

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

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

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Building Positive Strongholds

There are several words in the Hebrew and one word in the Greek that translates the word **Stronghold**. They are:

Hebrew words:

Bitsaron; Mibtsar: – cut off or fenced place. Maoz: – a strong place or stronghold.
Metsad; Metsudad: – a fortress. Matsor; Metsurah: – bulwark.
Sela: – rock or cliff. Ophel: – high place.

Greek word:

Ochuroma

2 Cor: 10: 1 - 6

This word Ochuroma is found in 2 Cor: 10: 4 and carries the idea of Apostolic mentality breaking down previous mentalities that were set up in opposition to Kingdom advance. From this passage of scripture, we understand the following:

- Effective warfare is not done in the natural, nor with natural means, (verses 3 – 4)
- That strongholds are any set of principles that dictate or govern life (homes, churches, cities or nations). Any principle that dictates or governs life's value is a principality. (Verse 5)
- You cannot destroy a prevailing stronghold without first establishing another stronghold, (verse 3, the knowledge of God is the other stronghold that is established).
- We must be obedient to the voice of the Spirit at this level of warfare. (Verse 6)

However, we need to understand that Positive Strongholds are built one stone at a time, with deliberate action. In the case of "negative or demonic strongholds", these can only be destroyed by knowledge, obedience and the power from God.

All opinions are correct but not necessarily true, and a Passive or Ignorant people can destroy or impede the forward thrust of Kingdom advance; for example Matthew 13: 53 – 58 Jesus at Nazareth, His hometown. These people represented the "passive and ignorant" a people without any vision or faith.

Let us look at another example of this:

Principles from David's life as he was being established king over the whole of Israel –
2 Samuel 5: 6 – 10

The "blind and the lame" these represent the passive and the ignorant, people that will not enter into that which the Lord wants. In order to effectively build what God wants we must have hatred and dislike for those kinds of spirits and stop them at all cost. David then establishes himself in the

“stronghold” (demonic spirits and principalities always dwell in the “strongholds” Ephesians 6: 12) and effectively builds unto the Lord.

As we sense an initial breakthrough from the Lord, I strongly encourage you by the Grace and Spirit of the Lord to continue building effective and positive strongholds as we continue to press forward in establishing the move of God in this territory. If these mentalities do not exist we can find ourselves doing like Achan who sinned and hid it and almost destroyed his brethren – read Joshua 7! Or the children of Israel upon their exit from Egypt when they took their wealth and made it their god (Exodus 32)

PRAYER BATTLELINES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Let us lift up strong prayer over Sis Tania Bryan and her team, as they get ready to begin teaching English! Let us proclaim the GRACE of God over them at this time!• Pray for Divine Accuracy, as we get ready to set in elders and deacons in the church!• Pray for RESOURCES for Dominion-Life International as we continue to build with and for the Lord!• Pray resolutely over the souls in this region, as we get ready to reach out to this community around us.• Pray for LABOURERS to send into this harvest!• Let us be in prayer for Candice Scantlebury, as she gets ready for her missionary journey into Madagascar this May. Let us believe with her that she will acquire everything that she needs for this journey!• For greater breakthrough and penetration through our Praise and Worship! | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For Pamela O’Keefe as she plays in our women’s [WISE] meetings!• Lift up strong prayer over our youth. Pray for wisdom, integrity and the FEAR OF THE LORD to be strong in their lives. Pray for those who will be graduating this year that they will excel!• Pray strong over Vancouver, Canada. Make strong declarations and decrees over this region – keep speaking against the incorrect designation that this region is a graveyard. Let the devils know that the Spirit and Power of Elijah is in this place and the dry bones in this territory WILL LIVE!!!• Lift up Pastor Walter Boston and City of Praise and CAUSE International as the Lord continues to use them in His purpose! Also for him as he comes to us in April.• Lift up Prophet Prathan Powell Snr. Who will be accompanying Pastor Boston.• Also lift up Pastor Paul from Portland.• For the whole weekend of April 12 – 14 2002. That the Lord will have His Way! |
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