

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XX NUMBER I
Personal Priesthood I

SATURDAY, January 1

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Scripture: Acts 2:17-21

Acts 2:17-21 says, “And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and notable day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” The steady consistent heart-cry has gone forth from the Church beseeching God to intervene and bring an outpouring of His Spirit. In the last 50 years, through 1988, we’ve had seven distinct thumb-print **kairos** moves of God and the truth is we are closer to losing nations now than 50 years ago. We’ve had a Healing Revival, a Latter Rain Movement, a Worship and Restoration Tabernacle of David Movement, we’ve had a Jesus Person Movement, a Five-fold Ministry Restoration Movement, we’ve had a Charismatic Renewal and we’ve had a Faith Movement. After seven distinct moves of God, plus the Toronto Blessing and several others, we are still, as a nation, in worse shape than we were 50 years ago. It is obvious we don’t need another revival – we need a reformation!

SUNDAY, January 2

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:1-14

If we just take one nation for example and look at its current condition, we could pick the nation of America and distinctly comment that since the Christian flag was planted on the Eastern shores near Jamestown claiming the country for the propagation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ the last 250 years of the history of the nation of the United States is described in Deuteronomy 28. From its founding in the 1600's the first 300 years of American history seem to stand almost totally on the blessing side, even considering the wars that were fought which had their devastating events but ended up being a promotion for the nation. The promise is “You will lend to many nations and not borrow.” America through the Marshall Plan put millions of dollars into the rebuilding of Europe and Japan after WW II. It is obvious that America in its first 300 years has certainly been blessed covenantally by God.

MONDAY, January 3

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:15-68

The last 50 years of American history, however, can be described by the latter part of Deuteronomy 28 and is a marked difference from the first 300 years. From 1650 to 1950 American life resided fully in the blessing and promotion of God. From 1950 to now, America has dramatically gone down hill and is much more today an advertisement of the judgment of God than it is for the blessing. While it still retains a measure and a

portion of God's blessing, how is it that a nation in 50 short years can go from being the wealthiest nation on earth to being the leading debtor nation in the earth!

TUESDAY, January 4

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:25

Verse 25 says, "The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies; you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and you shall become troublesome of all the kingdoms of the earth." It is amazing that America with a far superior force could have settled the Korean Conflict with a draw when MacArthur fully understood to do so was utter defeat and attempted to go chase the enemy and destroy him surrendering China and its millions of people to the destruction of Communism. MacArthur was so schooled in biblical thought that it was anathema to him to settle for a draw once God extended the spear. All our nation had to do in Viet Nam was to blockade the Haiphong Harbor and within six months the war would have been over. It's military planners, fearful of the Chinese, refused to do so and finally Nixon withdrew giving the territory to the Communists. We have lived to see the reality of God's word come to pass in our generation over a nation that has departed from His ways.

WEDNESDAY, January 5

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:27

We have lived to see diseases develop for which there is no cure. Verse 27 says, "The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch, from which you cannot be healed." We not only have aids, which has no cure, but we have a flesh-eating bacteria. We have a rapidly aging population, which has already developed a resistance to antibiotics setting the stage for much greater manifestations of verse 27 in the days ahead. Walking with God in faith is looking much more necessary every year.

THURSDAY, January 6

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:26

"Your carcasses shall be food for all the birds of the air and the beasts of the earth, and no one shall frighten them away." Who would have ever thought that a nation so advanced as the United States would one day find itself under attack from nature? What was unthinkable just a few years ago has now become common place. In California, we have cougar attacks routinely because environmentalists have managed to get them classified endangered. We now allow cougars to kill people, pets and sometimes our kids. Killer bees have invaded to the point where they attack people in swarms and are rapidly moving north through Southern California. Those in our government who have been warmly received by the Clinton Administration routinely place animals above the welfare of people and have reintroduced wolves into the western states that now roam in packs killing animals and sometimes stalking people. We currently have an infestation of fire ants that apparently cannot be eradicated. How many years does it take to destroy a nation when it turns away from God? No one has the answer to that, but one thing sure – God's dealings are consistent and every decade seems to double in intensity.

FRIDAY, January 7

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:29

Verse 29 says, "And you shall grope at noonday, as a blind man gropes in darkness; you shall not prosper in your ways; you shall be only oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you." What a description of the economic spoiling that has been going on in America for some 30 years. We are the nation that defeated Japan in WW II and yet they have continually taken billions out of the U.S. economy through negative balance of payments. For example: VCR's were invented in America, but almost totally produced in Japan meaning when they were sold back to Americans, the money left the country. How does a nation get into a position where it is continually being spoiled economically? We find the very same situation emerging with

the nation of China. Look at the balance of payments drain that goes to China. There is only one explanation for what has been going on in the nation of America for the past 30 years and that is God has released covenant judgments on a people who have departed from Him.

SATURDAY, January 8

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:32

Verse 32 says, “Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people, and your eyes shall look and fail with longing for them all day long; and there shall be no strength in your hand.” Through music and drugs a significant part of a whole generation has been taken away from the God of their fathers and sacrificed on the personal-gratification altar of excitement and entertainment. A whole generation has been dramatically impacted by the drug culture and now we’re paying the price by attempting to redeem them and bring them back to the God of their fathers. One truth arises from this picture: the God of covenant is very serious. His covenant is real! His blessings are real! His judgments are real! God’s covenant still works – it still functions today. Just because it’s outlined in the Old Testament doesn’t mean it isn’t still operational.

SUNDAY, January 9

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:43-44

Perhaps one of the most dramatic judgments in the last 50 years developing out of Deuteronomy 28 is verses 43 and 44. They say, “The alien who is among you shall rise higher and higher above you, and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him; he shall be the head, and you shall be the tail.” It is amazing how foreign ownership has significantly grown and impacted American business. Foreign-owned businesses have prospered astronomically and we need to understand it is a judgment on choices the nation has made. God is serious about His covenant!

MONDAY, January 10

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:37-38

Powerful voices within our country have risen with almost a demonic anointing to continue to destroy the foundations of godliness. Recently when the Republican Congress passed restrictions on internet pornography a judge intervened when asked by the ACLU, the Book Sellers, Gay Rights, and Media groups stopping any enforcement of an attempt to protect children. America is rapidly becoming an astonishment! Katie Curic recently, in an interview with the Wyoming Governor Garinger, accused the Christian Coalition, Family Resource Counsel, and Focus on the Family of contributing to a Gay student’s death by preaching and taking a stand for righteousness. The absolute perversion of the news media in its pursuit of destroying the influence of Church means Deuteronomy 28 is alive and well, working to our destruction. The amazing thing is God intended it to work for our blessing.

TUESDAY, January 11

Scripture: Deuteronomy 28:63

Verse 63 says, “And it shall be, that just as the Lord rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the Lord will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing; and you shall be plucked from off the land which you go to possess.” When America was founded, all the biblical principles were encoded into its laws. The rule of law became the most righteous part of American life because all law was based on biblical principle. Never was one person held accountable for another person’s sin because Ezekiel forbids it. In the last few years we have discovered laws do not apply to the rich and famous. The President has been the living example. Indeed, we now understand that governmental greed is grounds enough for Federal extortion as government attorneys sue the Tobacco Industry claiming they are responsible for all the people who (have chosen) to smoke their product. For the first time in American history we have violated foundational

fundamental biblical law by allowing liability that God never allowed. It's not the Tobacco Industry's fault when a person makes his own personal choice to smoke - it is that person's fault. It's not the Gun Industry's fault when somebody is shot – it's the person who pulls the trigger. But this perversion of biblical law is alive and well and even championed by some in the Church who are obviously illiterate when it comes to biblical principle. If you stand before God and have to give an account for killing somebody you can bank on this – God will not accept your excuse “Colt Manufacturing made me do it.” Does the fault lay with who produced the gun or does it reside with who pulled the trigger?” Blaming Colt is lunacy, stupidity, idiocy and beyond description! This stupidity is currently moving its way through the American Judiciary system and rapidly bringing destruction to what was once a pillar of American Society. Its all part of the foundations being brought to nothing as the judgment of God continues to roll throughout a nation.

WEDNESDAY, January 12

Scripture: Revelation 22:10-11

As a resident of a country experiencing obvious judgments we must ask, can we change it or is there an answer or are we consigned to ride the train all the way through to derailment and destruction? The Bible clearly points us to an answer! The beginning of it is in Revelation 22:10-11 – the last chapter of the Bible. These verses say, “And he said to me, ‘Do not seal the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is at hand. He who is unjust, let him be unjust still; he who is filthy, let him be filthy still; he who is righteous, let him be righteous still; he who is holy, let him be holy still.’” As a nation moves along the progression of Deuteronomy 28 there is an equal redemptive spiritual law also at work. Circumstances must grow darker and darker as those in our culture who are filthy and perverse reach fullness. The Bible says they will continue to grow until they fully manifest the filthy perverse character of the devil himself. Justice must fail. Holding the Gun Manufacturers responsible for a person's death is the most unjust thing imaginable. Are the farmers who grow tobacco responsible for those who smoke? That is equally brain-dead and utterly stupid! None of those excuses will fly in God's face. But it is part of the unjust corrupt destruction that is upon the land through greedy attorneys. Just as we see the wickedness growing and increasing daily, we need to realize this same principle guarantees the righteous will grow more and more like Jesus daily. And as ungodliness increases it puts a demand on the power of God to manifest through the Church at an equal or greater level. This promises us that as things grow darker and darker in the nation they will grow greater and greater in grace and power upon those who stay faithful and walk with the Lord.

THURSDAY, January 13

Scripture: Hebrews 10:11-13

Is there an answer? There most certainly is an answer in Scripture and the answer lays in our positional authority before the Throne Room. Hebrews 10 makes it very clear that Jesus died for a purpose. In verses 12 and 13 we're told “But this Man, after He had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down at the right hand of God, from that time waiting till His enemies are made His footstool.” The answer comes through the Believer in his relationship with God as that connection bears fruit in each generation bringing God's purpose to pass in the anointing that is released through the individual. Is there an answer? Yes, and it is in our relationship with the Lord. How is your relationship with the Lord? Is it growing - or declining?

FRIDAY, January 14

Scripture: Hebrews 10:14-22

It is very clear from this passage that we have a position in the Throne Room. We are called to go into the Throne Room and make a dramatic impact in our generation. The question is – why are we not doing it? Perhaps the answer is in the definition for the word “true” in verse 22, which says, “...let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.” “True” is the Greek word **al-ay-thee-nos** and it means not concealed, the one true God as

opposed to idols, or an individual commitment to transparency before the Throne Room. The degree to which we are transparent with God, our friends, family (physical and spiritual), determines the depth and degree to which we can draw near the Throne Room and receive from the Father. God demands transparency. Are we being real with each other – or are we playing church? For those playing church we can forget the power necessary to transform a generation.

SATURDAY, January 15

Scripture: Hebrews 10:23-26

Perhaps we need the reminder that God is very serious with the generation that is approaching the winding up of the age. We're exhorted to hold fast our confession without wavering because God is faithful. We're also told we need to consider one another and stir up love and good works. We're also exhorted not to forsake the assembly of ourselves together, but as we see the day approaching and the "day" which is mentioned in verse 25 is both the day of judgment and the day of salvation. Judgment for those who fail to turn. Salvation for those who have walked faithfully. And we know that from verse 26 which is the exhortation to be careful because if you sin willfully after receiving knowledge from the truth there no longer remains a sacrifice for sin. Even the New Testament consistently exhorts us concerning the issue of God and judgment. God is both Savior and Judge. How much of God the Judge do we find preached in our pulpits today? Or do we find God the Savior preached almost exclusively? One is easy to sell and keeps the crowd. The other can thin out the crowd pretty fast. Are we getting all the truth in our churches? Or are we getting a watered-down Gospel designed to keep us there and keep us giving? As the judgment in the natural increases, it will separate in the realm of the spirit the real from the phony, the true shepherds from the counterfeit shepherds. The greatest days of the Church are ahead. The question is – are we prepared and will we qualify for the anointing that God wants to give in the process?

SUNDAY, January 16

Scripture: Exodus 19:3-6

If the answer is in the priesthood then we need to understand the foundational purpose God had in calling each of us to be priests. That begins in Exodus 19:3-6. Verses 5 and 6 say, "Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." The primary thing we need to understand about God's original purpose is there was no separation by groups. Clergy, laity didn't exist. There wasn't a first class and coach class of priests. God called the whole nation to be priests unto Him. The resident mentality in the church world concerning those who are called to full time ministry is they have the responsibility of doing what only the whole Body can accomplish. That attitude did not exist in God's original offer and call to the priesthood. When we settle the fact we're every bit as much a priest as Billy Graham, Kenneth Hagin or Oral Roberts we will be moving toward fulfilling God's purpose and call for us individually and corporately in the Body of Christ.

MONDAY, January 17

Scripture: Exodus 19:7-8

Verses 7 and 8 say, "So Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before them all these words which the Lord commanded him. Then all the people answered together and said, 'All that the Lord has spoken we will do.' So Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord." In many ways the Church today is precisely like the nation God was dealing with in Exodus 19. God brought His covenantal call of priesthood and it sounded so good everybody said "yes." So Moses took the word back to God and God always assumes when we say "yes" or "no" that we really do mean "yes" or "no" and He acts accordingly. God assumed the people really meant what they said. Therefore, He was ready to move on to stage three. In stage

one, He outlined the call. In stage two, the people considered their choice. Invariably whenever God offers people a covenant, they consider it and come back and say “yes,” and God assumes they are willing to pay the price in order to see the covenant fulfilled. He probably assumes that because He paid the price to bring covenant to mankind to start with. The problem with the nation was they wanted the *benefits* without paying the *price* – not unlike the Body of Christ today. Is it possible America’s condition reflects the spiritual condition of the Body of Christ? If that is true, how many Sunday’s and Wednesday’s are filled with playing church, spiritual politics, relational posturing, and Holy Ghost gamesmanship? Is your church real – or plastic?

TUESDAY, January 18

Scripture: Exodus 19:9-10

In verses 9 and 10 God begins to outline the price to walk out the covenant of priesthood. He says it is going to start with the process of sanctification from the Hebrew word **kaw-bash**. This is the process by which we are removed from the secular and wholly given to God’s purpose. The sanctifying process had to start with a **choice** of consecration. The first test was the test of **choice**. Were the people really willing to pay the covenantal price that went with the priesthood? They were going to be tested by choice. It was inevitable. Consecration was always marked by a decision of quality. What God was demanding here reminds us of the movie in which John Wayne appeared, along with Richard Widmark, reenacting the events of the Alamo. When Jim Bowie was incapacitated Travis assumed command and drew a line in the sand demanding all who were willing to stay, realizing it may cost them their life, step over the line. *That* is a mark of consecration demonstrated by a decision of quality. How many do we have in the Body of Christ who really want the power of the priesthood but have never really made the consecration necessary to pay the preparational price.

WEDNESDAY, January 19

Scripture: Exodus 19:10; Genesis 12:1-5

The second stage of the sanctifying process is called **separation**, because once your decision of **choice** has been made now you are ready for the knife of God, the sword of the Lord that comes to separate the profane and that which would eventually defile or draw you away from God’s purpose. God always initiates separation. When God called Abraham the first thing He told him to do was to leave his country and his kindred. The very first word out of God’s mouth to Abram in Genesis 12:1 was, “Get out of your country,...” the second word, “...from your kindred and from your father’s house,...” The word of the Lord to Abram was a word of separation. Leave your country and all that is familiar and leave your relatives who will only hold you back. Some of the toughest applications of the “sword of the Lord” all occur over the issue of separation. The price of being a true prophetic voice often brings the separation of people you would really like to walk with. When Jesus finished His ministry He stood at the cross **alone** – the **separation** was complete. Speaking to the Church what it doesn’t want to hear guarantees a separation. Look at the lives of the prophets. Anybody who is not willing to face the separation that God brings can never be a priest that will impact a nation.

THURSDAY, January 20

Scripture: Exodus 19:10; Genesis 12:6-13

The third step in the sanctifying process that has a price tag is called **devotion**. God moves us from consecration through separation into devotion, and devotion is the willingness to continue to walk with God even though He brings us back to places that are uncomfortable. Its one of the first things Abram has to learn and after God brought him into the land of Canaan there was a famine. There is always adversity when God brings you into the place of your call. The adversity determines then, and gives you the opportunity to pass the test of devotion. This was not a mild famine, the Bible says in Genesis 12:10, it was severe! Why does God allow severity in our circumstances when we really totally adhere to Him and move into our call? He allows it because it moves us toward the priestly maturity He demands to be qualified to speak for Him. Abram, the father of faith, could have stayed in the land – but he didn’t! So God had to bring him back to the place of

departure to resume the call. Because Abram is devoted, he returns to his point of departure. The issue with God in devotion has never been how many mistakes we make or how big the failure seems to other people. The issue in devotion is if we get up and move back toward the Lord – that proves devotion. God knew the mistakes Abram was going to make *before* He ever called him – but He still called him and Abraham fulfilled the call complete with all the failures. What did the failure allow? It allowed him to prove his devotion when he returned to the point of departure. Don't ever let the enemy dissuade you because of a failure. Failures give us the opportunity to prove our devotion as we return to the Lord for His grace, mercy and forgiveness.

FRIDAY, January 21

Scripture: Exodus 19:10; Genesis 13:4-11

The final part of the sanctifying process is **dedication**. Devotion is a test of the heart. Dedication is a test of the will – proved in our actions. Abram passed the heart test and returned to the point of departure. Now he has a choice to pass the dedication test completing the sanctifying process. God started with Abram by telling him to separate – “Get out of your country, From your kindred And from your father’s house,...” Now Abram had made the decision of quality and consecration, but the separation was really hard for him. If it was hard for Abraham, it is hard for us. There is nothing more painful than family separation! Yet sometimes they’re ordained for the purposes of God. Abram comes to the place where he says, “Ok, Lot, if you want to go east, I’ll go west. If you go west, I’ll go east. But we can no longer work together.” And Lot, of course, chose what looked good in the natural. The problem was, what looked good in the natural also was permeated with perversion. Abraham ended up taking that which was not good to sustain a flock because it didn’t have the water necessary. However, there was no perversion there and it was preserved as a place of purity. God has those places for us. Abram found himself in a place where he had to once again trust the Lord to provide water and pasture in a place where it didn’t naturally exist. God brought him back to the issue of the famine only this time it’s an action already proven in heart, it completes separation and demonstrates dedication. Abram comes through sanctified, wholly given over to God’s purpose. And that is the issue of sanctification. He has now completed what God told him to do. He has separated from his family, from his country, and from his father’s house. We need to understand God’s process of sanctification is not a single event - it is a lifetime experience. The process by which we are removed from the secular and wholly given over to God’s purpose can take decades, but in the end you stand to speak for the LORD!

SATURDAY, January 22

Scripture: Exodus 19:10

Sanctification was only the first part of the process in paying the priestly price. The second part was to **wash**. Washing in the ancient Hebrew laundry method was to trample, tread, bleach, or knead or beat until clean – usually in cold water. The washing process therefore meant we would find ourselves with the promise of being “...the head and not the tail...” while experiencing being under other people’s feet; whether financially, positionally, spiritually, or physically. The apostles found themselves in that place in the first few chapters of Acts. They had no **positional** authority in the church world of their day and yet they had all the **spiritual** authority. To be washed by the Lord is to find yourself in a place where blows come at you and you respond with grace, with the same heart Jesus responded when they drove the nails in His hands: “Father, forgive them, they know not what they do.” Have you arrived yet?

SUNDAY, January 23

Scripture: Exodus 19:11

In verse 11 we’re told to be ready. To be “ready” in Hebrew means to become steadfast or faithful by the process of being firmly established and it has five stages. God’s progression was unique in that they were to first walk through a four-stage process of sanctification. That prepared them for the washing process. Finally their preparedness was determined by five stages of training that could only be akin to what we know in the

modern world as Marine Boot Camp! They were called, number one, into formation. The law of formation is Joel 2:7. It's the forming of the great end-time army, an army executing the judgment of the Lord. Verse 7 says, "They run like mighty men, They climb the wall like men of war; Every one marches in formation, And they do not break ranks." The issue of being "ready" is learning the military discipline of formation and refusing to break ranks just because things don't go the way we would like them to. Abram has to learn God's formation consists of Abraham and Sarah alone – not Abraham and Lot or any of his family – not Abraham and Hagar. How often do we leave churches just because things don't go the way we want when the truth of the matter is God wants us to stay and to love through the offense. Formation is step number one in the process of being "ready" and its great price is forgiveness.

MONDAY, January 24

Scripture: Exodus 19:11; Genesis 17

Once the formation issue has been decided, we can move on to the actual process of preparation. We need to understand God does not waste His preparational time in people who have not passed the formation test. God's preparation for Abraham and Sarah consisted of the revelation of who they were in covenant with Him. The actual preparation consisted of a renewal of the covenant in the process of circumcision which Abraham submitted to. The spiritual circumcision of the heart, which God works in His people, is a preparation that has to be submitted to. Are we submitting to the process God has in our lives?

TUESDAY, January 25

Scripture: Exodus 19:11; Genesis 18

The third step in the process of being "ready" is being established by the Lord as an agent of salvation. Abraham found himself in a place where God revealed a judgment about to fall on Sodom and Gomorrah. Lot, a family member, is there. Abraham began to intercede in Lot's behalf before the Lord for his salvation. This process of intercession is a back and forth between God and Abraham until he gets Him down to ten righteous promising He will not destroy it. Of course, God doesn't find ten, but what He does do is what Abraham proclaimed in the beginning. Abraham said, "Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" Abraham interceded until God's intervention brought salvation to Lot and his family. Yet in the process we discover what living in perversion did to the family. The process of living there brought them all into a measure of the perversion around them. Abraham found himself being established as an agent of salvation. Are we being established?

WEDNESDAY, January 26

Scripture: Exodus 19:11; Genesis 21

The fourth stage of being "ready" is the stage of perpetuating what God has given us. The blessing of spiritual and physical children that will stand up and take what we have faithfully passed on and run with it. In Genesis 18 God said to the angel, "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." God's purpose for His priests is to perpetuate the principles, plans, and purposes He gives. God said, "I have known Abraham, in order that he might pass on or perpetuate what I have given to his family, that he may be a foundation they can stand and walk on." Are we choosing to be a foundation that others can walk on? The anointing to perpetuate what God gives is a reward for paying the priestly price.

THURSDAY, January 27

Scripture: Exodus 19:11; Genesis 22

The final step of completing the priestly price is the certainty or confidence of a fixed heart that comes as a reward of walking the sanctifying price of enduring the washing, and submitting to the five steps of becoming “ready.” In Genesis 22 Abraham demonstrates he has a fixed heart when in obedience he can raise the knife to slay his son and then God speaks from heaven saying, “Do not lay your hand on the lad, or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.” A fixed heart is one that obeys God when the word of the Lord comes regardless of the price. Abraham proved it and out of his life we see the priestly sanctifying process by which God will take each one of us in the realm of the spirit *if* we are willing to go. Is it possible we feel like those in full-time ministry are really the ones who should be doing this since that’s what they are paid for? If that mentality exists then it is no wonder we’re losing our country. The priesthood can turn the judgment of a nation – that is proved in the life of Abraham. If we don’t feel like we have any voice in heaven then we have to ask ourselves: “Why not?” The answer has to lie somewhere in the sanctification, washing and being “ready.” Abraham walked the process and he was “ready.” He turned the judgment. He saved Lot and his kids. The question is – what are we saving? What is our intercession accomplishing? Do we have the stature he had? Have we paid the price he paid? Have we completed the process he submitted to?

FRIDAY, January 28

Scripture: Exodus 19:16-24

We know God is very serious about this process because two more times before He meets with the nation He reiterates the price. He told them in verses 9-11, but again He tells them in verses 14 and 15, “Then Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes. And he said to the people, ‘Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives.’” Again in verse 22 Moses speaking to the priests says, “Also let the priests who come near the Lord sanctify themselves, lest the Lord break out against them.” Three times in Exodus 19 God gets the message across to the people that the issue of the priesthood is pay the preparational price. The process was life or death. Through that process of being separated from the secular, and wholly given over to God, and the washing, and the being “ready” they were preparing themselves to meet face to face with the God who is a consuming fire. So the process was actually a life or death issue. If they were willing to pay the process they saved their life and got the anointing of a priest which could impact nations. If we don’t feel like we can make an impact through intercession on nations, have we really finished the process?

SATURDAY, January 29

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-18

God came, complete with fire, the mountain smoked and the word of the Lord came like thunder. The people had been walking out this preparational process when suddenly the God who is consuming fire shows up. He thunders out the Ten Commandments and the impact on the people shows the degree of completion of the preparational price tag. Those who completed the preparation could stand in the fire. Those who had not - could not. There was only one who had completed the process and could stand in it – his name was Moses. It only took one Abraham to save Lot. If we have but one we can change the future of a nation.

SUNDAY, January 30

Scripture: Exodus 20:18

After being shown the process and told it three times they had to prepare and get ready for it, still the impact of the consuming fire which fell upon the people was more than they could take. Verse 18 says, “Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking;

and when the people sat it, they trembled and stood afar off.” Notice in verse 18 they did not run **toward** God when the fire came – they ran **away** from Him. Completing the process allows us to move toward God in the midst of the greatest fire of His presence. It allows us to move toward Him with confidence which is the call of Hebrews 10, “Come boldly into the throne room.” If the Church were coming boldly into the throne room our nation would be a much different place in which to live. Because the greater majority does not come into the throne room we are consistently living in ever increasing doses of the latter part of Deuteronomy 28 as judgment consumes the land.

MONDAY, January 31

Scripture: Exodus 20:19

The sad thing about this story is immediately when people move away from God instead of toward Him they come up with a plan. The plan is just the opposite of God’s plan. Because they failed in paying the preparational price tag, they offer God a substitute – much like Sarah did with Hagar. In verse 19 we’re told, “Then they said to Moses, ‘You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.’” The issue for the people was very simple, they were not willing to pay the price to die to themselves and qualify to stand in the fire. Its no wonder Jesus said if we wanted to find our life we had to be willing to lose it. Their substitute for a nation of priests was what we know today as a clergy-laity system. They said, “Moses, you pay the price, you go talk to God, you come and tell us what He said and we’ll believe **you**.” But at the root – “we’re not willing to pay the price, we’re not willing to die to self to be the priests God has called us to be.” We are still suffering under the clergy-laity mentality today. The problem is right now our nation is paying the price for it. If we’re going to turn our nation we have to rise up in the Church as a kingdom of priests. The choice is ours.

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