

# WORD AT WORK

## A Kairos Of Favor IV

Dear Friends:

The Bible reveals the desire of the Creator to have a relationship with His creation. Abram expressed man's problem with God, "Lord GOD, how shall I know that I will inherit it?" Gen 15:8 God's answer was a blood covenant, "On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram,..." Gen 15:18

God requires obedience on man's part in order to perform the promise which is His part, "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth. And all these blessings shall come upon you and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the LORD your God: ... The LORD will cause your enemies who rise against you to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways." Deut 28:1,2,7

Covenant guarantees God's intervention procuring salvation at a number of levels. Eternal life in salvation was ultimately guaranteed by the life and death of Jesus, God's own Son. Much more than salvation for the soul has been promised in covenant. When judgment falls, salvation is released.

In covenant, God promises to be an enemy to our enemies. How do we activate this part of the covenant? Jesus said in Luke 10:19, "'Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.'"

Throughout the Psalms, David asks for covenant salvation knowing that only God's judgment releases it. Psalm 143:12 states, "In Your mercy cut off my enemies, And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant." Psalm 149:9 says all believers can ask for this covenant salvation, "To execute on them the written judgment – This honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD!"

Are we asking?

Yours in Him,

Al Houghton

# W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XXV NUMBER V

A Kairos Of Favor IV

## SUNDAY, May 1

Scripture: Psalm 102:12,13

Verses 12 and 13 state, “But You, O LORD , shall endure forever, And the remembrance of Your name to all generations. You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come.” We need to understand that in a declared season of God’s favor a very significant event happens which speaks volumes about what the Lord is prepared to do for us. He rises from His throne. What happens when God gets up from His throne? What does the Scripture mean when it says God will arise in our behalf? Imagine God standing just to accept our request. We can almost visualize what might happen from that moment. God arising indicates a transition from by-stander to participant. The action on His part to bring to pass what we’ve asked is certainly assured.

## MONDAY, May 2

Scripture: Psalm 143:12

Psalm 143:12 says, “In Your mercy cut off my enemies, And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant.” If we add this to the picture of God arising then it leaves little doubt as to what His actions would be if this were our prayer. A plea for covenant mercy to God, who has already arisen from His throne to bring to pass our request, could certainly put an end to all opposition. In verse 12 the, “...cut off...” has an alternate rendering in the NKJ which is “...put an end to...” So it could just as easily read, “**In Your mercy** ‘put an end to’ what our Judicial system is doing to the Christian heritage of America. **In Your mercy** ‘put an end to’ Roe v Wade. **In Your mercy** ‘put an end to’ every Supreme Court Justice who votes to uphold Roe v Wade. ‘Put an end to’ every Supreme Court Judge who voted to remove the sodomy laws in America. **In Your mercy** ‘put an end to’ every Supreme Court Justice who voted to remove the Ten Commandments. ‘Put an end to’ every Supreme Court Judge who votes against life.” Imagine God standing up arising to hear a covenant plea, and project what His actions might be! In a season of favor God arises to hear the church!

## TUESDAY, May 3

Scripture: Psalm 12:1-5

In Psalm 12 the first five verses state, “HELP, LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. They speak idly everyone with his neighbor; With flattering lips and a double heart

they speak. May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, And the tongue that speaks proud things, Who have said, 'With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?' 'For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, Now I will arise,' says the LORD; 'I will set him in the safety for which he yearns.'" Verse 5 is very interesting when it says, "**Now I will arise**, says the LORD; I will set him in the safety for which he yearns.'" God promises that He will arise and when He rises, His actions follow Him and the consistent picture which emerges is salvation by judgment because the enemy ceases to exist. When God blows the enemy away it usually means extra business for the funeral homes. In this Psalm, when God arises, notice who gets "...cut off..." or "...put an end to..." It is all those who speak proud things and "Who have said, 'With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?'" If that is not the height and width and breadth of the American Judiciary, I don't know what is. They have continually said, "With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips are our own; Who is lord over us?" But in a season of favor, God arises. In verse 5 He says, "'Now I will arise ... and I will set him [the believer the covenant man or woman] in the safety for which he yearns.'" In a season of favor when God gets up, the enemy better back-up. Are we willing to step into this arena and take a covenant stand for God to arise and deal with our judges? The time is at hand!

#### WEDNESDAY, May 4

Scripture: Psalm 12:6-8

Verses 6 through 8 say, "The words of the LORD are pure words, Like silver tried in a furnace of earth, Purified seven times. You shall keep them, O LORD, You shall preserve them from this generation forever. The wicked prowl on every side, When vileness is exalted among the sons of men." When can we expect God to arise and deal with those who are perverting the nation? Verse 8 says, "When vileness is exalted among the sons of men." When the Supreme Court voted to advance the homosexual agenda by nullifying the Texas sodomy laws, they exalted vileness among the sons of men. They have set themselves in the category of the wicked, prowling over the nation from their exalted position. I suspect they have yet to meet the God who arises in behalf of the church, but how is the church praying? What are we asking for? There comes a point when an additional prayer has to be added to our pleas for salvation. It is one thing to ask God to save our judges, but quite another thing, in the same breath to covenantally demand, "God 'put an end to' their defiling works." The American Judiciary is perverting the Constitution by legislating from the bench! They constantly rule against anything godly. I think it is time we added this covenantal step because God is ready to rise. It is a season of favor. Historically salvation for the nation meant "putting an end to" those who were defiling it! Today's judges are like rulers of the people and for us as Christians they deserve our utmost respect. *Never* could any Christian lift a finger physically against one of their leaders. That is **not** what we're talking about. We are talking about taking a covenantal stand before the throne and asking GOD to "put an end to" their works. When God does it then the fear of the Lord comes. The fear of the Lord came to Israel when the earth opened and swallowed Korah, Dathan and Abiram. No "man" could do that – only God. What we're talking about is the church taking a covenantal stand until God moves. We continue to support, while on one hand praying for their salvation, while on the other putting a covenantal demand before the throne for God to "put an end to" their works. Defiling the land demands increased judgment. Vengeance belongs to the Lord and every believer has to be committed to leaving it in His hands. We haven't understood that the Lord expects us through the covenant to activate and move His hands by intercession.

#### THURSDAY, May 5

Scripture: Psalm 68:1-12

Verses 1 through 4 say, "Let God arise, Let His enemies be scattered; Let those also who hate Him flee before Him. As smoke is driven away, So drive them away; As wax melts before the fire, So let the wicked perish at the presence of God. But let the righteous be glad; Let them rejoice before God; Yes, let them rejoice exceedingly. Sing to God, sing praises to His name; Extol Him who rides on the clouds, By His name YAH, And rejoice before Him." What happens when God arises? The picture needs to be complete in our heart so we can act accordingly. When God arises, He does so for a serious biblical purpose. He does so to act on His covenant and to destroy the enemy which is afflicting His covenant people. The promise is "He will drive them away as smoke is

driven away. As wax melts before the fire...” God will move in our behalf. It is time to believe Him and make a stand on our covenant. When God removes the enemy, salvation is manifested to the covenant people. “The Lord gives the word; Great is the company that proclaims it: and kings flee while those who remain at home divide the spoil.”

#### FRIDAY, May 6

Scripture: Isaiah 59:14-16, 11

In Isaiah 59, God reveals He is broken or shattered into pieces when no one calls for judgment or a judicial verdict manifesting the right thing, naturally, morally or legally. When nobody calls for what is right, (by “calls” we mean takes a covenantal stand demanding that God move in our behalf to bring salvation) – when we don’t do that then verse 9 says, “Therefore justice (**mish-pawt** judgment) is far from us, Nor does righteousness overtake us; We look for light, but there is darkness! For brightness, but we walk in blackness!” Verse 11b says, “We look for **mish-pawt**, but there is none; For salvation, but it is far from us.” The reason why verse 11 is so important in understanding this process is that *without judgment there is no salvation*. For some strange reason the church can’t quite seem to embrace that or understand it. But it is very clear in Scripture. Over and over again God’s judgment releases salvation. Without the judgment there is no salvation. Covenantally that is how God operates. When He arises, in Scripture, He arises to execute judgment and therefore bring salvation to His people. Verses 14 through 16 make it very clear how God feels about this process, “Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands afar off; For truth is fallen in the street, And equity cannot enter. So truth fails, And he who departs from evil makes - himself a prey. Then the LORD saw it, and it **displeased** Him That there was no justice/**mish pawt**. He saw that there was no man, And wondered that there was no intercessor; Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; And His own righteousness, it sustained Him.” When God saw that there was no **mish-pawt**, He Himself brought it and this of course speaks about what Jesus bought and paid for. This is the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. Why is it that we only think of the salvation side and we don’t understand that in order for salvation to manifest on a national level, it often only comes through judgment on the offending defiling parties. When we are ready to add the imprecatory prayers to our prayers for salvation for our leaders, perhaps then we will begin to see the deliverance of the land! God has given us spiritually what we need to deal with our current judicial crisis. The question is whether or not the church will arise to the occasion.

#### SATURDAY, May 7

Scripture: Isaiah 59:20,21

Verses 20 and 21 say, “‘The Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob,’ says the LORD. ‘As for Me,’ says the LORD, ‘this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants’ descendants.’ Says the LORD, ‘from this time and forevermore.’” It is very obvious in Isaiah 59 that God not only brings judgment in order to release salvation for His people but He promises this covenantal manifestation will fall on any generation who determines to turn from transgression and move toward Him. He promises that the same spirit that was on Isaiah and the prophets will move in the lives of that generation and manifest His judgment for their salvation. It can’t get any clearer than this. The question is, are we willing to embrace the judgment side of God and begin to put a demand on His covenant for that kind of intervention in order that our nation can experience salvation?

#### SUNDAY, May 8

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1,2

Verses 1 and 2 state, “Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you.” We have been studying the favor of God, one aspect of that favor is God arising from His throne to begin to move in behalf of His people, and that implies judgment on the enemy so

that salvation can come. In Isaiah 60:1,2 we find God promising to arise upon the church manifesting the glory of the Lord when great darkness is covering the earth and deep darkness the people. He promises He will arise and His glory will be poured out on His church. Surely we see the darkness, therefore it is time to put a demand on His covenant for the light. It is time for the light to shine.

#### MONDAY, May 9

#### **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

Scripture: Acts 7:51-58

Acts 7:51-58 shows us God in action standing to receive Stephen. We're told, "But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, and said, 'Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!' Then they cried out with a loud voice, stopped their ears, and ran at him with one accord;...." It is obvious that God stands when those full of the devil face His saints that are full of Him. He stands to receive the martyrs. He stands at His throne when He sees His church in duress. He stands to move in their behalf, whether it is receiving the martyrs or pouring out His Spirit in dealing with the perpetrators. Being a perpetrator, in this passage, gets the ultimate dealing. He gets called into ministry and has to endure a life of his own, suffering at the hands of others what his own hands dispensed. Who says God doesn't have a sense of humor?

#### TUESDAY, May 10

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:14-19

One of the questions we should ask ourselves in a **kairos of favor** is what will God do for the church financially? From this passage He tells us that as long as we are able to say, "I have obeyed the voice of the LORD my God, and have done according to all that You have commanded me." If we can say that, if we can actually give, according to the leadership of the Spirit, then we initiate this Hebrew hiphil causative verb. Our action puts a demand on a promised covenantal reaction from the Lord. Verses 17 and 18 are the heart of this covenant and they say, "*Today* you have proclaimed the LORD to be your God, and that you will walk in His ways and keep His statutes, His commandments, and His judgments, and that you will obey His voice. Also *today* the LORD has proclaimed you to be His special people, just as He has promised you, that you should keep all His commandments,...." The "proclaimed" of verse 17, when we qualify, puts a demand on God to fulfill the "proclaimed" in verse 18. When we have obeyed what God tells us to do, our action causes Him to agree to what we have asked Him to do. We become the passive initiators in our obedience. This is the covenantal offer of verses 17 and 18. If we will obey His voice and do what He says, then He will hear our voice and do what we ask. We are the ones whose obedience opens the door for God to do what we ask of Him. This is typical covenantal language. A **kairos of favor** marks a financial transition. Are we proclaiming the Lord? He is ready to proclaim us, or put an end to the enemy stealing our provision. Are we ready for whatever covenantal action is necessary to bring the salvation for which we stand? A **kairos of favor** is here – take the stand!

#### WEDNESDAY, May 11

Scripture: Haggai 1:4-8

Verses 4 through 8 state, "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins? Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts; 'Consider your ways! You have sown much, and bring in little; You eat, but you do not have enough; You drink, but you are not filled with drink; You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, Earns wages to put into a bag with holes.' Thus says the LORD of hosts; 'Consider your ways! Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple, that I may take pleasure in it and be glorified,' says the LORD." "Building the temple", in verse 8, is certainly not what we are called to do, but it has an application. The application of "building the temple" is building the platform for ministry within the generation to which we are called. God wants a harvest out of our nation, we dare not allow the enemy to pollute it to the point that judgment then destroys the harvest that we are ordained to reap. That can happen, has

happened and is happening in some arenas. God has given us a covenant and He demands that we take a stand on it through His promises impacting our generation. He never intended us to take all of our covenant promises and seek our own promotion our own good and our own blessing. That was never in His heart. When we attempt to walk down that pathway and use our faith for our own personal blessing, things tend to dry up. This is a **kairos of favor**. It is time to stand on it and put a demand on God's covenant to clean house in our judiciary and to restore the paths to dwell in, the desolations of many generations. If we do our part, God will certainly do His. God will arise financially and in other areas progressively as we follow Him. This is the season to take a stand and believe Him for a New Day!

#### THURSDAY, May 12

Scripture: Psalm 2:10-12

In Psalm 2, right after asking and receiving the nations for an inheritance and the ends of the earth for a possession, being promised that divine authority would break them with a rod of iron and dash all opposition into pieces, we find these three verses, which very much apply to what we see in America today. Verses 10 through 12 state, "Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, And rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him." Isn't it interesting that for the very same generation that will see nations as a harvest field God warns the judges. And the warning is to "Kiss the Son lest He be angry and you perish...." The Hebrew word for "perish" is **aw-bad**. The very same word that we see in Psalm 143 when David is demanding imprecatory mercy. David said in verse 12, "In Your mercy cut off (**tsaw-math** = extirpate, destroy) my enemies, **Aw-bad** means "put an end to all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant." The same **aw-bad** that David covenantally demanded concerning his enemies so that salvation could come is used in Psalm 2:12 as a warning to the judges that if they don't shape up and "Kiss the Son..." they are toast, they are dead meat, they are history – as only God can make them history. So in effect we have this covenant proclaimed as an end-time issue that undoubtedly impacts the harvest. How can we harvest nations when we have judges that are removing all semblance of Christian heritage and championing homosexual rights? Judges are dramatically impeding the harvest. God says it is up to us to do something about it (before His throne) because we have a covenant and the covenant when invoked brings a divine response. If invoking covenant "puts an end to" opposition then from the looks of the opposition the church has done zero invoking. It is time for *that* to change.

#### FRIDAY, May 13

Scripture: Psalm 3

David wrote two Psalms when he fled from Absalom – Psalm 143 and Psalm 3. Notice Psalm 3, "LORD, how they have increased who trouble me! Many are they who rise up against me. Many are they who say of me, 'There is no help for him in God.' Selah. But You, O LORD, are a shield for me, My glory and the One who lifts up my head. I cried to the LORD with my voice, And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah. I lay down and slept; I awoke, for the LORD sustained me. I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people Who have set themselves against me all around. Arise, O LORD; Save me, O my God! For You have struck all my enemies on the cheekbone; You have broken the teeth of the ungodly. Salvation belongs to the LORD. Your blessing is upon Your people. Selah." David understood that salvation only comes when God strikes the enemy on the cheekbone and breaks their teeth. When is the last time the church stood up and asked God to strike the enemy and break their teeth so that salvation could come? David had no problem with that. He understood it and this is obviously written at the beginning of that rebellion because it describes exactly what he faced with Absalom. David is the one with the covenant of "sure mercy" and he is the one who stands on it. The last time I looked, Jesus said it still belongs to us. Are we standing on it now? We need to be. David would have. Will we give an account to God for not standing on that covenant? Will we be able to say, "I didn't know the Supreme Court was my responsibility. I didn't think I could do anything about them." Will that fly in the face of the covenant of sure mercy bought and paid for by the blood of the Lamb?

## SATURDAY, May 14

Scripture: Psalm 102:12,13

We have come to a season of God's favor. Verses 12 and 13 make it very clear what we can expect. Verses 13 and 14 say, "You will arise and have mercy on Zion; For the time to favor her, Yes, the set time, has come. For Your servants take pleasure in her stones, And show favor to her dust." What can we expect in a set time, an ordained season of God's favor when we know that He is rising in our behalf? What can we expect? What is the pattern? What should we be looking for? What should we be asking for? How do we position ourselves in such a season?

## SUNDAY, MAY 15

Scripture: Psalm 143

Psalm 3 is where David begins his covenantal stand in which he identifies the enemy by their actions and the fruit as it impacts his life. He is pursued by thousands. Absalom has the nation pursuing David. But David knows very well that he has his own failures to look at. So in verses 1 and 2 he covers that issue in the same breath that he begins to tell God about what the enemy is doing. Verses 1 through 3 record it this way, "Hear my prayer, O LORD, Give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, And in Your righteousness. Do not enter into judgment/**mish-pawt** with Your servant, For in Your sight no one living is righteous. For the enemy has persecuted my soul; He has crushed my life to the ground; He has made me dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead." Verse 4 continues, "Therefore my spirit is overwhelmed within me; My heart within me is distressed." Couldn't we say the same thing about the Supreme Court? When we get ready to see God's covenantal judgment so salvation can come to the land, we need also to remind Him and ask Him not to enter in to judgment with His servants, for no one living is righteous. In such an hour, our individual failures are not the paramount issue. The issue is the land and the harvest is being destroyed by a few rulers who will not bow and refuse to "Kiss the Son...." The result is exactly what we find in Psalm 143:3,4. We "...dwell in darkness, Like those who have long been dead and our spirit is overwhelmed. Our heart is distressed..." as they remove all the godly heritage that our forefathers set in the law. They legislate from the bench against righteousness. They are untouchable because of life-time appointments but they only think they are untouchable. The God of the Bible knows exactly where they live and He knows exactly how to touch them. How are we praying? What are we asking God for? David didn't flinch when it came to facing destruction on the land, even though the perpetrator was his own son! The grief of that moment is recorded when David gets what he asked. Losing a child is grief enough for a lifetime, but losing one to answered prayer is in an entirely different dimension. How many of us can say we are ready to rise up in our covenant and take on the enemy nose-to-nose hoping the results will bless and not curse our children?

## MONDAY, May 16

Scripture: Psalm 143:10-12

Verses 10 through 12 says, "Teach me to do Your will, For You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness. Revive me, O LORD, for Your name's sake! For Your righteousness' sake bring my soul out of trouble. In Your mercy cut off my enemies, And destroy all those who afflict my soul; For I am Your servant." David made the call and put a demand on the covenant and he asked God to put an end to his enemies so he could have salvation. We know the story. God answered! He put an end to it. Are we ready to stand in our covenant and ask God to put an end to the filthy, perverse and abominable decisions that are coming out of our Supreme Court? Are we willing to stand and ask God to "put an end to" the votes of Sandra Day O'Connor, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, David H Souter, Steven Breyer, John Paul Stevens and Anthony M Kennedy? Perhaps it is time we took a stand and asked God to "put an end to" those justices who have signed on to destroying our Christian heritage. It is a target rich environment and at the minimum we can ask that they "Kiss the Son or perish". It is covenantal. We need salvation just like David did. The question is, are we willing to ask for it?

## TUESDAY, May 17

Scripture: Psalm 18:1-3

This is the Psalm of David, “who spoke to the Lord these words the day the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies and from the hand of Saul.” He said, “I will love You, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies.” Is there any saving from our enemies if we don’t “...call upon the LORD...”? The issue here is obvious. We have not understood what “...calling upon the LORD...” means because we don’t “...call upon the LORD...” like David did. When David called on the LORD, he called for covenantal judgment. He called for the God Who holds the heart of rulers in His hand to squeeze it until there was no life left. David called upon God to remove his enemies so that salvation could come to the land. And God answered! He is still a covenant keeping God. He keeps covenant to a thousand generations. Why should we think it is any different today when our nation is being perverted by six votes out of nine on the Supreme Court? We simply need to do what David did and we can expect the same results David got. David called on the Lord. Are we willing to call? We have yet to be saved from the Supreme Court. They have not turned. Year by year they got worse, so it is obvious that somebody is not calling. The time for “...calling...” is here! Pass out the testosterone and make the call!

## WEDNESDAY, May 18

Scripture: Psalm 18:16-19

In verses 16-19 we find, “He sent from above, He took me; He drew me out of many waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the LORD was my support. He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me.” Anyone who reads the Psalms has to catch the covenantal relationship that exists between God and His people. David understood salvation. I don’t think we do. We think salvation comes because God saves everybody. But salvation often came when He judged the enemy. When He destroyed the enemy salvation came. We continue to pray for the salvation of the members of the Supreme Court. We have gone beyond the issue of salvation when they continue to fill the land with iniquity and destroy our godly heritage. The time for salvation for the land has come and the time to pray as David prayed is here! The nation needs deliverance from six votes on this court. Isn’t it time that we stood in the gap and called on God for deliverance for the land?

## THURSDAY, May 19

Scripture: Genesis 18:1-3

Genesis 18 reveals a covenantal exchange between God and Abraham. Verses 1 through 3 state, “Then the LORD appeared to him by the terebinth trees of Mamre, as he was sitting in the tent door in the heat of the day. So he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing by him; and when he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them, and bowed himself to the ground, and said, ‘My Lord, if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant.’” This begins the interaction between Abram, based on God’s favor toward him. Abram is about to negotiate concerning the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah. Abram enters that negotiation based on divine favor. He says, “...if I have now found favor in Your sight, do not pass on by Your servant.” Abram entered into negotiation based on *favor*. This negotiation could be a two-way street. For David the negotiation was bringing the judgment. For Abraham the negotiation is that the righteous Lot should not be destroyed along with the wicked. Abraham had no problem with the wicked being destroyed. Do we? That’s a given! Why do we have a problem with divine judgment? Abraham did not. David didn’t. It is obvious Jesus does not. When you destroy one-third of mankind in one moment, it is obvious you do not have a problem with judgment. Who is the dysfunctional one when it comes to judgment? It wasn’t Abraham. It wasn’t David. It’s



not Jesus. Oops – apparently it is the church. Thinking crooked equals acting crooked. Thinking straight equals acting straight. How do we think?

#### FRIDAY, May 20

Scripture: Genesis 18:16-19

Verses 16 through 19 state, “Then the men rose from there and looked toward Sodom, and Abraham went with them to send them on the way. And the LORD said, ‘Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing, since Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to do righteousness and justice, that the LORD may bring to Abraham what He has spoken to him.’” It is obvious from verse 19 that God’s intent for His covenant people is that we become the doorkeepers of justice and judgment. In effect that is what God says concerning Abram. He says, “We have known him, in order that he may command his children and his household after him, that they keep the way of the LORD, to **do** righteousness and **mish-pawt**/judgment...” “...to do...” is the key phrase. We are to be the “doers.” If we do righteousness then through covenant we can also put a demand on God to do judgment. The whole reason God entered into covenant with us is for that purpose, that He may ultimately gain a harvest from the earth. That harvest is being defiled and destroyed because we are not doing **mish-pawt**. We’re not doing judgment. David with a very clear conscience stood before God and put a demand on the destruction of the evil-doers as a mercy to the nation. Our nation needs mercy. Our judges are out of control. Mercy to the land means judgment to the judiciary. They have not “Kissed the Son....” They need to. I suspect that until a number of them perish there will be very little “Kissing of the Son....” Abraham stood up in the face of God and exercised justice and judgment. It is about time the church made the same stand.

#### SATURDAY, May 21

Scripture: Acts 12:1-5

In Acts chapter 12 when the church was in a desperate conflict with the government they began to **pray**! Verses 1 through 5 says, “Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread. So when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.” When Herod tried to destroy the church, in order to endear himself to the Jews, the church began to **pray**. That is all we’re told – the church began to pray. We’re not told how they prayed. We’re not told if they prayed the imprecatory prayers of David. We’re not told if they prayed the righteousness and judgments prayers of Abraham. We’re not told if they pleaded before the throne, “Shall not the God of all the earth do right?” It is not right to slay the righteous and let the wicked go free. I wonder what they prayed? I wonder if they prayed according to the biblical pattern? I wonder if they prayed for Herod’s salvation? I wonder if they just prayed for Peter’s deliverance? I wonder how they prayed? We’re not told. We have to read between the lines. Is there any *hint* as to how they prayed?

#### SUNDAY, May 22

Scripture: Acts 12:21-23

We don’t know how the church prayed, but we do know that an angel came and got Peter out of jail. But if we were to end the story there we really would miss the fullness of what transpires here, because verses 21 through 23 state, “So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, ‘The voice of a god and not a man!’ Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died.” Isn’t it interesting that verse 24 says, “But the word of God grew and multiplied.” What did the church pray? Whatever they prayed resulted in Peter’s deliverance and Herod’s death and it wasn’t just any death. It was a death that had the thumbprint of a

Dathan and Abiram. It was a unique and unusual judgment, the most painful death known to man in those days. Once the worms started eating a man it took from three to five days and there was no cure. Herod died at the hand of God. Who moved God to release the angel of the Lord to destroy Herod? Was that an accident? I think not. I think the early church probably prayed according to the biblical pattern. That is at least more plausible than postulating that they completely disregarded it. The fruit of Herod's judgment was "...the word of God grew and multiplied." If we are to read between the lines the message seems fairly clear and especially when we read the following verse. Verse 25 says, "And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, and they also took with them John whose surname was Mark." Barnabas and Saul/Paul contributed to the events that took place in Jerusalem – both the salvation of Peter and the judgment of Herod. If Paul was in the midst, and if he was giving his input, we have to believe they prayed according to the biblical pattern. A biblical scholar of his magnitude would have known David's covenant. Additional weight to this interpretation rises from Paul teaching "sure mercy" immediately after blinding the false prophet in Acts 13. They certainly got the fruit of it. Do we have the fruit of it? Why *don't* we have the fruit of it? It is the same covenant. The New Testament church got Peter delivered and Herod killed. Not a single person in the church lifted a finger to touch Herod. All they did was stand on their covenant and **pray**, the angel of the Lord did the rest. That is the pattern.

#### MONDAY, May 23

Scripture: Acts 13:9-12

Verses 9 through 12 states, "Then Saul, who also is called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, 'O full of all deceit and all fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease perverting the straight ways of the Lord? And now, indeed, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you shall be blind, not seeing the sun for a time.' And immediately a dark mist fell on him, and he went around seeking someone to lead him by the hand." It is fairly obvious that the apostle Paul had little, if any, hesitation when speaking forth the **mish-pawt** or judgment of God when led by the Spirit. How is it that the apostles moved the hand of God in judgment, but the church today can't seem to move a single finger? Verse 12 really speaks volumes about the condition of today's church. It says, "Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had been done, being astonished at the doctrine/teaching of the Lord." I suspect that a few Supreme Court justices, if they ever ~~was~~ the Didache of the Lord would straighten up in a heartbeat. The problem is, where is it manifesting so they can see it? It needs to be manifested in their midst on someone they know. What can we say about moving God's hand? The early church moved it in judgment and gained the harvest that was ordained for them. We are the church today. We are not doing very well in moving God's hand. The **kairos of favor** is here. How we respond is going to determine what kind of harvest we get.

#### TUESDAY, May 24

Scripture: Genesis 30:27,28

In Genesis 30:27 and 28 we have an exchange between Jacob and Laban. It says, "And Laban said to him, 'Please stay, if I have found favor in your eyes, for I have learned by experience that the LORD has blessed me for your sake.' Then he said, 'Name me your wages, and I will give it.'" Jacob found himself in a position where he was absolutely controlled, manipulated and ripped off in every dimension! He gets ready to leave and suddenly Laban acknowledges the favor of God that is upon him and then asks Jacob to stay. But what is Jacob to ask for? What should he require? In a season when God's favor is recognized and an attempt is being made to get him to stay, how should he respond? This is where the issue of walking in the Spirit is absolutely essential to gain God's purposes in any generation. God had a very unique plan. God's plan included judgment on Laban. Walking in the Spirit is the only way we can participate in executing the **mish-pawt** of God. We are utterly incapable of participating in any other way. It has to be done in the Spirit. Any other course is too dangerous to embrace.

#### WEDNESDAY, May 25

Scripture: Genesis 30:32,32

Verses 32 and 33 state, “Let me pass through all your flock today, removing from there all the speckled and spotted sheep, and all the brown ones among the lambs, and the spotted and speckled among the goats; and these shall be my wages. So my righteousness will answer for me in time to come, when the subject of my wages comes before you: every one that is not speckled and spotted among the goats, and brown among the lambs, will be considered stolen, if it is with me.” Jacob responds in the Spirit and the result of responding in the Spirit is that God begins to move in his behalf. Laban could hardly wait to jump on that deal because the herd was fairly pure at this point in time and there were very few spotted and speckled and they were always the smallest number born. Laban had every right to think he was getting the deal of his life. Supreme Court justices have every right to think they have the deal of their life because it is a life-time appointment. They just haven’t met the God of the spotted, speckled and ringstraked (KJV) but they may. Jacob walked in the Spirit and God made sure the outcome was favorable.

#### THURSDAY, May 26

Scripture: Genesis 30:37-39

Verses 37-39 says, “Now Jacob took for himself rods of green poplar and of the almond and chestnut trees, peeled white strips in them, and exposed the white which was in the rods. And the rods which he had peeled, he set before the flocks in the gutters, in the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink, so that they should conceive when they came to drink. So the flocks conceived before the rods, and the flocks brought forth streaked, speckled, and spotted.” It is obvious that the peeled rods were not for the animals. They are color blind. The peeled rods were for Jacob using his faith to covenantally believe that God would suspend the laws of genetics and bring forth an entire harvest contrary to the normal flow and pattern. The rods were for Jacob to release his faith, obviously not for the animals because they couldn’t tell any difference. It was the *faith of Jacob as he was led by the Holy Spirit* that brought forth the desired results. It won’t be any different with our Supreme Court. *It is faith as led by the Holy Spirit* released before the throne room that will bring forth the desired results. In a season of favor God is the One who brings us out and shows us exactly what to do to release our faith to bring forth His plans.

#### FRIDAY, May 27

Scripture: Genesis 39:20-22

Genesis 39:20-22 states, “Then Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, a place where the king’s prisoners were confined. And he was there in the prison. But the LORD was with Joseph and showed him mercy, and He gave him favor in the sight of the keeper of the prison. And the keeper of the prison committed to Joseph’s hand all the prisoners who were in the prison; whatever they did there, it was his doing.” Favor is what kept Joseph while he was incarcerated. It was God’s favor that kept him and positioned him to come out. It is God’s favor that keeps us in this season and positions us to come out and fulfill all that God has called us to do. His favor is at work in our behalf.

#### SATURDAY, May 28

Scripture: Exodus 3:19-22

These verses in Exodus 3 say, “But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go. And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.” The Egyptians were spoiled because God gave favor to Israel. It was favor that produced the anointing to spoil. In a season of favor we need to ask God for the full measure of what He has for us because He is willing to do it, release it and bring it to pass. We are in such a season and we need to prepare for that. The Lord is ready if we will respond.

## SUNDAY, May 29

Scripture: Exodus 11:1-3

Verses 1 through 3 state, “And the LORD said to Moses, ‘I will bring yet one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether. Speak now in the hearing of the people, and let every man ask from his neighbor and every woman from her neighbor, articles of silver and articles of gold.’ And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.” In a season of favor God not only releases the anointing to spoil, but He brings us into whole new dimensions of life and experience. Four generations spent their time in Egypt and suddenly God brought them all out and they began to experience liberty at every dimension. Seasons of favor bring liberty where we have not known it before.

## MONDAY, May 30

Scripture: Exodus 11:4-6

Verses 4 through 6 state, “Then Moses said, ‘Thus says the LORD; “About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the maidservant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the beasts. Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again.”’” In a season of favor the judgments that God releases carry the seed of the sin and He begins to deal equitably with generations. Eighty years prior Pharaoh had killed all the first born males in an attempt to destroy Moses. Now all the first born of Egypt die. ***All judgments carry the seed of the sin in them.*** Lot’s wife is a perfect example. She disobeyed the covenant of salt previously ratified the night before with the angels as they ate together. She looked back after being told not to and she became an example of the covenant she violated. In seasons of favor God begins to deal with generational sin and His judgments reveal the sin.

## TUESDAY, May 31

Scripture: Revelation 16:4-7 Genesis 1:26-28

If we are going to be a people who work with God to bring forth His judgments in the last days, we have to understand the principles by which they operate. Revelation 16:4-7 says, “Then the third angel poured out his bowl on the rivers and springs of water, and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters saying: ‘You are righteous, O Lord, The One who is and who was and who is to be, Because You have judged these things. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, And You have given them blood to drink. For it is their just due.’ And I heard another from the altar saying, ‘Even so, Lord God Almighty, true and righteous are Your judgments.’” Once again we see that the Lord releases blood for the people to drink because of the blood they have shed. The judgment reveals the seed of the sin. This principle carries through from Genesis to Revelation. The key word here is **ax-ee-os** and it means befitting, congruous or corresponding to, to make fit or to make congruous. When man was created he was given dominion. That dominion was lost in Adam. It is restored in Jesus and we have the responsibility to walk in that dominion and birth it for the King of kings and Lord of lords. Are we willing to step up to that dimension? Are we willing to walk in it? We’re being invited to. In a **kairos of favor** it begins to become an assignment.

ITINERARY

Al Houghton

May 8

Seattle Revival Center  
12636 SE 89<sup>th</sup> Place  
New Castle, WA  
Phone: (425)228-0810  
Services: **8<sup>th</sup>** 10AM & 6PM

May 22

City Of Refuge Christian Fellowship  
1201 Austin Hwy Sate 116  
San Antonio, TX  
Phone: (210)829-1792  
Services: **22nd** 10AM & 7PM

I'll not be silenced by the darkness  
For there is One above it all  
The Light and Life of all creation  
Into His arms I humbly fall

I'll not be silenced by the darkness  
The One I trust in will not fail  
Evermore I'll praise His glory ...  
Sovereign Author of my tale

Before Him I must sit in wonder  
His ways much higher than my own  
I'll not be silenced in this darkness  
But choose to trust in Him alone!

Jayne Houghton

