

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME XXXIX NUMBER III The Preparation for Sonship II

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Scripture: Ephesians 1:3-6

In Ephesians 1:3-6 Paul expresses what Christ has done for us that enables us to become part of His family. He starts out in verse 4 by declaring that we are chosen and then we are made holy, we are without blame, we are adopted into God's family and we are accepted. The single thing we are asked to do in this process is to believe and embrace the nine sonship gifts God has given. If we can accept these gifts as they are outlined in Ephesians, we can participate as active members of God's family equal to those who literally walked with Him in Scripture. This is a growth process that every believer can walk through which is like gardening. The seed is the Word and our hearts are the soil. Declaring and believing the Word is planting the seed in our hearts. This is a process we have to **actively** give our attention to. Anyone who grew up on a farm can testify—farming is hard work but potentially rewarding at harvest time. **Patience** and **diligence** are required for farming, watering and weeding. To do this and see fruit and growth takes **commitment** and **resolve** applied over time! Maturing fully in Christ is a life-time pursuit!

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Scripture: Ephesians 1:6, Luke 1:26-29

In Ephesians 1:6 we find a very interesting word that is used to describe what the Lord has done for us in the Family of God by making us accepted. It is interesting that the terminology in the New King James is, "...by which he has made us accepted in the Beloved." The Greek word translated "made us" is **khar-ee-to-o** and is only used three times in the entire New Testament. This is a very unique word with limited usage and it is interesting to look at the first place it is used in Scripture which is Luke 1:26-29. Luke 1 is a very familiar passage that we hear frequently especially at Christmas. It says, "Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And having come in, the angel said to her, 'Rejoice, highly favored one (**khar-ee-to-o**), the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!' But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was." Why was Mary troubled when she heard **khar-ee-to-o**? Was it because she had trouble believing that she was highly favored? It is easy for many of us to argue with being called highly favored perhaps saying, 'That is not me! That is not in my life. There is nothing about my life that says I am highly favored.' It is obvious many of us do not understand what is being said to us in Ephesians 1:6 because if we understood it we might be as highly troubled as Mary was. Most of us cannot accept that we are as important to God as Mary was! God is saying we belong to Him and are crucial to His plans. If we comprehend Ephesians 1:6, we should be troubled! I know I would be! Is it hard to believe that we could mean as much to God as Mary did. If this word is true, then God is willing to work in us to make Christ visible through our lives. The question is, how, Lord, do you want to do that? Is there anything currently unseen about Christ that He wants birthed and made visible through us? How about Jesus the Judge?

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

Scripture: Ephesians 1:6, Luke 1:26-33

The plot thickens a little bit in Ephesians 1 as we look further at the Greek word **khar-ee-to-o** that is used to describe believers. The second and third times the word is used in the Greek New Testament is in Ephesians 1:6. This verse says, "...to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He **made us accepted (khar-ee-to-o) in the Beloved**". **Khar-ee-to-o/kar-ee-to-o** is used twice in this same verse. It is a picture of the double. It is as if God is saying to us, 'I have highly favored you with high

favor. That could be even more troubling than Luke 1:28 because the angel said to Mary, *“Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you.”* Her greeting was with one **khar-ee-to-o**. What should we expect having two used to describe us? Is this another picture of the double or something else? Mary had a supernatural encounter with the angel Gabriel who delivered the message, maybe the absence of an angel to declare God’s message to us warrants two uses of **khar-ee-to-o** we see in Ephesians just to carry the same weight or maybe it is repetition to get a point across. The double use of **khar-ee-to-o** is a mystery that we need to pray out! Will our assignment be twice as hard to walk out as Mary’s? Perhaps the double refers to Acts 2:36 where we must be as proficient at the judicial as we are in evangelism for the sake of breaking deep darkness. The double use of **khar-ee-to-o** has an application that may vary depending on our gifting and call. If this is so, then we each have to walk it out relationally with the Lord! How?

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:6-12

1 Corinthians 2:6-12 says, *“However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. ⁷ But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory, which none of the rulers of this age knew; for had they known, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But as it is written, “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, have entered into the heart of man The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.” But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.”* Paul went through a season where he despaired even of life. He was ready to give up! What if we are ready to give up but suddenly remember there is a mystery unsolved with our name on it! God declared double favor on us as was on Mary! ‘Now, God, what is the personal application? Where is it hiding? I am not willing to die without knowing the depth of what you prepared for me! Verse 10 was Your idea and now I’m holding You to it!’ *“But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes the deep things of God.”* If there was ever a motivation to pray in the Spirit and hang onto God, this is it! ‘God, we want our personal mystery solved! God, show us, teach us, reveal it to us. This was Your idea, now reveal it, in Jesus name!’

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:13

1 Corinthians 2:13 states *“These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual.”* No one ever taught me the value of praying in tongues. The greatest value of all may be releasing the unfolding mystery of 1 Corinthians 2. Praying in the Spirit promises to unfold the depths of God’s storehouse containing our personal inheritance and assignment. We pray it out in tongues. One of the most practical things God has ever given us is the prayer language of tongues! When we ask God for the Holy Spirit, He promises not to give us a stone, a serpent or a scorpion but to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him! God does this for very practical reasons so we can know His plan and agree with it and walk it out! God’s personal plan lasts a lifetime and we may have to pray in the Spirit for a lifetime to uncover the fullness of all that God has in His heart for us! The promise of it will exceed anything we can ask or think!

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Scripture: Isaiah 28:11-12

Isaiah 28:11-12 says, *“For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, to whom He said, ‘This is the rest with which you may cause the weary to rest, and this is the refreshing.’ Yet they would not hear.”* Tongues is not only a gift, but it is a test. It takes humility and obedience to acquiesce to it. God placed tongues as a sign and a wonder as a test to see what we would do with it. The church has debated and looked for reasons why what God says regarding tongues could not be true! In many Christian circles tongues has become a dividing line with a stigma attached to it, but God ordained it and we are clearly presented with it in Scripture! When there is a debate regarding God’s truth, the wisest thing is to always go with what God says in the Word and by faith let the Holy Spirit prove the Word! Pray in the Spirit until the mystery begins to unfold!

WEDNESDAY MARCH 7

Scripture: Mark 10:35-39

Jesus chose real people, dysfunctional people to walk with. In this passage James and John were trying to build their own Kingdom and to advance beyond Peter. They became poster children for selfish-ambition in trying to gain an advantage over Peter. Why was there so much strife among the twelve? They could not accept the favor God wanted to give them without trying to earn it. Are we that way? Do we feel we must earn everything that God gives? If so, we are in a much bigger ditch than we realize! Romans 4:16 says, *“Therefore it is of faith that it might be according to grace, so that the promise might be sure to all the seed...”* We have to believe the promise so we can inherit it! This was really hard for the twelve. They fought it for 3 ½ years! Are we also fighting it? Believing what God says seems too simple to just accept it! Yet, it is true for a reason. It is the only way God could guarantee it to everyone who becomes His child! It is time to accept God’s ways including what He promises about praying in tongues!

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Scripture: Mark 10:40-41

Jesus did not say ‘no’ to James and John when they tried to gain advantage, He asked if they were willing to pay the price! They answered ‘yes’ and Jesus said, ‘you will’. *“And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.”* Here is where we begin to see the impact of selfish-ambition and other fleshly motivations. Walking things out God’s way is always harder than pursuing our own plans! How did the ten respond to James and John’s play for personal promotion? Their peers began to be greatly displeased with these brothers. James and John demonstrated selfishness for all to see! They become the origin of strife in the group. The reaction of the others was, *“And when the ten heard it they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.”* We must ask ourselves why? The answer is that they were self-promoting. They were not serving, they were self-promoting. If we are going to walk in a way so as to please God and demonstrate the fullness of Christ, we cannot have self-promotion. Self-promotion is 100% flesh-driven and self-serving. Walking in God’s ways is always a trial for our flesh but, overcoming has great rewards!

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Scripture: Mark 10:42

In Mark 10:42 Jesus outlines the difference between the world and His Kingdom. It says in verse 42, *“But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, ‘You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.’”* In verse 42 Jesus is drawing a giant distinction between the way the world operates and the way His Kingdom operates. The Kingdom of God does not operate on the principles or the motivation that the world does. Why is that? It is because the way the Lord operates is faith-driven and God’s Kingdom rewards faith! The words that are used here are really important. *“You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles **lord** it over them...”* In that statement we need to look at the word called **kat-ak-oo-ree-yoo-o**. This is a compound word. **Kat-ah** means to take a stand against and **koo-ree-yoo-o** means Judge of all the earth. The first thing that Jesus is saying here is He has made us kings and priests. He is telling us that we have judicial authority. He alludes to the fact that if we use that judicial authority to gain position above others that we are using it against people instead of for them. He has ordained that judicial authority be used for the church and for prechristians for their blessing not to gain position. The Lord’s Kingdom does not work by self-promotion. It operates by sacrifice and obedience and it operates according to servanthood. Jesus picked twelve men who were all born in the earth and they all had the same issues. They had to get delivered from their giants and submit to servanthood. This was a challenge for them.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Scripture: Mark 10:42

There is a second truth here in the other part of the verse we looked at yesterday. Again this verse says, *“But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, ‘You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them.’”* Let’s look at the phrase, *“and their great ones exercise authority over them.”* **Kat-ak-ex-oo-see-ad-zo** is the Greek word here. **Kata** is to stand against. **Ex-oo-see-ah** is to use your God-given authority against others. Jesus used His authority for others. The other is our priestly authority. This verse calls into question our motivation for using our God-given authority! Whose Kingdom are we building? Are we using God’s authority to set the captives free? The twelve were often trying to outdo each other. They were using their authority to dominate or tyrannize. **Kat-ak-oo-**

re-yoo-o is to subdue. Are we going to use our faith and our God-given talent on the enemy in behalf of the church or are we going to occasionally use it against the other believers to gain advantage over them. The Lord's Kingdom just simply does not work that way. The twelve had to learn this the hard way. We must use our faith, use our gifting and use our calling and our anointing, for both priestly and kingly ministry to bless others and never to carve out a position for ourselves! Jesus watched a lot of that battle go on between the twelve. He said, "It shall **not** be so among you."

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Scripture: Mark 10:43-45

Mark 10:43 says, "*Yet it shall not be so among you, but whoever desires to be great among you shall become your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.*" The Kingdom of God operates on servanthood. It does not move on subjecting other people under us. It moves on serving other people! When we accept that, then we are moving in the right direction. Victorious Christianity brings forth the servanthood of the King and without it we cannot adequately touch the eternal flow of the Holy Spirit. Let's praise Him for His gift of redemption!

MONDAY, MARCH 12

Scripture: Ephesians 1:7

In Ephesians 1:7 we transition to sonship gift number six for us to receive and walk in. Ephesians 1:7 says, "*In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins according to the riches of His grace...*" The Greek word for redemption is **ap-ol-oo-too-sis**, and it means to liberate through a ransom or to pay a ransom price and to set free through the payment of a price. That price, as we know, is the matchless Blood of Jesus. When He made us accepted the very next thing He did was He redeemed all of our failures. He bought us out from the penalty of all of our failures and the price with which He did that was the blood of Christ. All of our failures are now redeemed through the blood of Christ. No more failure! It is in the sea of forgetfulness, gone and washed away. It is gone, it is over, it is done! "*Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, Whom the Lord has redeemed from the hand of the enemy.*" (Psalm 107:2) Redeeming the past is a manifestation of covenant mercy!

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:9-15

The foundation for our redemption is in the covenant of Sure Mercy which Jesus guaranteed for all of us in Acts 13 and we see it is first delivered to King David in 2 Samuel 7. In verses 9-11 God says to him, "*And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who are on the earth. Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, since the time that I commanded judges to be over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the Lord tells you that He will make you a house.*" In verses 9-11 we see that the Lord makes a covenant with King David and He says, 'I have both cut off your enemies and I have redeemed your failures. I am giving you a permanent place, a place of your own and I will give you rest from all your enemies.' Part of the redemption of failure is to know that we have a rest from all the failures of the past. That is His rest! We are accepted and He has now redeemed our failures! He wants us to rest! No fear about issues from the past coming up that will grab us and keep us down. That is over! That is done. This is the complete package that makes faith possible. Faith involves a sonship position that embraces and then becomes confident and assured of our position rising out of God's Sonship Gifts. The Lord did not give us part of a package. He gave us the whole package!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:12-17

In 2 Samuel 7:12-17 the Lord goes on to say, "*When your days are fulfilled and you rest with your fathers, I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the Throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father, and he shall be My son. If he commits iniquity, I will chasten him with the rod of men and with the blows of the sons of men. But My mercy shall not depart from Him, as I took it from Saul, whom I removed from before you.*" 'No more failures that cost you permanently. I am delivering you from that. The redemption of the Lord is complete.' He goes on to promise David in this covenant, 'My mercy will not depart from you or your son as I took it away from Saul, the one who I removed from before you. You do not have to worry about that. I am going to deal with

your stuff. I will convict you, I will turn you around, I will turn you around and I will restore you. You do not have to worry. This covenant is all encompassing and you can rely on it! That is why the covenant of Sure Mercy is a foundation for not only the priestly but also for the kingly. When our roots are firmly established in the mercy of God, the same mercy that delivers us from sin promises us to destroy an unrelenting enemy and if they will not relent, God will put them in the grave. It is the same covenant and it is a two-edged sword. It is the foundation for walking with the Lord in the last days. It is our Biblical foundation for faith to walk in the priestly and in the judicial with the Kingly Christ. If you have never read "The Covenant of Sure Mercy", it is time to learn and become well-established in this truth. It is where God began to give me the foundation to walk in the judicial. Faith comes by hearing and hearing comes by God's Word. So if you want to build faith to walk with the Judicial Christ in the last days, then start out with "Sure Mercy" and then go to "Jesus and Justice", and then go to "God's Layered Love" all on a platform of "Purifying the Altar" because righteously handling money activates the judicial!

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:1-8

2 Samuel 12:1-8 is our example of how God will not let a failure destroy us as a result of covenant. This passage outlines God's intervention in the life of King David after his adultery with Bathsheba and after killing Uriah the Hittite. The Lord comes to confront him through His prophet Nathan. Nathan says to David, *'You are the Man! Thus says the Lord God of Israel: "I anointed you king over Israel, and I delivered you from the hand of Saul. I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your keeping, and gave you the house of Israel and Judah. And if that had been too little, I also would have given you much more!"* Through Nathan, God is outlining His multiple gifts to David. That one confrontation was a huge wake-up call for King David. It was God's covenant intervention to save David and not to destroy him because of David's repentant heart. That is the kind of covenant we have. We have a covenant with God where He covenants with us that if we mess up and sin, He will intervene. He will confront us to save us and not to destroy us. That is what Jesus bought and paid for you and I. We are accepted and we are redeemed. Let's start walking in that and expect God to do exactly that because that is part of His goodness

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:9-12

2 Samuel 12:9-12 says, *"Why have you despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in His sight? You have killed Uriah the Hittite with the sword; you have taken his wife to be your wife, and have killed him with the sword of the people of Ammon. Now therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, because you have despised Me, and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife.'* Thus says the LORD: *'Behold, I will raise up adversity against you from your own house; and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in the sight of this sun. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel, before the sun.'* That is God's judicial intervention in the life of King David in order to save him. God says, 'Look, you have sown some sin that you are going to have to reap but if you will turn and will repent and acknowledge your sin, then I will save you. That is a covenant that Jesus guarantees for you and I. He will never let us get so far that He will not confront us and tell us what it is going to cost but He will also save us if we will acknowledge and repent of our sin. That is what the Lord does as we acknowledge and repent! We must own our own stuff, and say, 'yes Lord, I did it!' For the people who will own their own stuff, growth and advancement are guaranteed. God will forgive us and redeem, He will cleanse us and will restore us. The question is, Are we smart enough to be honest and confess and repent? That is what God demands. We must own our own actions. That is integrity and that is character building! God is not mocked, whatever a man sows that he also reaps. The shedding of innocent blood defines murder. The shedding of innocent blood is murder! Support abortion and risk God's penalty!

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:13-14

In this passage King David owns his own stuff, he takes full responsibility for what he has done. This passage says, *"So David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the LORD.' And Nathan said to David, 'The LORD also has put away your sin; you shall not die. However, because by this deed you have given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme, the child also who is born to you shall surely die.'"* Nathan told David that his sin would cost the life of the unborn baby that Bathsheba was carrying. The message was that he and Bathsheba were spared but their sin would not live but die. Nathan delivered a message of great mercy that was being poured out on David, that his own life was spared. David was not under a death sentence as he himself placed on Uriah the Hittite. God was declaring His saving grace for both David and for his Kingdom. And that is the covenant we have in Christ! He redeems even our failures and will cause those very failures to praise Him. When praying

judicially, 1 Timothy 5:18 is crucial. That verse says, “...Neither be partakers of other men’s sins.” If we support abortion and homosexual marriage, we risk the death penalty, and yet those who repent will be under Christ’s saving grace. God’s sure mercy is certain to all who turn and repent!

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:15-21

In this passage King David prayed and he is fasted in the hope of saving the life of the unborn child. The child died and so finally David rose from his place of prayer. He perceived that the child is dead. First, King David acknowledged his stuff. Number two, David accepted the judicial plan for God’s restoration, he accepted the time frame. Number three once the child died David got up. Number four he washed. Number five he anointed himself. Number six he changed his clothes and went back in the house of the Lord and reconnected with God. Number seven, he worshipped the Lord and then he went to his own house. He requested food and then he ate. All of his servants were puzzled and were afraid to tell him when the child died. They were afraid to tell him as they thought he might harm himself. The religious mind cannot accept how God deals with sin. The religious mind wants to pay a price like rejection forever but that is not God’s way. Even when ministers mess up, God usually will not put people out of ministry forever. He has a heart to restore, and He always has! The only people who destroy their own wounded are the legalistic Pharisees in the church. We need to learn God’s heart in this process.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

Scripture: 2 Samuel 12:24-25

In these verses we have the eighth and final step in the restoration process. In these two verses we find King David going to Bathsheba and demonstrated to her the same comfort and acceptance that God had given to him. In that process they had another child and the Lord sent another word by the Nathan, the same prophet that brought the word of judgment. Verses 24 and 25 say, “*Then David comforted Bathsheba his wife, and went in to her and lay with her. So she bore a son, and he called his name Solomon. Now the LORD loved him, and He sent word by the hand of Nathan the prophet: So he called his name Jedidiah, because of the LORD.*” The first child dies in judgment and of the second child God says, ‘I love this child.’ Why does God spare the second child? It is because this is the child of mercy. He is the child of repentance. He is the child of restoration. At this point God has now not only redeemed but honored both David and Bathsheba. Honor comes when we step into the manifestation of the redemption of the sin. There were probably a number of people in Israel that had trouble accepting that the wisest man who ever lived, the wealthiest man who ever lived came from a relationship that started in adultery and murder. It is quite a sign of how God redeems failure. Even this failure praised God eternally because the Lord redeemed it. That is what the covenant of Sure Mercy means. ‘I will not take from you what I took from Saul.’ We have that covenant! Are we accepting it? Are we walking in it? We should be!

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Isaiah 55:1-5

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 says, “*Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.*” What does this passage tell us? It tells us that God redeems failure. God heals, redeems and He sets free. There is nothing we can fall into that God cannot pull us out of if we will acknowledge it and turn to Him. That is the testimony of the covenant of Sure Mercy. God redeems, and God restores. Will we lay hold of it and embrace what He is offering? Isaiah 55 shows us God’s path to redemption. That path includes how we spend our time. There is one thing we all have the same amount of. The commodity we all share equally is our time, the number of hours in our day! The Lord will open the door to His storehouse as we spend our commodity wisely. Isaiah 55:1-5 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. Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, A leader and commander for the people. Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, And nations who do not know you shall run to you, Because of the LORD your God, And the Holy One of Israel; For He has glorified you.*” In 1 Corinthians 6 we read that we were washed, we were sanctified, we were justified. But in Isaiah 55 we read an added dimension. We read, “*For He has glorified you.*” When are we glorified? We are glorified when the sin is

redeemed. The birthing of Solomon proves that now the past is redeemed. David and Bathsheba repented, married and resumed life. God honored their repentance with Solomon! Solomon was miraculous in his wisdom and in his wealth. He was utterly, totally miraculous! So we know from 1 Corinthians 6 that the process requires washing from sin, sanctification or being set apart to holiness, justification, just as if I never did it! Finally honor or glory comes to demonstrate the honor that comes from the redemption of the Holy Spirit. Solomon's birth signified that! Is this not a great covenant that we have the privilege of walking out in the last days! David spent seven days with God wrestling over the life of his child. The child's earthly life was lost but David and Bathsheba were saved to finish their earthly race. His covenant is awesome in every dimension!

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Scripture: Isaiah 55:6-13

Once we are glorified then the Word takes a whole new place in our lives and it gives us a testimony. That is why we are told in this passage to spend time seeking God. In Isaiah 55 we read, *"Seek the Lord while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the Lord, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon. 'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,' says the Lord. 'For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts. "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater, So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But It shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. "For you shall go out with joy, And be led out with peace; The mountains and the hills Shall break forth into singing before you, And all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, And instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; And it shall be to the Lord for a name, For an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."* That is the authority that rests in our mouth when God's Word is declared. We can cause even the earth to change what it brings forth by declaring God's Word. That is the authority of the covenant of Sure Mercy. The Lord said He would put it in our mouth. And because He said He would put it in our mouth, it is time you and I made a decision to walk it out, in Jesus name! Let's watch how this develops through 2 Samuel.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Scripture: 2 Samuel 15:7-12

In 2 Samuel 15:7-12 Absalom begins to foment rebellion and the second part of the judicial word that the Lord spoke to King David is now coming to pass. Absalom was planning to take the Kingdom away from David because what he did in secret God is now going to be broadcast openly. But, God was going to deliver him from it. Absalom recruited Ahithophel, David's best friend and counselor from the city of Giloh where Absalom offered sacrifices. The conspiracy grew strong for the numbers of those drawn to Absalom continually increased. David lost his army. David lost Israel. The men sided with Absalom! David was going to temporarily lose Jerusalem, but he had a covenant of Sure Mercy. Does God redeem our failures? What must we do when we lose everything? The answer is, we seek God and we pray!!

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Scripture: 2 Samuel 15:13-14, Psalm 119:126

These verses say, *"Now a messenger came to David, saying, 'The hearts of the men of Israel are with Absalom.' So David said to all his servants who were with him at Jerusalem, 'Arise, and let us flee, or we shall not escape from Absalom. Make haste to depart, lest he overtake us suddenly and bring disaster upon us, and strike the city with the edge of the sword.'" David was fleeing from Absalom his own son and he had lost the city of Jerusalem and was on the run. David did not have a place to lay his head but he had the covenant of Sure Mercy. So the real question is, how did David navigate this continuing adversity that he had brought on himself? How did he get delivered from this? The answer is he prayed the covenant of Sure Mercy. What should we pray for America when traitors are trying to nullify the truth and the righteous standards that have made us productive and exemplary! Let us pray our covenant and include, *"It is time for You to act, O Lord, for they have regarded Your law as void."**

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Scripture: 2 Samuel 16:23-17:3, Psalm 55:9-15, 2 Samuel 16:20-22

2 Samuel 16:23- 17:3 says, *“Now the advice of Ahithophel, which he gave in those days, was as if one had inquired at the oracle of God. So was all the advice of Ahithophel both with David and with Absalom. Moreover Ahithophel said to Absalom, ‘Now let me choose twelve thousand men, and I will arise and pursue David tonight. I will come upon him while he is weary and weak, and make him afraid. And all the people who are with him will flee, and I will strike only the king. Then I will bring back all the people to you. When all return except the man whom you seek, all the people will be at peace.’”* Ahithophel was the one speaking this. What was motivating Ahithophel? Ahithophel had a son named Eliam, and Eliam had a daughter named Bathsheba. What does that tell us? Ahithophel’s granddaughter was Bathsheba! God forgave David but Ahithophel did not. Ahithophel had been David’s best friend and counselor. David’s actions with Bathsheba were a betrayal to Ahithophel. Ahithophel in turn betrayed David by advising Absalom. Ahithophel’s first counsel to Absalom was, *“Go in to your father’s concubines, whom he has left to keep the house; and all Israel will hear that you are abhorred by your father. Then the hands of all who are with you will be made strong. So they pitched the tent for Absalom on the top of the house and Absalom went in to his father’s concubines in the sight of all Israel.”* God fulfilled His Word to David by doing this before all Israel. David’s weapon was God’s covenant of Sure Mercy because God would fulfilled what He said He would do! He knew God would keep His Word in all He had said.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Scripture: Psalm 55:9-15, Isaiah 31:2

At this point, the only army David has is in heaven accessed by his covenant which he can pray. David was practically reduced to zero, nothing except God’s Word. How did David use God’s Word? It is a pattern for us as to how to use the covenant of Sure Mercy, when injustice comes our way. Psalm 55:12-15 says David prayed, *“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.”* David prayed judicially over Ahithophel and Absalom. Does God answer King David? He certainly does! Will God answer us? You bet He will! For those who are standing arrogantly against God’s purposes and His people, let us pray with confidence Isaiah 31:2 which says, *“Yet He too is wise and will bring disaster; he does not take back His words. He will rise up against the house of the wicked and against those who work iniquity.”*

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Scripture: 2 Samuel 17:23

In 2 Samuel 17:23 Ahithophel found out that his counsel concerning pursuing King David had been rejected. As a result he is certain how everything will turn out. He knows then that God will give the Kingdom back to David. We are told in verse 23, *“Now when Ahithophel saw that his advice was not followed, he saddled a donkey, and arose and went home to his house, to his city. Then he put his household in order, and hanged himself, and died; and he was buried in his father’s tomb.”* This was the fruit of King David’s prayer. Can we pray the Psalms today? Absolutely, we can pray through the Spirit and expect anointed fruit. When David prayed judicially God intervened and put Ahithophel in the grave and laid the path to place David back in his rightful position as king! God is amazing, and He is truly a Covenant-Keeper. Let God arise, and all His enemies be scattered!

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

Scripture: 2 Samuel 18:9-13

2 Samuel 18:9-13 says, *“Then Absalom met the servants of David. Absalom rode on a mule. The mule went under the thick boughs of a great terebinth tree, and his head caught in the terebinth; so he was left hanging between heaven and earth. And the mule which was under him went on. Now a certain man saw it and told Joab, and said, ‘I just saw Absalom hanging in a terebinth tree!’ So Joab said to the man who told him, ‘You just saw him! And why did you not strike him there to the ground I would have given you ten shekels of silver and a belt.’ But the man said to Joab, ‘Though I were to receive a thousand shekels of silver in my hand, I would not raise my hand against the king’s son. For in our hearing the king commanded you and Abishai and Ittai, saying, ‘Beware lest anyone touch the young man Absalom!’ Otherwise I would have dealt falsely against my own life. For there is nothing hidden from the king, and you yourself would have set yourself against me.’”* Now David had the father-heart of mercy toward his son Absalom but that was overruled by the guidance and plan of the Holy Spirit. We have a covenant that

is written in Blood and is guaranteed, God intervened in David's crisis with His higher purposes. Seeing this truth gives us understanding, wisdom and insight into how to walk out the last days. We cannot be ruled by our emotions or human reasoning but must ask God in prayer for His ways and purposes to prevail. It is time we understood the full measure of what God wants to do for us. Covenant mercy to David meant death to Absalom. Covenant mercy to us may very well mean death to those who stubbornly and ruthlessly oppose God's purposes in us and in our nation.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Scripture: 2 Samuel 18:14-17

King David prayed a prayer of judgment and then commanded his army not to touch Absalom. This presented a conflict. Which order will prevail? Will David's judicial prayer rule or is his unsanctified mercy as a father going to rule? Verses 14-17 tell us what ruled the day. This passage says, *"Then Joab said, 'I cannot linger with you.' And he took three spears in his hand and thrust them through Absalom's heart, while he was still alive in the midst of the terebinth tree. And ten young men who bore Joab's armor surrounded Absalom, and struck and killed him. So Joab blew the trumpet, and the people returned from pursuing Israel. For Joab held back the people. And they took Absalom and cast him into a large pit in the woods, and laid a very large heap of stones over him. Then all Israel fled, everyone to his tent."* Joab took three spears and thrust them through Absalom's heart. That is one apiece for each Member of the Godhead! The covenant of Sure Mercy is a covenant with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Absalom is an example of what happens when one comes against God's anointed. It is an example of what the covenant of Sure Mercy will deliver us from. This is a very strong covenant and is a weighty and powerful agreement. This covenant is our platform for both salvation and judgment in the last days. I trust we will walk it out with anointed clarity and divine resolve. It is time that the wicked said, *"For disaster from the Lord terrifies me And because of His majesty I could not do these things."* (Job 31:23 HCSB) Let the fear of the Lord once again come to our nation's capital!

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Scripture: 2 Samuel 23:1-2

How strong is this covenant of Sure Mercy? It is full of might and strength. When we read 2 Samuel 23:1-2 it helps us understand the strength of it. We are told in David's own words, *"Now these are the last words of David Thus says David the son of Jesse; Thus says the man raised up on high, The anointed of the God of Jacob, And the sweet psalmist of Israel: "The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue. "* When David said, God's Word was on his tongue that meant the Psalms David prayed and penned and the Bible recorded were God's Words and those very Psalms are full of judicial prayer. Anything that is in the Psalms that David already prayed shows us principle and demonstrates to us what God will do for us, and that may very well look like what He did for King David! The Psalms are full of God's examples of how to walk with God judicially in the last days. The Psalms are full of examples that you and I can walk out in prayer! And we should be fully familiar with them, pray them and walk them out! Mercy to America depends on the church invoking the covenant of Sure Mercy and praying the demonized into paralysis or collapse and even into the grave, if that is what it will take. God knows and He will direct!

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Scripture: Psalm 7:14-16, Lamentation 3:64-66 NIV

Psalm 7 shows us a Biblical principle that runs all the way through Scripture. In verse 14-16 we are told by King David, *"Behold, the wicked brings forth iniquity; Yes, he conceives trouble and brings forth falsehood. He made a pit and dug it out, And has fallen into the ditch which he made. His trouble shall return upon his own head, And his violent dealing shall come down on his own crown."* When we pray judgment one of the things we pray is, Lord as you have said in Psalm 7 and just like You have affirmed in Galatians 6, *"God is not mocked, Whatever a man sows that shall he also reap."* It is called sowing and reaping. We have the authority to pray that people will reap what they have sown. Whenever someone steals from us, we can pray that God restore it and take it away from them and teach them not to steal any more. ' Let them reap what they have sown. If that means being caught and going to jail, then let that be, Lord. And I thank You for restoring what they took.' Sowing and reaping is the major judicial plumbline in the last days. We are the ones that have to enforce it and we do that through our prayers! Here is a prayer from Lamentation 3:64-66 from the NIV, which would be appropriate for any people and policies that have poisoned this of ours land. *"Pay them back what they deserve, O Lord, for what their hands have done. Put a veil over their hearts, and may your curse be on them! Pursue them in anger and destroy them from under the heavens of the Lord."*

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Scripture: Psalm 9:15-20

Psalm 9 is another Psalm of King David. Here again we see sowing and reaping on a national level. Verses 15 and 16 say, *“The nations have sunk down in the pit which they made in the net which they hid, their own foot is caught. The LORD is known by the judgment He executes; The wicked is snared in the work of his own hands.”* Here we have the principle of sowing and reaping. Added to that we have another principle that we can pray and we find in verses 17-19. These verses say, *“The wicked shall be turned into hell, And all the nations that forget God. For the needy shall not always be forgotten; The expectation of the poor shall not perish forever. Arise, O LORD, Do not let man prevail; Let the nations be judged in Your sight. Put them in fear, O Lord, that the nations may know themselves to be but men.”* We can pray, ‘God, manifest Your judicial. Put leaders, politicians, judges in fear and let them know that You are the Lord, God Almighty the Lord of Hosts and let them know that You alone are God!’ This is a prayer that we should be praying in this season asking our mighty God to come and display His judicial might. *“By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us O God of our salvation.”* (Psalm 65:5) Praying the fear of the Lord to fall with awesome deeds and demonstrations are prayers we should be offering right now and all the way through the end of the age!

AN AGENT OF GLORY

A POWERHOUSE WALKING

ALIGNED WITH THE SPIRIT

PROPHETIC WHEN TALKING.

AN AGENT OF GLORY

TO DECLARE AND COMMAND,

AN AGENT ANOINTED

IN MOVING GOD’S HAND!

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| 3/23, 3/24 | Midland, TX | The Bridge Midland 2813 Maxwell Dr. Midland TX 79705 7 PM – 23 9 AM – 24 | Keith McLelland 432-967-3470 |
| 3/25, 3/26 | Andrews, TX | City of Refuge 1876 N. US 385 10:30 Sun 3/25 AM, 6:00 PM, Mon 3/26 7 PM | Larry Brewer 432-523-7773 |

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Houghton, Al. *Preparation for Sonship* Word At Work Bible Study. Vol.39.3 . Word at Work Ministries, March, 2018
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