
SPIRITUAL MAPPING FOR EFFECTIVE SPIRITUAL WARFARE – Part 6

By Diane Buker

6. "Prophesying To" and "Praying Over" Your City

What does it mean to prophesy? Strong's Exhaustive Concordance says "to speak or sing by inspiration in prediction or simple discourse", "Something fulfilled, an abundance (of produce) fruit, fullness." Merriam Webster's Dictionary says to prophesy is "to declare or predict something by or as by the influence of divine guidance, to predict something."

Let us first look at some examples from the Holy Scriptures concerning prophesying to various places. As we study these accounts of the Lord and the prophets speaking not only to people, but also to places, we ascertain a secure foundation for praying in this manner and fashion.

The Lord told Jeremiah

"Go and shout this in Jerusalem's streets..." Jeremiah 2:2 (TLB)

Isaiah prophesied to Israel

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee." Isaiah 60:1-2

In the book of Ezekiel we see

"Also, thou son of man, prophesy unto the mountains of Israel, hear the word of the Lord!" Ezekiel 36:1

And in the New Testament, Matthew 11 reads

"Then began He (Jesus) to upbraid the cities wherein most of His mighty works were done, because they repented not. 'Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.'" Matthew 11:20-21

The Word of God ensures us that the Lord has not changed (Malachi 3:6), and that He shows no partiality towards any nation (Acts 10:34). We can be confident that if we walk uprightly, the Lord will give grace and glory to our cities, and withhold no good thing from us (Psalms 84:11). Therefore, as His ambassadors, in our cities we may prophesy in His name, as inspired by the Holy Spirit as we see it done in Scripture.

One act of prophesying is the declaration of something by divine inspiration. To receive divine inspiration concerning our cities, we must first spend time before the Lord, seeking His heart for that place (Jeremiah 33:3). He already has plans and purposes for every place He created (Jeremiah 29:11). Strong's Exhaustive concordance says that prophesying is also speaking something that is fulfilled. When I speak to my city; I say to it, ? Miami, as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so the Son of Man was lifted up, that, if you, Miami, believe in Jesus, you will not perish but have eternal life through Him.? or perhaps I might say, "Miami, it was God who commanded the Light to shine out of the darkness, and He will shine in your heart also, to give the Light of the knowledge of the glory of Himself in the face of Christ Jesus." I declare that, "Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life, and all in Miami who believe in Jesus, though you were dead, you shall never die." "Miami, you can have redemption through Jesus Christ's blood and the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace." (The Scripture portions for the above declarations came from: John 3:14-15, 11:25-26, II Corinthians 4:6 and Ephesians 1:7.)

I believe we can speak as was spoken in Isaiah 43:6, "I will say to the north, 'Give them up!' and to the south, 'Do not keep them back!' Bring My sons from afar, and My daughters from the ends of the earth." Since God is no respecter of persons, and His Word is the same yesterday, today and forever, we can be confident as Ezekiel was when he prophesied to the dry bones (Ezekiel 37:4). Think of the great harvest in our cities as we stand and believe for verses 11-14 of Ezekiel 37.

As the righteous, we can have the promise God spoke to Job, "Thou shalt make thy prayer unto Him, He shall hear thee, and thou shalt pay thy vows. Thou shalt also decree a thing, and it shall be established unto thee; and the light shall shine upon thy ways. When men are cast down, then thou shalt say, 'There is lifting up; and He shall save the humble person. He shall deliver the island of the innocent; and it is delivered by the pureness of thine hands.'" (Job 22:27-30).

As I walk or drive around my city and pray, I loose these spiritual truths. I also bind the works of the kingdom of darkness sent on assignment to my city. I am convinced of God's promise to back up with His authority what I bind and loose from the earth (Matthew 16:19); and of the power and authority in the name of Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:18).

I believe Jesus' word in Luke 10:19 is for me, and for now. I also take great heed of His Word in Luke 10:20. I keep my rejoicing fixed upon Him and His grace that has saved me. The Bible tells us that "life and death are in the power of the tongue" (Proverbs 18:21). We can choose to speak life to our cities and have them partake of the fruit of it, or we can speak death over our cities and eat the fruit of that.

US Spiritual Warfare Network Regional Coordinator

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