

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Beginning Is Intense February 9, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

New beginnings are intense. The old is superseded by the new. There are new ways of engagement. Joshua termed it like this: "We have never been this way before." The 120 in the Upper Room waiting on the promised Holy Spirit so they could be endued with power had no idea what that meant – but it changed everything as a new era began. New beginnings bring confrontation and war. Intensity fills the atmosphere – it is a strong force. Intensity is marked by great zeal and focus and is deeply felt; it is filled with passion and strong effort. Intensity is riveting and cannot be escaped. Strong opinions and strong belief systems are heard. Intensity is not lukewarm! Confrontation and stand-offs are part of the intensity we find ourselves in.

This is a time the Lord is saying worship Me intensely. The intensity of worship supersedes all other intensity. Love intensely. Believe intensely. Hope intensely. Rejoice intensely. Intensity releases a sound and God Himself is enthroned and ascends out of the sound of our worship. God is shifting us beyond where we are and where we have been. This requires great intensity. He is shifting us to bring forth a harvest. Through this intensity God is bringing expansion and resetting boundaries. God is shaking all that can be shaken and this produces intensity.

This is what it looks like in the spirit realm right now:

- The sound of true and pure worship being released. It is a declarative sound and a love song to our Father and King. It is filled with strong faith declaring that God is who He says that He is. There is a place of deep intimacy that bows in reverence and awe of the reality of who God is. Our hearts cry out in adoration as we ascribe glory to His Name. It is a beautiful and life sustaining intensity that fills our heart and empowers us to stand strong – filling us with courage and boldness.
- Iniquitous and unrighteous thrones are being toppled. Exposure of lies, deception, cover-up, corruption, evil deeds and wickedness is everywhere. This creates an intensity in itself as demons, powers and principalities are being exposed. The devil tries to fill the atmosphere with fear and oppression to stop the sound of worship going forth.
- The King of Righteousness comes in bringing His glory to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. His beauty and holiness being displayed for all to see. Intense light is released that scatters darkness. His presence brings life and hope, healing and deliverance. The harvest is ripe.
- The kingdom of God is forcefully advancing. And forceful believers lay hold of it. The increase of His government and peace never ends.

Isaiah 50.7 NKJV

⁷ For the Lord GOD will help Me;
Therefore I will not be disgraced;
Therefore **I have set My face like a flint,**
And I know that I will not be ashamed.

- Made a decision and taken a firm stance.
- Setting your face toward the Lord – knowing that victory is in Him.
- Tenacity.

James 4.5-8a TPT

⁵ Does the Scripture mean nothing to you that says, **“The Spirit that God breathed into our hearts is a jealous Lover who intensely desires to have more and more of us”?**

⁶ But he continues to pour out more and more grace upon us. For it says, God resists you when you are proud but continually pours out grace when you are humble.”

⁷ So then, **surrender to God. Stand up to the devil and resist him** and he will turn and run away from you. ⁸ **Move your heart closer and closer to God, and he will come even closer to you.**

John 15.4-5 NIV

⁴ **Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself;** it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

⁵ “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; **apart from me you can do nothing.**

Psalm 44.4-5 TPT

⁴ **You are my God, my King!**

It’s now time to decree majesties for Jacob!

⁵ **Through your glorious name and your awesome power we can push through to any victory and defeat every enemy.**

Psalm 97.1-6 NIV

¹ **The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad;**
let the distant shores rejoice.

² Clouds and thick darkness surround him;
righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

³ **Fire goes before him**
and consumes his foes on every side.

⁴ **His lightning lights up the world;**
the earth sees and trembles.

⁵ **The mountains melt like wax before the LORD,**
before the Lord of all the earth.

⁶ **The heavens proclaim his righteousness,**
and all peoples see his glory.

Prayer

We give thanks to the Lord and call upon His Name that is above every other name! We make known to our nation and our city what He has done and proclaim that His Name is exalted. The Lord Almighty has mustered His army for war. Every man’s heart will melt. The multitudes in the valley of decision will make their choice. The Lion has roared – who will not fear? The Sovereign Lord has spoken – who can but prophesy? Seek good and not evil, that you may live. Then the Lord God Almighty will be with you. Hate evil, love good, maintain justice in the courts. Firmly resolve to put your heart into what you do. Administer true justice; show mercy and compassion. For the Lord is good and His mercy endures forever. Turn your face to the Lord and delight in Him for the earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.