

# KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

*Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12*

*From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury*

## ARISE AND BUILD – LET US MAKE A COMMITMENT

“Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, *the LORD stirred up the spirit* of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying, Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And *He has commanded me to build Him a house* at Jerusalem which is in Judah. *Who is among you of all His people? May his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel (He is God),* which is in Jerusalem. And whoever is left in any place where he dwells, let the men of his place help him with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, besides the freewill offerings for the house of God which is in Jerusalem. Then the heads of the fathers' houses of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests and the Levites, with *all whose spirits God had moved, arose to go up and build the house of the LORD* which is in Jerusalem. And *all those who were around them encouraged them with articles of silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with precious things, besides all that was willingly offered.* King Cyrus also brought out the articles of the house of the LORD, which Nebuchadnezzar had taken from Jerusalem and put in the temple of his gods; and Cyrus king of Persia brought them out by the hand of Mithredath the treasurer, and counted them out to Sheshbazzar the prince of Judah. This is the number of them: thirty gold platters, one thousand silver platters, twenty-nine knives, thirty gold basins, four hundred and ten silver basins of a similar kind, and one thousand other articles. All the articles of gold and silver were five thousand four hundred. All these Sheshbazzar took with the captives who were brought from Babylon to Jerusalem. Ezra 1: 1-11 NKJV

I want you to fully understand what it is we are involved with and called to accomplish in God. We are building a Strong Base of operation that will be used to fuel the purpose of God in this nation and in the nations of the earth. We are building as it were an “apostolic community” that will serve as a “launching pad” into the nations of the earth. And as such we need to have as many committed people on board as we can. Just like Ezra we have a mandate from the Holy One, and as such we must be committed to the task at hand!

The Principle I Will Like For Us To Explore Is This: There are THREE kinds of Christians Today:

SPECTATORS / CURIOUS / BORN AGAIN - Deliver no one - Cannot see the Kingdom

BELIEVERS / CONVINCED / SPIRIT FILLED - Deliver themselves - See the kingdom

DISCIPLES / COMMITTED / SPIRIT FILLED & PURPOSE DRIVEN - Deliver themselves and others - See and possess the Kingdom

### 1. SPECTATORS / CURIOUS / BORN AGAIN:

“Then Jesus said to them again, "I am going away, and you will seek Me, and will die in your sin. Where I go you cannot come." So the Jews said, "Will He kill Himself, because He says, "Where I go you cannot come?" And He said to them, "You are from beneath; I am from above. You are of this world; I am not of this world. Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." Then they said to Him, "Who are You?" And Jesus

said to them, "Just what I have been saying to you from the beginning. I have many things to say and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him." They did not understand that He spoke to them of the Father." John 8:21-27

These Christians are ever listening and learning, but never being able to come into the knowledge of the truth. They are amazed by miracles, and the manifestation of spiritual gifts; however, they will quit on you the first time you disagree with their thinking. They dwell in the soulish realm of wanting everything to centre on their needs and wants. They live in the "Outer Court" realm of the tabernacle. Very immature, regardless of chronicle age [calendar years] in Christ; they live in the realm of "well I am not sure if this is of God" I need time to make up my mind! In essence there is no commitment!

These kinds of Christians would have said in Ezra - "I sure hope that you all will make it to Jerusalem and build the House of God."

## 2. BELIEVERS / CONVINCED / SPIRIT FILLED:

"Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things. And He who sent Me is with Me. The Father has not left Me alone, for I always do those things that please Him." As He spoke these words, many believed in Him." John 8:28-30

These Christians are convinced, persuaded, assured, begin to move in revelation, marked by admission, concession ("Jesus is of God!"). However, these kinds of Believers still have problems making Kingdom Investments to see the advance of God's work in the earth. They will agree with what you are called to do but they will stop there. They love to receive the revelations and apply it to themselves and can see tremendous results but they will take it no further.

These kinds of Christians would have said in Ezra - "I believe [give my affirmation] that you all will make it to Jerusalem and build the House of God."

## 3. DISCIPLES / COMMITTED / SPIRIT FILLED & PURPOSE DRIVEN:

"Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on Him, " If ye *continue in my word*, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:31-32 KJV

PRINCIPLE: These Christians declare, "There is nothing I will not do or give up in the Name of Jesus if He speaks to me!" ("Jesus IS God!"). I am committed to seeing the advance of God's Kingdom in the earth and I will give all that I have to see it accomplished. My time, my talent, my resource, all of me belongs to HIM!

"Continue" = This is translated from several Greek words one of which is the word "ginomai", which signifies "the process of becoming", (a) "to begin to be" (suggesting origin); (b) "to become" (suggesting entrance on a new state); (c) "to come to pass" (suggesting effect);

In essence the Word of God is becoming flesh in these Christians and they are living the Word; not just hearers but effective "doers" of the Word!

These kinds of Christians would have said in Ezra - "Here, take my silver and gold and I am also coming with you all to Jerusalem to build the House of God."

APPLICATION - We are building a base of operation to impact Canada and the nations - are you CURIOUS, CONVINCED, or COMMITTED?

WHAT WILL BE YOUR STATEMENT? - "I HOPE THAT YOU ALL DO IT" – "I KNOW THAT YOU ALL WILL DO IT" – "HERE, TAKE WHAT I HAVE, AND I AM GOING WITH YOU ALL TO DO IT."

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