Prayer: Bringing Heaven To Earth

11-26-17

2 Corinthians 1:10–11 (ESV)

¹⁰ He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again. ¹¹ You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

The last two messages show how God Himself trains and prepares us through difficulties.

- 1. Taught the Ministry of Comfort, verse 3-7.
- 2. Taught not to rely on ourselves but God who raises the dead, verses 8-9.

These lessons are transforming our heart and training us to walk with God.

3. Now the culmination of this preparation, we experience God as HE delivers us in our difficulties, verses 10-11.

I highly recommend you read 2Cor.1:3-11 and apply them to your own situation. These Scriptures are powerful avenues to understand and experience God's deliverance. Those trained by God have a ministry of hope and deliverance, which they have experienced from God bringing heaven to earth.

2 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV)

He delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will deliver us again.

For a Christian, difficulties of life are Holy Ground. Having experience the deliverance of God in these difficulties of life, we become ministers of that same deliverance we have received. God's lessons and preparation permeates the whole church and each believer unifies in a chorus of prayer with each believer being apart of the deliverance from God.

2 Corinthians 1:11 (ESV)

You also must help us by prayer! (Because) the blessing (was) granted us through the prayers of many.

Summation: God trains us to pray! In difficulties believers come together in prayer. When we pray things happen immediately in the heavens and on earth!

Psalm 18:6-9 (NCV)

- In my trouble I called to the LORD. I cried out to my God for help. From his temple he heard my voice; my call for help reached his ears.
- The earth trembled and shook.
 The foundations of the mountains began to shake.
 They trembled because the LORD was angry.
- 8 Smoke came out of his nose, and burning fire came out of his mouth. Burning coals went before him.
- 9 He tore open the sky and came down with dark clouds under his feet.

As we embrace prayer, we naturally move to God for deliverance when difficulties arise. We see into the heavens! We bring heaven to earth. When trained by God and future difficulties come; our mind goes immediately to God for deliverance.

Lamentations 3:21–24 (ESV)
²¹ But this I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:

- ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end;
- ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.
- "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in HIM."

Daniel gives us a graphic picture of what happens when we pray.

Dan.9:23 (NCV)

(Gabriel said) When you first started praying, an answer was given, and I came to tell you, because God loves you very much.

Our prayer is heard immediately and the battle commences in heaven! The outcome is sure, but we must persevere and continue to pray completely through the situation. Things are happening in heaven initiated by our prayer that we cannot see!

Daniel 10:12 (ESV)

Fear not, Daniel, for <u>from the first day</u> that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.

There is something else we cannot see when we pray: Immediate Opposition from the Evil One!

Daniel 10:13 (ESV)

The prince of the kingdom of Persia (Satan) withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me.

When we pray and the battle is on!!! All the darkness of the Evil One is thrown at us. However, we pray with power and confidence knowing that God is the victor in this cosmic battle around us.

Philippians 4:6 (ESV)

Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Remember this whole section of 2Cor.1:3-11 is showing us how God was teaching us not to rely on ourselves but on God for our deliverance. If we grasp this reality and bring everything to God in prayer we move into a place of powerful peace that surpasses all understanding even as things seem to fall apart all around us.

Psalm 46:1-3 (ESV)

- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- ² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
 - though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
- though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

In confidence we pray and prayer builds our faith. Jude 20 (ESV)

But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith praying in the Holy Spirit.

Faith is hearing God and doing what HE says.
Therefore when we pray we hear better to pray better and see more clearly bringing heaven to earth.

How are we qualified to pray bringing heaven to earth?

2Cor.5:21 (NIV)

God made HIM who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in HIM we might become the righteousness of God.

Prophetic Team

Hear from the Holy Spirit to change the current situation or impact the future.