestors. ² Remember how the LORD your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. ³ He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that **man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

- Jesus quoted this scripture to satan when He was tempted in the wilderness.
- In the Lord's Prayer Jesus teaches to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." This is not talking about making a sandwich, it is referring to the revelation of Jesus.
- Jesus is the Living Word and the Word is alive and active, sharper than any two-edged sword. One of the things the Word cuts through is the lies of satan – his deception. The Word is truth.

John 6.35 NIV

³⁵ **Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life.** Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

- There is supernatural bread of life on the feasting table.

John 6.57-58 NIV

⁵⁷ Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so **the one who feeds on me will live** because of me. ⁵⁸ **This is the bread that came down from heaven.** Your ancestors ate manna and died, but whoever feeds on this bread will live forever."

2 Corinthians 10.4-5 NIV

⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have **divine power** to demolish strongholds. ⁵ **We demolish arguments and every pretension** that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we **take captive every thought** to make it obedient to Christ.

- Eat from the table of truth that God set before us in the presence of our enemies.
- Apathy and complacency are two arguments set against your mind – take captive those thoughts. They are not who you are. They are lies. Let passion, zeal, and truth come forth.

PRAYER AND DECLARATION:

Father, we thank You for Your deep love for us and for Detroit and the people of this state. Your love is deeper than the oceans, Your love reaches to the sky – Your goodness is higher than the highest mountain. This is who You are to our city and our nation.

We speak Jeremiah 5.22 (ESV) over our cities and state, "Do you not fear Me? Declares the Lord. Do you not tremble before me? I placed the sand as a boundary for the sea. A perpetual barrier that it cannot pass; though the waves toss, they cannot prevail; though they roar, they cannot pass over."

Let the fear of the Lord fall upon Detroit and Michigan. Let the Name of Jesus resound throughout our land. Let righteousness and justice prevail. Drink deeply from TRUTH and eat from the table of life. The Lord alone is your radiant hope – trust in Him. The voice of the Lord is over Michigan, the God of glory thunders in the deep. **Now Michigan and all that is in it – choose life! Choose blessing! Choose hope! Choose freedom and not wickedness!**

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory for every family of Detroit and Michigan. Your Kingdom come and Your will be done. As deep calls to deep, **let Your waves and breakers sweep over us.**