

WORD AT WORK

Kingly Character of Christ XII

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Scripture: Revelation 19:15

Revelation 19:15 says, *"Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations."* We are presented with two issues immediately in the first half of verse 15. Number one, there is a Sword of the Lord that can be accessed. Number two, it is released at times to strike nations when those nations promote evil. That brings us to the question of whether we can covenantally call the "Sword of the Lord" into action. Can we start it and can we stop it? How can we execute a strike that brings the Sword on a particular evil? How can we strike in prayer the perennial purveyors of evil like: the ACLU, Planned Parenthood, George Soros and the politicians that promote evil? Revelation reveals the end-times are going to have some very dramatic divine interventions of something our Bible calls the Sword of the Lord. We have a part to play in it and that is a crucial issue that needs to be understood quickly. Every mature Christian has a 'permit to carry' the Sword of the Lord in prayer. Let's learn how to use it!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Scripture: Isaiah 14:12-21

In Isaiah 14, we have a revelation of the origin of satan and God's response to his rebellion. As we continue to read, we find that God makes a commitment, and that commitment is to stop the destruction that comes when one generation completely gives itself to do evil. This is necessary because God covenanted to not flood the earth a second time. God said before their children would build cities and fill the earth again, He would wipe them out. Verse 21 is one of the strongest statements in Scripture about arresting the spread of evil before it defiles the earth. It says, *"Prepare slaughter for his children Because of the iniquity of their fathers, Lest they rise up and possess the land, And fill the face of the world with cities."* God is absolutely committed to stopping the spread of evil and whenever we find it in Scripture, we find the releasing of His Sword to address it. Are we prepared to intercede for the Sword of the Lord to stop the spread of evil in order to gain a harvest? When iniquity is full judgment comes. The enemy's strategy is to fill the land with iniquity, destroying any potential harvest! The "Sword of the Lord" aborts that plan.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Scripture: Revelation 2:20-23

In Revelation 2:20-23, speaking to the church of Thyatira, Jesus made it clear that He would arrest evil. He rebuked this church for refusing to restrain evil. He then went on to say "I have no choice but to cut off a generation in order to 'cut off' evil." Reflecting what we see in Isaiah, Revelation 2:23 says, *"I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will*

give to each one of you according to your works." It is interesting that, in Revelation, Jesus confronted the spread of evil in the church first. God said the only way to cut off the spread of evil that is being propagated by the church is to destroy the disciples of those who are teaching it. Even the church today does not realize God's commitment to stopping the progression of evil and how the Sword of the Lord will be released, in this season, for that very purpose. Are churches spreading evil? Ordaining homosexual priests and blessing same-sex marriages qualifies for the "Sword of the Lord." Jesus will be busy in the days ahead. We all prefer the saving-blessing-miracle-working Jesus but the Judge dominates the last days. We have to walk with Him!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:8

Because David had a covenant of Sure Mercy guaranteeing redemption, his greatest failures became Israel's greatest blessings! Jesus died for that same covenant which is offered to all who accept Him! 1 Chronicles 21 reveals David's sin of numbering Israel. Even against the wishes of his commanders. Verse 4 says, *"Nevertheless the king's word prevailed against Joab."* So apparently, in David's pride and arrogance, he needed to know how many people he had who drew the sword. The count totaled 1,100,000 men, the majority coming from his own tribe of Judah. It is interesting that verse 7 says, "And God was displeased with this thing; therefore He struck Israel." As soon as God struck Israel, David repented. Isn't it interesting how people refuse to repent until God strikes something close to them or some dramatic adversity happens which causes self examination? David's repentance in verse 8 is notable, *"So David said to God, 'I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing; but now, I pray, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly.'"* The root issue of the Sword's importance in Revelation may be that it is God's last option to bring repentance. If we hesitate over praying the Sword into action, our unsanctified mercy may forfeit a harvest. We find the fruit of the Sword is often repentance, as it should be. We send people out all the time, teaching them to proclaim repentance and salvation, but we have not taught them how to bring the Sword, which is the greatest motivator of all.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:9-12

When David was confronted with sin, he was given three choices. The options were three years the sword of famine, three years the sword of the enemy or three days with the Sword of the Lord. David's choices all involved the application of a sword for one purpose: to bring repentance. When we look at the love of God and the affliction of Hebrews 12 that makes legitimate sons, then we understand that it comprises the same three swords. In distress, repentance came. So it is today, in distress repentance eventually comes.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:13-15

Thousands of men died before the sword was stayed. Can we pray a strike with the sword that does not take lives? It is possible to pray the Sword of the Lord on all those who contribute to a political candidate whose support of evil brings utter destruction on the land. One of the constant prophetic themes of Scripture is releasing the Sword of the Lord on those who use wealth in order to promote evil? Striking a demonic treasury and demanding covenant intervention to arrest the support of evil is an eternal work. Releasing the Sword of the Lord initiates the anointing to spoil. The authority to release God's Sword rests squarely in the hands of covenant-keeping believers as they respond to the Spirit. Knowing who we are, what we have by covenant and how we are called to restrain evil equips us to pray in a very different way. The church will be

stunned at the results of striking the enemy's camp with the Sword of the Lord and cutting off their funding. We not only pray for the promotion and favor of godly politicians but we release the Sword of the Lord on the antichrist politicians and on every donor who supports them. Anything less is enabling evil.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:16-20

God commanded the angel to stop destruction at the threshing floor of Ornan and then, through Gad, told David to build an altar. Judgment stopped at a purposeful place and David then had a choice to make. That choice was, to buy the piece of property and build an altar there. God was revealing something about His covenantal relationship with David. He was revealing that there is a Sword of the Lord that can be started and stopped. He was also revealing the purposes for which it is released. David is a man after God's own heart because he did all God said. Even in his sin, God redeemed it because David did what the Lord said and many generations learned from his mistakes. This is what it means to be a man after God's own heart. Even when we fail, God is redemptive and He will teach other generations from it.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:21-25

In 1 Chronicles 21:21-25, David refused to use his superior office of king to manipulate Ornan out of his land. He said he would not offer God what cost him nothing and promptly paid \$1,728,000 USDs for a piece of land on which to build an altar. That is the value in today's gold: \$1.7 million for a piece of land. Cheap at twice the price because it is the place where you stop the Sword of the Lord and the place where you can start it. David's obedience procured the ground upon which Solomon's temple would be built. God redeems David's failure by using it to reveal the site of the temple. Any temple where believers cannot start or stop the Sword is a poor excuse for what God originally intended. Through a king's failure God revealed His intent to redeem failure and the temple of Solomon was built on the ground where the Sword was stopped.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:26-30

David built the altar and called upon the name of the Lord. God answered by fire and the angel returned his sword to its sheath. When David called, the sword returned to rest. The fear of the Lord was established in the land and most of all, established in the heart of David. Do we realize that in our covenant with God, we have access to a Sword of the Lord? The purpose is to bring a harvest of repentance and stop the spread of evil. It is a simple issue of prayer. It was for David and it is for us. David prayed numerous times and the sword was unsheathed! This is a picture of what should routinely occur in the temple, *"Whose temple we are!"*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Scripture: 1 Chronicles 22:1-5

David realized, after he bought the property, this was the ground God wanted for the temple mount. He immediately told Solomon, "This is where you are going to build God's house. This is what it is going to look like. The architectural and operational plans are here. The money and material to build it are here." As soon as David bought the ground and knew it was for God's house, his own failure was redeemed. He enabled succeeding generations to meet God as he had to start or stop a heavenly Sword. The blessing of the Temple

Mount lasted for many generations. It became a type and shadow or a picture of our interaction with the living God.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 6:41-7:3

The thing we learn about David in the covenant of Sure Mercy is that even to the end of his life, God was redeeming his failures. With the last one, the redemption was a revelation of a place of mercy for the temple. Solomon built a temple designed by his dad. The operational plan came from dad. The wealth to build it came from dad. Solomon witnessed his dad interact with a real God who answered prayer! Solomon himself was a son of mercy! God proved His covenant commitment because when Solomon prayed and asked God to remember the mercies of David, the fire fell and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. We are that temple today, but it has to be built on the authority of God's Word. It is in the revelation of His Word that, once again, the fire comes. I trust we are gaining that understanding.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Scripture: 2 Chronicles 7:12-18

In verses 12-18, God came to confirm His covenant with Solomon based on what He had already done with David. In effect, what God was saying to Solomon was, "If you will walk before me as your father did, then I will do for you what I did for him." Verse 18 is the key, *"...then I will establish the throne of your kingdom, as I covenanted with David your father, saying, 'You shall not fail to have a man as ruler in Israel.'"* The Hebrew word for 'covenanted' is the word **kaw-rath** and it means 'to cut off' or 'to cut a covenant.' God had already told David, "I covenanted/cut off all your enemies from before you." The same God who covenanted with David and cut off his enemies offered the same thing to Solomon. He offers the same thing to us through His Word if we will take it and walk in it. A covenant is a contract between two parties for mutual benefit. God gets a family of believers. We get salvation. Passivity in a covenant is like relinquishing an inheritance. Who in their right mind does that except the church?

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Scripture: Isaiah 37:1-4

King Hezekiah found himself under assault by Sennacherib, King of Assyria. Hezekiah's response was to send for the prophet Isaiah and to basically say, "This is a day of trouble, rebuke and blasphemy, for the children have come to birth and there is no strength to bring them forth." They were under severe threat of total destruction from the King of Assyria. SO the question was, what do you do when you are under attack? The first thing King Hezekiah did, was he sent for Isaiah to alert him of the distress and peril that faced the nation. He said, "Isaiah, maybe the Lord will hear the words that Sennacherib has spoken, but you need to pray for the remnant that is left." The entire nation was under threat of execution and King Hezekiah had more faith in Isaiah's prayers than his own. King Hezekiah had to pray it himself. Are we looking for other people to do what God is looking for us to do? King Hezekiah was. Is it possible that we need to rise up into the place where he had to go? Why was he hesitant to move in that direction? It may be that we need to pray the prayer that he prayed and break through our hesitancy to go there. We may think that it takes a person like a pastor or a full-time minister or an Isaiah-type to pray termination prayers. King Hezekiah had to pray it himself. Is God waiting for us? Are we there?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Scripture: Isaiah 37:14-21

Finally King Hezekiah decided he would pray and plead his cause. It was too perilous and too dangerous a situation to allow it to continue without divine intervention. He asked God to look, to see the peril and to respond. In verse 20 he says, *"Now therefore, O LORD our God, save us from his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that You are the LORD, You alone."* As soon as King Hezekiah lifted his voice in prayer to God, not looking for someone else to do it, the Word of the Lord came to Isaiah. God answered Hezekiah's prayer. Jesus made us Kings. In war, kings pray and breakthrough comes. God may be waiting for us while we have been looking for the professionals to pray. Hezekiah found himself there and had to break through self-doubt. Perhaps we find ourselves in the same situation. The Word of the Lord came to Isaiah saying, *"Then Isaiah the son of Amoz sent to Hezekiah, saying, 'Thus says the LORD God of Israel, "Because you have prayed to Me against Sennacherib king of Assyria,..."'"* Have we prayed against? Have we taken a stand in prayer against? Have we asked for the Sword of the Lord? Have we called on the covenant? It is time we made that choice. Cities and nations hang in the balance!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Scripture: Isaiah 37:35,36

Because Hezekiah prayed against Sennacherib, we find these verses, *"For I will defend this city, to save it For My own sake and for My servant David's sake.' Then the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead."* Are we ready to pray what Hezekiah prayed? We should be, because as soon as Hezekiah prayed, the Sword of the Lord was released and the nation was saved. Is it possible to save a nation today? I suspect it is, if we are willing to go to a new place in Christ!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Scripture: Judges 7:16-18

The Sword of the Lord is promised as an issue of covenant. When someone threatens the generation of our harvest or our personal destiny, we can ask for the Sword of the Lord. Whenever the enemy comes against us in an attempt to steal our harvest, we have a covenantal right to pray the Sword of the Lord on them so they are removed. Sometimes we are forced into that place, where there is no other way to go. When we are forced there, that is the part of our covenant that is iron-clad in eternity. We are even exhorted, that it is an honor to go there when we have to. That is why we need to get up and get ready to pray in a different way. Calling down the Sword is now necessary to preserve a national harvest!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

Scripture: Judges 8:21

Judges 8:21 says, *"So Zebah and Zalmunna said, 'Rise yourself, and kill us; for as a man is, so is his strength.' So Gideon arose and killed Zebah and Zalmunna, and took the crescent ornaments that were on their camels' necks."* After Gideon learned to covenantally release the sword, he found himself chasing down and capturing two kings. He was challenged to kill them himself, which he had to do. As a result, he lifted the crescent symbol from their camel's necks. Isn't it interesting that the crescent moon is today's symbol for a religion that teaches it is OK to kill people who refuse to bow to demons and who do not accept their philosophy. It is obvious, from reading about Gideon, that God anointed him to release the Sword of the Lord.

Why are we not doing the same thing to those who shed innocent blood, demanding that people accept their demons. The God of the Bible has not left us without power for a harvest in the end-times. It is up to us to learn to release the Sword of the Lord!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

Scripture: Psalm 149:6-9

Psalm 149:6-9 says, *"Let the high praises of God be in their mouth, And a two-edged sword in their hand, To execute vengeance on the nations, And punishments on the peoples; To bind their kings with chains, And their nobles with fetters of iron; To execute on them the written judgment—This honor have **all** His saints. Praise the LORD!"* The Hebrew word in verse 8 for 'bind' is actually **aw-sar**, meaning 'to utter the sound that starts the battle.' God has given every believer the honor of uttering the sound that releases the Sword of the Lord in covenant against their enemies who refuse to relent. We are always looking for someone else to do it, when God says "It is an honor I have given **you**." You and I have to make the choice to walk into that place. There seems to be a condemning voice always saying someone else is more qualified. Hezekiah thought Isaiah was more qualified. Hezekiah was in the King's office and God wanted to hear the King. Are you in the King's office? Revelation 1:5,6 says you are! Push yourself to act like it!

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Scripture: Isaiah 34:5-8, Isaiah 37:1-4

In Isaiah 34:5-8, righteous King Hezekiah met a very determined evil king who was looking to utterly destroy God's land. He made known his intent by a letter that was carried and read by one of his emissaries. Isaiah 37:1-4 says, *"And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard it, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the LORD. Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz. And they said to him, 'Thus says Hezekiah: "This day is a day of trouble and rebuke and blasphemy; for the children have come to birth, but there is no strength to bring them forth. It may be that the LORD your God will hear the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to reproach the living God, and will rebuke the words which the LORD your God has heard. Therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.'"* King Hezekiah was looking for a professional to take his case before the Throne. King Hezekiah had to learn to take it there himself. It is obvious from verse 4 that Hezekiah had more faith in Isaiah's prayers than he had in his own. Is that our case? Is that our situation? Do we have more faith in the pastor's prayers, the prophet's prayers, the apostle's prayers than our own? Do we have more faith in other people's prayers than we have in our own? If that is an issue or a reality, then it is time to get delivered from it now!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Scripture: Psalm 55:12-15

In Psalm 55, David found himself in just such a place when Absalom had taken his Kingdom, and he was on the run. As a result, his chief counsel had gone over to side with the enemy. And because Ahithophel was the oracle of God, in Israel, David had reason to fear! He prayed against the betrayal of his best friend. In verses 12-15 we are told, *"For it is not an enemy who reproaches me; Then I could bear it. Nor is it one who hates me who has exalted himself against me; Then I could hide from him. But it was you, a man my equal, My companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, And walked to the house of God in the throng. Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness is in their dwellings and among them."* This is one of the strongest prayers David ever prayed, and yet his very life depended on the execution

of this prayer. It was not but a few weeks until God executed exactly what David prayed. 2 Samuel 17:23 records the Sword of the Lord in action. David understood his covenant and he stood on it. Really the primary difference between David and us is that David knew his covenant. Jesus guaranteed the same covenant to us. The church has yet to get established in "Sure Mercy." Most believers do not know what all is available and for that reason do not ask for it. If the church ever discovers what we have in David's covenant, it may well be all over for the enemy and our harvest will come catapulting in.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Scripture: Psalm 109:1-13

For anyone who has ever been betrayed financially, Psalm 109 is a blueprint for monetary justice. We can ask for the Sword of the Lord to be released financially over enemies that will not relent. One of the ways that God is going to address evil in the last days is He is going to defund it. That means that all those who are promoting it have to lose everything they have. Psalm 109 contains a prayer waiting to be prayed. Over and over again, Scripture promises an anointing to spoil or a transfer of wealth. There are elements in that transfer that create faith in people to execute it. Rest assured, Psalm 109:1-13 is an evil-stopping prayer, *"Do not keep silent, O God of my praise! For the mouth of the wicked and the mouth of the deceitful Have opened against me; They have spoken against me with a lying tongue. They have also surrounded me with words of hatred, And fought against me without a cause. In return for my love they are my accusers, But I give myself to prayer. Thus they have rewarded me evil for good, And hatred for my love. Set a wicked man over him, And let an accuser stand at his right hand. When he is judged, let him be found guilty, And let his prayer become sin. Let his days be few, And let another take his office. Let his children be fatherless, And his wife a widow. Let his children continually be vagabonds, and beg; Let them seek their bread also from their desolate places. Let the creditor seize all that he has, And let strangers plunder his labor. Let there be none to extend mercy to him, Nor let there be any to favor his fatherless children. Let his posterity be cut off, And in the generation following let their name be blotted out."*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Scripture: Psalm 143:12

The reason Psalm 143:12 is so important is because the man who received the covenant that Jesus died to establish for all time is the one who certainly knew what he had and how to use it. David understood covenant mercy as a two-edged sword. It was first mercy that redeemed personal failure. God redeemed it before David ever committed it. Secondly, God "cut off" his enemy who would not relent. David knew the importance of praying and asking God to cut off his enemies. He knew his Kingly responsibility was to preserve his gifting and call. He knew it as a covenantal obligation to preserve the harvest that he was assigned to protect in his generation. If we could catch that understanding, it would catapult us into a place of faith where we could pray like David prayed and see the same results. Until then, we continue to live with our traditions making the Word of God of none effect. Is it time to change that scenario?

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Scripture: Revelation 19:15

Revelation 19:15 says, *"Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God."* We seem to be catching the Sword part, but having difficulty with the strike issue. All we have to do is look at how David prayed and striking becomes obvious. David never had a problem

taking the Word of God and striking his enemy. He was consistent, he was bold, and he acted like it was part of what God had given him to do. He accepted the responsibility that striking with the Sword of the Spirit was a simple part of his everyday warfare. It was not unusual to him. He did not have any tradition to overcome. So he prayed covenantally whenever he needed to. The only difference between David and us, is that David understood the covenant firsthand. We have to fight our way through fifty years of tradition and unsanctified mercy from neglected passages and erroneous teaching. We can gain the position David had by relationship and revelation. We have to engraft the Word of his covenant to get there! David struck his enemy by prayer based on his covenant. We can do the same thing!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

Scripture: Acts 12:1,2; Acts 12:5,23

In Acts 12:1,2, Herod struck James, an early leader of the church, simply and only because it pleased the main part of his constituency. When a politician comes against God's anointed leadership and kills them just because it pleases part of their constituency, then we have the obligation to strike with the Sword of the Spirit. Herod struck James, the early church prayed and God struck Herod. What more do we need to know? The covenant of Sure Mercy in action looks like that. It obviously has not changed. Jesus guaranteed it and therefore it was as good for the early church as it was for David. Isn't it time it was as good for us as it was for David? Name a politician intent on destroying your harvest field? Jesus said we would know them by their fruit. If a politician says he is a Christian but supports abortion, homosexuality and consistently supports anti-Christ positions, he is a liar and there is no truth in him. Ask God to cut him off – David would not have hesitated!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

Scripture: Revelation 11:3-6

In Revelation 11, we get a glimpse of the witnesses and all the opposition that comes against them. we also get a glimpse of how they function and how they operate. When adversity comes against the witnesses, they strike with the words of their mouth and God honors it! Verse 5 says, *"And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner."* They strike with the words of their mouth and the Sword of God's Spirit, acts like fire. This does not look like rocket science, it just looks like "Sure Mercy" to the witnesses. Isn't it time we started walking in the fullness of God's covenant?

MONDAY, DECEMBER 26

Scripture: Matthew 10:5-10

When Jesus sent out the Twelve, He told them where not to go. They could not go to the lost sheep of the House of Israel. They could not go to the Gentiles, they could not go to the Samaritans. They had to go to covenant people. And, He promised to take care of them in route. But if they were not received, they were to go out into the street and declare a covenantal, biblical curse and release the judicial Hand of God on those people. Why have we taught verses 5-10 and left out the other? Why did we do that? The other is much more difficult. The other is judicial. We left it out because we do not have a paradigm for releasing God's judicial Hand. David had it. The early church had it. Somehow we have been robbed of it. Tradition has made God's Word of none affect!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27

Scripture: Luke 22:31-36

As soon as Jesus was finished with His earthly ministry, on His way out of the upper room, He finished the preparation of the disciples by dramatically announcing to them a seasonal change. "Turn-the-other-cheek" was just getting a new addition, and that addition in verse 35,36 said, *"And He said to them, 'When I sent you without money bag, knapsack, and sandals, did you lack anything?' So they said, 'Nothing.' Then He said to them, 'But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.'"* But now, sell your garment and buy a sword – you are going to need it. Is how to use a sword obvious in Scripture? How did David use his sword? He used it both in the natural and in the Spirit! He prayed the Sword of the Lord into action. He prayed the Sword of the Lord into remission. When David needed the Sword of the Lord in his latter years, he asked for it. When the Sword of the Lord was upon his own people, he prayed, repented and asked God to stop it. And God did, each and every time. As New Testament, covenant believers we have access to the Sword of the Lord to start it or stop it as needed for our harvest. Jesus said to buy it: have we?

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

Scripture: Luke 22:37,38

Jesus said in Luke 22:36-38, *"For I say to you that this which is written must still be accomplished in Me: 'And He was numbered with the transgressors.' For the things concerning Me have an end.' So they said, 'Lord, look, here are two swords.' And He said to them, 'It is enough.'"* The disciples carried two swords and Jesus said, "Those two are enough." The critical words in this passage are "but now," telling us that we have a seasonal, transitional change. "But now..." persecution is coming in greater measure, therefore buy a sword. "But now" marks the transition. "Buy the sword. Sell your garment" marks a change into a new season. Our problem is, we have lived the majority of our lives having never bought the sword. Having never understood how to initiate it, how to strike with it, how to bring it into the midst of our needs. And yet, Jesus was quite clear about that addition and how it was essential.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29

Scripture: Isaiah 55:1-3

Isaiah 55:1-3 says, *"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, Come to the waters; And you who have no money, Come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk Without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, And your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, And let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; And I will make an everlasting covenant with you—The sure mercies of David."* It is obvious in Isaiah 55:1-3 that this covenant of Sure Mercy is for every believer. It is ours – we have it, we are supposed to do something with it because it is the foundation for both the Priestly and the Kingly ministries. Both ministries are rooted in the covenant of Sure Mercy. That is why it is so very, very important. Are we rooted in the covenant of Sure Mercy? Have we accepted both the Priestly and the Kingly swords? The first to redeem personal failure and the second to cut off the enemy who will not relent? We need two swords to fulfill God's call. Losing one or the other means we cannot go on until we recover it.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 30

Scripture: Isaiah 55:4-7

In Isaiah 55, David is given to us as our example of a leader, a commander, and a man who walked in the covenant of Sure Mercy. We are exhorted to seek the Lord while He can be found. To call upon Him while He is near. We are exhorted that that covenant of Sure Mercy is available. God will abundantly pardon and put us in a place where we can swing the Sword where it is needed. The promise does not get any better than that. It is time to walk it out.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31

Scripture: Isaiah 55:8-11

God promises that His Word, when it gets in our mouth and is launched forth, will, as the rain, bring a harvest. He will hear, He will honor, He will execute, He will bring to pass. How do we access the Sword? What is the price to pay? We gain access by simply saying yes to the covenant of Sure Mercies. We must study it until it becomes real in our inner man. Because faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word we must give space to the Word. Jesus bought and paid for the very same covenant that the Father gave to David. It is ours. It is operational and we can walk in it the same way that David did! It is a two-edged sword and with it we are to strike the nations. Whatever our resistance is for a national harvest, the covenant says, strike it with the Sword of the Spirit and command it to bow and be removed. Strike the finances that support evil with the Sword of the Spirit and command them to dry up and they will. Defunding evil is a major assignment in the last days. Unless we call for the Sword, wealth-transfer will be offered to another generation!

Saints, get yourselves ready,
Prepare your hearts too.
New levels as Kings
I have set before you.

With the Word in your hearts
Launched out from your lips,
The evil one's plans
You can fully eclipse!

Each one of My saints
Have the honor to bear
The Sword of My Hand
As they meet me in prayer!

ITINERARY

12/1-12/3

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