

W O R D A T W O R K

VOLUME LX NUMBER VIII Walking through the Storms of Life III

One night during my first year of seminary, the Lord woke me up at 2 AM and said, 'Pray!' About 30 minutes later He gave me Psalm 25:12-14. This passage says, "*Who is the man that fears the Lord, Him shall He teach in the way He chooses. He himself shall dwell in prosperity, And his descendants shall inherit the earth. The secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him, And He will show them His covenant.*" I felt like the Lord was saying, 'Write your thesis on Blood Covenant!' I know now that God was giving me a Holy Spirit nudge in a powerful direction. Covenant is a key principle instituted by our Creator! The Bible is the account of God making covenant with man! God covenanted with man in order to bring a Savior into the world and redeem us from the fall! Covenant shapes our relationship with God.

Isaiah 9:6-7 declares that Jesus sits on King David's throne. "*For unto us a Child is born Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace There will be no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.*" The kingdom is formed within us as we accept God's covenant and choose to walk by His precepts. Believing God's covenant promises shapes our future! Every place we tread, the kingdom can rule. Joshua walked out this pattern and turned covenant promises into Israel's inheritance. The Lord saw Joshua's wise and discerning heart through the report he brought back 40 years earlier when he participated in spying out the Promised Land. God knew this warrior had an understanding of covenant. And the Lord trained Joshua with a strategy for dominion, first under Moses and then through conquering cities like Jericho. Jericho's walls came straight down except for one section and that section was occupied by Rahab who had hidden the two spies during the scouting expedition, for they had promised Rahab protection for her and her family. That promise was in fact a covenant of agreement with a life-saving provision. God saved Rahab by covenant! The walls of Jericho did not topple over as one might assume. Archeology reveals they went straight down like an elevator. Rahab believed God and it was accounted to her for righteousness! God saved her house and all in it from destruction. As a partaker of God's covenant we can expect Him to keep our house standing in the midst of judgment.

The kingdom is established by righteous people who declare righteous judgment! John 7:24 says, "*Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.*" In Luke 18 Jesus instructed us to ask for judgment. Are we asking God for judgment? No judgment, no peace! God said His kingdom should be forever increasing. We are exhorted to be doers of the Word and not hearers only! We are to stand against darkness by asking God to judge it; one important resource in Scripture is both a prayer book and song book--**Psalms**. Psalm 2:1-6 defines what we are seeing "*Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the Lord and against His Anointed saying, 'Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us.'* He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall **speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure;** 'Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion.'" Many of us have only been trained to turn the other cheek and to respond with mercy, so when God speaks wrath we feel speechless. God speaks wrath because when people want to kill us

or derail His divine purposes. We need a sword. Where can He find believers who will agree with the Lord to pray strong prayers in grueling situations and declare His Words? We must learn to follow the Holy Spirit in speaking wrath like the governing authorities of Romans 13:1-4. We can pray and ask God to implement Psalm 2. Let's look at Romans 13:1-4 in considering those who are on assignment to bear the sword executing wrath on those who practice evil. God executes wrath on those who practice evil as a divine judgment! Curbing evil can save a nation. Jesus ordains wrath for those who practice evil. Police are ordained by God to execute it! The police are among God's governing authorities in the political world just as God's warriors, intercessors and prophets operate in the spiritual world. This governmental pattern works both in the natural and the spiritual. Luke 17:21 says, "*For indeed the kingdom of God is within you.*"- In the last days kingdom rises against kingdom! We presently find ourselves living in a revolt against foundational American bedrock principles of both our democracy and Christianity. What can one do? The first thing is understand the prophetic warfare pattern that unfolds in Psalm 2. Psalm 2 contains answers for persecution and shows us what to pray and expect as warfare increases.

Where is Jesus? He resides within us. We are the temple of the Most High God. By His Holy Spirit, He dwells within our spirit man. God will speak through us! When God speaks forth through us, those God-birthed words come through our voice. God's elect are to be His agents of glory and wrath at the end of the age. Through us His prayers will rise and His wrath be declared! Have you ever been trained to function as an agent of God's glory or of His wrath? If not, there is some work to do! Perhaps we feel better trained and equipped to avoid wrath and don't feel comfortable touching the subject but Scripture demands our action. Psalm 110:2 tells us, "*The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of your enemies!*" Rule is released by speaking to the mountain. King David in Psalm 55:15 said, "*Let death seize them; Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness is in their dwellings and among them.*" Psalm 2:6 emphasizes that God sets His King on His Holy Hill of Zion. Zion is the temple within us where God dwells. When the Lord stands up in His temple, He is acting through us! We do the speaking!

Romans 8:14 says, "*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are sons of God!*" The Holy Spirit's job in Ephesians 1:1-4 is to be the Guarantee of our inheritance and He is Himself the Seal. The Holy Spirit takes us to our destiny, which requires a growth season to become comfortable declaring God's Word when it involves wrath. The spoken Word releases God's judgment against evil and those words have been designed to stop evil from corrupting a culture before we accrue a corresponding judgment! This is the real question we face right now, is it too late? If civil war breaks out in America, with mob or anti-Christ rule, the Russians and Chinese may rise and use it as excuse to invade. That is the last thing we need now. The issue is, can we move God's Hand against an enemy like Samuel did? God's enemies are demon-led, and some are American born-and-bred. Can we stand in prayer even against our neighbors or acquaintances?

How does God prepare us for this season? If we are committed to growing up into Him in all things, He prepares us and then anoints us to judge. Romans 13:3-4 declares "*For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.*" The police are God's ministers, and our governing authorities, with an assignment to execute wrath on those who practice evil. In the Great Commission Jesus assigned the church a particular power called **exousia** which is authority. That word, authority is the same Greek word used for the police in Romans 13:1-4. The church has a responsibility to establish the kingdom with judgment and this is a parallel function of **exousia** that Jesus gave us in the Great Commission. We can pray and move God's Hand as King David did when Absalom temporarily possessed Israel. King David invoked his Covenant of Sure Mercy. What we pray may very well determine who survives or is lost forever. Turning the other cheek can serve to enable evil and lead to the loss of a nation! Psalm 149:6-9 is now upon us, "*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!*" King David prayed Psalm 55:15. That verse says, "*Let death seize them;*

Let them go down alive into hell, For wickedness is in their dwelling and among them.” God answered in a short period of time with termination! Will God answer us? We should pray with all our heart. The most serious hour ever is upon us as multiple groups seek our destruction. Some of us watched the news and viewed parishioners walk through a gauntlet of verbal abuse to simply enter their sanctuary. How will we respond to this battle for America’s future? There is a great answer in Scripture for this moment. It is sobering, but for such a season we have come to the kingdom! Those who declare, ‘We will burn your churches down!’ invite the church to declare God’s wrath.

There are numerous groups in our nation that are guilty of 2 Chronicles 36:16. *“But they mocked the messengers of God, despised His words, and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, till there was no remedy.”* The cup of wrath is full for groups who declare their desire to burn churches! God will speak to them in His wrath and distress them in His deep displeasure **through you!** Deep State DAs persecute the righteous and free the thugs. Let the wrath of God remove them! This declaration activates the God response of Psalm 2:1-5 which says, *“Why do the nations rage, And the people plot a vain thing: The kings of the earth set themselves, And the rulers take counsel together, Against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, ‘Let us break Their bonds in pieces And cast away Their cords from us.’ He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; The Lord shall hold them in derision. Then He shall **speak to them in His wrath, And distress them in His deep displeasure;**...”* Those who want to destroy America need to meet the God who birthed America. Affliction and termination possibly await those who have chosen the violent path. Remember, none of this has taken God by surprise! Psalm 2 is God’s blueprint for action. As we walk forward into the last days, preparation to walk with the God of Psalm 2 means learning to decree God’s wrath on those who qualify. Only the Holy Spirit can determine who those really are. Man looks on the outward appearance but it is God Who sees into the heart. Tune in to the Holy Spirit and get ready for action. God may very well use your Spirit-breathed declarations to rule in the midst of your enemies! Psalm 2 is preparation for Psalm 110. The first two verses state, *“The Lord says to my Lord, Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool.’ The Lord shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies.”* God is the Prime Mover in all of this—our assignment is to obey and pray! How do the enemies of God earn His wrath in the Bible?

In scripture, God-haters, God-mockers and God-robbers may cross a ‘no mercy’ boundary line. They cross a Romans 13:1-4 Biblical boundary line. This passage declares police are God’s ministers to them for good. Anyone who wants to kill God’s ministers, His appointed, assigned agents, may have earned wrath without mercy. This is confirmed in both the Old Testament and the New Testament! Hebrews 10:28 says, *“Anyone who has rejected Moses’ law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.”* Micah 6:8 says, *“He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do judgment, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God?”* The Hebrew word for “to do justly” is **mish-pat** which quite literally means to do judgment and it is something that the Lord requires of us mature, secure believers who are of upright heart. Verse 13 in that same passage of Micah says, *“Therefore I will also make you sick by striking you, By making you desolate because of your sins.”* James 3:13a states, *“For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy...”* In Revelation 2:21-23 Jesus takes the no mercy stance against the church at Thyatira, *“And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. 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.”* What is God’s standard of judgment? At the beginning of Revelation 2, He declares all judgment is sowing and reaping! Again, in Revelation 22 in the culmination of Scripture Jesus says, *“And behold, I am coming quickly and my reward is with me to give to everyone according to his works.”* Judgment is sowing and reaping. If a political leader is locking down his state showing no mercy to the people, he is hurting—God may instruct us to declare judgment without mercy on his head! Are we ready to obey?

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever and proves it with His treatment of the apostate churches in Revelation! There are a number of places in the Old Testament in which sickness is sent as a mercy to a man or to a group or a nation. Job 33:19-22 says, *“Man is also chastened with pain on his bed, And with strong*

pain in many of his bones, So that his life abhors bread, And his soul succulent food. His flesh wastes away from sight, And his bones stick out which once were not seen. Yes, his soul draws near the Pit, And his life to the executioners.” This chastisement is for a redemptive opportunity spelled out in verse 24. If that man will turn, *“Then God is gracious to him, and says, ‘Deliver him from going down to the Pit; I have found a ransom;...”*”

Why does God judge man? God created the earth and made man earth’s caretaker. That did not go well initially because man filled the earth with violence and God destroyed every living thing by flood except Noah and the ark. One thing today’s church doesn’t know is, man is responsible for doing judgment as an expression of God’s wrath against those who practice evil (Romans. 13:1-4). When man first filled the earth with violence and perversion, God brought the flood and started a new era for mankind through Noah and his family! God promised never again to send a world-altering flood, so wickedness and violence has to be spiritually ‘policed’ until the antichrist finishes his rule. Then the earth will be burned up and we get a New Earth in which righteousness dwells. The church gains a harvest of nations promised by Psalm 2 and then the earth is burned up in judgment. Until then even during the antichrist reign God releases a policing force in the earth. The church gains a harvest of nations promised by Psalm 2 and then the culmination of time comes!

The Apostle Paul prophesied in 2 Timothy 3:1-9, *“But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but denying its power. And from such people turn away! For of this sort are those who creep into households and make captives of gullible women loaded down with sins, led away by various lusts, always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Now as Jannes and Jambres resisted Moses, so do these also resist the truth: men of corrupt minds, disapproved concerning the faith; but they will progress no further, for their folly will be manifest to all, as theirs also was.”* As we approach the end of the age, conflict with evil increases. The church ultimately becomes the two witnesses of Revelation 11 executing judgment as led by the Holy Spirit! The Holy Spirit will anoint us as He did Moses. The early church were ambassadors not only of God’s healing and miracles but also of His signs-and-wonder judgments. As today’s church we are to move forth in signs-and-wonder judgments. That anointing will make the Jews jealous until they turn to Christ according to Romans 11. Just as God anointed Moses to judge all the idols of Egypt, He anoints us to judge today’s cultural idols.

How was the folly of Jannes and Jambres manifested? Every judgment of Egypt was a picture of the One True God judging various idols of Egypt. The Egyptians along with Ra their Sun god endured three days of total darkness. Pharaoh was called the son of Ra, and considered Ra incarnate and worthy of worship. When all the firstborn died, Pharaoh was proved just a man and Israel went free. God anointed Moses to judge the idolatry of Egypt. God declared that He will anoint the church to judge the idolatry of their nation! Revelation documents God’s judgment on the idols of man. We are seeing men rise up over their idols. The environmental movement worships nature and bows to it at every opportunity. Abortion sacrifices innocent blood to Molech. The feminist movement worships women. BLM worships Race. LGBT worships unbridled sexual liberation, rejecting God’s choice in their creation. The anti-Christ spirit promotes all these idols which earn God’s wrath.

Revelation 1-3 show us who qualifies to receive the anointing to judge! Of the seven churches only two qualified by persevering through their obedience to the Word. The other five either compromised or abandoned God’s Word and forfeited their spiritual destiny. The generations of Eli and Samuel are once again on display as the disobedient are passed over for the ‘Samuels’ who qualify for the anointing to ‘police’ the culture.

Judicial transition is picture in Revelation 5 as Jesus takes the scroll of judgments and immediately the prayers of the obedient saints are poured out at His feet! This suggests that the prayers of the saints activate the judgments! The two churches that qualify are Smyrna, a Jewish church, and Philadelphia, a Gentile church. Philadelphia appears to initiate the judgments because in Revelation 7 the Jewish church is highlighted and in

Revelation 8:3 their prayers are poured out onto the altar! Revelation 9:20-21 are very sad verses because they reveal the depth of rebellion and man's commitment to idols. *"But the rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and idols of gold, silver, brass, stone, and wood, which can neither see nor hear nor walk. And they did not repent of their murders or their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts."* Psalm 2 warns, *"Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little..."* The witnesses are anointed by God to judge as often as needed! May our prayers open the door for people to be drawn into the intimacy that preserves while others perish!

Does God still police the earth? Yes! In Revelation 11:3-7, He releases the church to judge and kill at will, entrusting us to use wrath to save. If the two churches are the two anointed witnesses in Revelation, then we may very well still be here doing God's will opposing evil and shining forth His Light to enlarge His family. If we are to walk through 3 ½ years or more of deep darkness and judgment during the great tribulation, we better be strengthened and established as relentless, end-time warriors.

How does God prepare us for this season? He strengthens us through His Word and anoints us to judge! This does not happen automatically but comes through commitment to relationship with the Father and obedience to His voice, His Word and His ways. It comes through a supernatural resolve! Revelation 11:3-9 states, *"And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth." These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth. 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. These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire."* In the last days, God's police force is His church! Psalm 2 warns, *"Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little..."* The witnesses are anointed with God's wrath to judge as often as they desire. My generation of ministers owes it to every congregation to familiarize them with God's wrath just as we would prepare people to receive the Holy Spirit! How many preparational messages on God's wrath have you heard? In the last days, deception! Does darkness blind the people so that only wrath can break through the depth of darkness? Wrath is God's final attempt to save at the end of the age. It is a tool of salvation to restore the fear of the Lord. That is why the witnesses use it as often as they desire! Wrath is the last chance, the final opportunity for many to turn and be saved!

Several weeks ago at the beginning of the riots, the Lord said, "Tell My people, 'I am declaring war.' I anointed Donald Trump to be president. **Who** has shown him mercy?" I responded, 'Only the church and only a remnant of them.' God replied 'James 2:13 is now activated!' Judgment is without mercy to him who shows no mercy. Job 2:28 says, *"You will also declare a thing and it will be established for you. So light will shine on your ways."* When we hear the followers of darkness declare their no-mercy judgments, deceptions with no regard for truth and with no mercy on the target, we stand poised, anointed and hopefully confident to declare judgment without mercy on their heads!

The Lord said, 'Prophecy and declare judgment without mercy on all those who show no mercy!' Then God said to go to Matthew 24:1-2 to discover the 'throw-down' anointing. In that account the disciples marveled at all the buildings of the temple, but Jesus said because of the rejection of the Savior, all shall be thrown down, not one stone will remain upon another. It happened in 70 A.D. through a disastrous Roman invasion. God is releasing a throw-down anointing! He said to me that Jeremiah 1:8-10 is now activated. This passage says, *"Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the Lord. Then the Lord put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the Lord said to me: 'Behold, I have put My words in your mouth. See, I have this day set you over the nations and over the kingdoms, To root out and to pull down, To destroy and to throw down, To build and to plant."* God declares war on the anti-Christ elements of society that practice evil. Two judgments predominate – physical affliction and termination. Follow the Holy Spirit in your declarations and watch what God does. God knows the hearts of men. He knows who to afflict, He sees these whose hearts are open to repentance. He also clearly sees

those who arrogantly and defiantly are sold out to the evil one and intend to taint and pollute others toward destruction. 2 Corinthians 10:4 says, *“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds...”* We need to use our mighty weapons! God speaks in His wrath to terminate and distresses in His deep displeasure with affliction—May the Word of the Lord be in our mouth!

God confirms His Word in Scripture. Isaiah 11:1-4 says, *“There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, And a Branch shall grow out of his roots. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. His delight is in the fear of the Lord, And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes, Nor decide by the hearing of His ears; But with righteousness He shall judge the poor, And decide with equity for the meek of the earth; He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth, And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.”* Are we preparing the church for God’s covenantal anointing? Romans 12:19 tells us how to pray God’s wrath or how to walk in Isaiah 11:1-4. The Romans passage says, *“Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath.”* The Greek word is **did-o-mee top-os**. It is a second aorist active imperative verb, which means, it is stated not as an option but as a command! God directs us to tell Him the person and their offense, outlining the Biblical penalty. Then we ask God to execute the penalty of affliction or termination. God says, He will act! Let God arise!

For those of us who are committed to righteousness, truth and obedience, God may very well have a deputy badge with our name on it. God is calling His people to ‘police’ the culture and bring forth God’s justice through judgment using our prayers and prophetic declarations. Judgment may still sound harsh to some, but this is a judgment-unto-salvation. It is not a vengeful, immature judgment. In many ways just-judgment is rulership over evil. Just-judgment is judging righteous judgment! Darkness and evil are challenging God and His goodness and His ways of righteousness, and wisdom. **Proverbs 10:29** says, *“The way of the Lord is **strength** for the **upright**, But destruction will come to the workers of iniquity.”*

Ecclesiastes 8:11 says, *“Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil.”* Psalm 78:30-35 says, *“They were not deprived of their craving; But while their food was still in their mouths, The wrath of God came against them, And slew the stoutest of them, And struck down the choice men of Israel. In spite of this they still sinned, And did not believe in His wondrous works. Therefore their days He consumed in futility, And their years in fear When He slew them, then they sought Him; And they returned and sought earnestly for God. Then they remembered that God was their rock, And the Most High God their Redeemer.”* May God arise and His enemies be scattered! ‘Execute Your Word, O God Most High, and terminate all those who despise You and have tenaciously set their plans to destroy what You labored to birth, in the Mighty Name of Jesus!’