



**“In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer;
I have overcome the world” John 16:33b**

Periodical Message (August 2021)

A Word from us,

In a world full of sin and the denial of God’s existence, it is difficult these days to find understanding even among believers; WHY then should God do THIS: “...blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins” **Isaiah 43:25 !!**

It is even more difficult to convince believers to intercede for those persecuting them; something MUST have changed because part of our Calling is to PRAY; to pray even for our enemies and those who persecute us “...and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you” **Matthew 5:44b.**

Also our Lord Jesus commanded us to “**Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation...**” **Matthew 26:41** and in **1 Thessalonians 5:17** we read “**Pray without ceasing**”

As believers in the Lord and as His servants we believe in the power of and the NEED for prayer; we hear our Lord saying “Therefore I say unto you **‘What things so ever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them’**” **Mark 11:24.** We believe that our world could be changed by our prayers; think with us and pray, in order to have the world you desire and NOT a world dictated by others.

**Yours in the Lord,
Salman**

A Word according to the Guidance of the Holy Spirit

God seeks such prayer,

WE, from ICOM, are remembering September, 11 and we know many are feeling betrayed by their governments, especially in the United States of America; we can understand, seeing also which disaster unfolded in front of our eyes in Afghanistan.

Is it a time to grieve, or to get angry? From the human perspective that might seem logical, but Heaven has different Standards; our Almighty God is the All-Wise God and He knows why things must go this and not that way. Please let’s go to the Holy Bible, the Word of God, and look at the Book of Daniel, which was written around 604-535 B.C. at that time Israel was taken in captivity to Babylon (Today’s Iraq).

I encourage you to go and read the WHOLE Book of Daniel, which is also called Apocalypse (Means: Unveiling), like the Book of Revelation in the New Testament and Isaiah and Zechariah in the Old Testament. When wickedness seemed supreme in the world, and evil powers were dominant, an Apocalypse was given by God to show the real situation behind that which was apparent and to indicate the eventual victory of righteousness upon the earth.

After a long life in ministry, Daniel was eighty years old, as we read in Chapter six, King Darius promoted Daniel to the highest office in the land. He became one of three co-equal presidents, ruling over princes and governors of 120 provinces. Darius favored Daniel over the other two presidents, putting Daniel in charge of forming government policy and teaching all the court appointees and intellectuals.

“It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom. And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. **Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him;** and the king thought to set him over the whole realm” **Daniel 6:1-3 (That reminds us of what our Lord Jesus said according to the Gospel of Luke: “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because He hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor” Luke 4:18 – SUCH Excellent Spirit is from the Lord)**

I can only imagine the kinds of pressures placed on Daniel as a minister with his busy schedule and time-consuming meetings; obviously, Daniel was one very busy prophet. **However, nothing could take Daniel away from his times of prayer; he was never too busy to pray.** Is it the same with you Preacher? Are you kneeling day and night before the Living God, fighting the Spiritual Battle as Daniel did? Do you know that even HELL was aware of Daniel and his prayer, that the ‘Prince of Persia... withstood’ the Angel sent by God to strengthen and help Daniel for 21 days that the Angel Michael had to be sent to assist and help!

Yes, prayer remained Daniel’s central occupation, taking precedence over all other demands; Daniel received all his wisdom, direction, messages and prophecies while on his knees “Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, **he kneeled upon his knees three times a day,** and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime” **Daniel 6:10.** I want you to imagine three times a day, Daniel stole away from all his obligations, burdens and demands as a leader, to spend time with the LORD. He simply withdrew from all activities and prayed, and God answered him. In reality Daniel had always been a praying man, we can see it from the very beginning; Daniel KNEW ONLY God can reveal secrets and Daniel had faith God answers prayers; how many of us have that faith today? Are we willing to abandon everything and have time to pray; and have fellowship with the Holy Spirit?

When they faced death, Daniel and his companions prayed “Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions. **That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven** concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. **Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven” Daniel 2:17-19** --- many believe these days in a ‘god’ but NOT the God of Heaven! It is interesting to notice that in his old age, Daniel had no thoughts of slowing down and Scripture makes no mention of Daniel being ‘burned out’ or discouraged! On the contrary, Daniel was just beginning and Scripture shows that even as he turned eighty, his prayers shook hell, enraging the devil. Do you know, O, faithful, what is a prayer that shakes hell? Well, let me tell you, it comes from the faithful, diligent servant who sees his nation and Church falling deeper into sin; and instead of complaining or blaming others, he falls down on his knees, crying, “Lord, I don’t want to be a part of what’s going on. Let me be an example of your keeping power in the midst of this wicked age. It doesn’t matter if no one else prays. I’m going to pray... I WANT TO PRAY” So strange, that at such a time of misery we do NOT have a Praying Church? Is THAT your heart’s cry? Are you FIGHTING the devil and his fallen angels while on your knees before God’s Throne? Or you are ‘too busy’ to pray...!

I know many who would say ‘I just take it by faith’ or think to themselves ‘God knows my heart; He knows how busy I am. I give Him thought prayers throughout the day’ – it should NOT be that way, dear brother/dear Sister in the Lord. Let me tell you that deep in my heart I believe the Lord wants quality, unhurried time alone with us; He longs to see us on our knees, humbled in order to lift us up. Prayer should become an act of love and devotion, not just petition time; it is known in the Church that believers turn to God ONLY when they NEED something from Him!

What an incredible authority we’ve been given in prayer by our Lord Jesus; our prayers should be bold prayers from surrendered hearts. You might not believe, that many believers ask ‘But HOW exactly, do we use this authority?! It is difficult to comprehend, but that is the bitter reality in the Church today...

To give an answer, we can do it through Christ’s own name, remembering that His Name is above all names and it is powerful. You see, when we placed our faith in Jesus, He gave us His name (That is why we are called CHRISTians!) and THAT should mean everything for you!

You can see why the phrase “In Christ’s name” or “In Jesus’ name” isn’t just some impersonal formula, rather, it’s a literal position we have with Jesus. THAT position is recognized by the Father and our Lord

Jesus tells us “At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you. **For the Father Himself loveth you**, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God” **John 16:26-27**.

Always we pray in the name of Jesus and here is why Jesus commanded us to pray in His name. You could say our Lord Jesus is simply saying “Whenever you ask in my name, your request has the same power and effect with the Father as if it were me asking Him”

Isn't that amazing? The Father sees the CHRIST in us, and act as if HE (The Christ) was asking; what a mystery...what a grace. And likewise, when we anoint or lay hands on the sick and pray, God sees us as if Jesus is laying hands on the sick to bring healing... do you remember Daniel and his bold requests?

In James we read “Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the Church; **and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord**” **James 5:14**.

This is also the reason why we should boldly come to the Throne of Grace: **Brothers, we come to the Throne of Grace to receive/obtain**. Thus we are to pray with confidence “Father, I stand before you, chosen in Christ to go forth and bear fruit. Now I make my request that my joy may be full”

“Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need” **Hebrews 4:16**

Over the long years of service, I heard so many Christians say “Well, I DID ask in Jesus' name, but my prayers weren't answered!” These believers seem puzzled, and they really don't understand why their prayers are not answered and state “I tried to claim the power in Jesus' name, but it just didn't work for me!” – You may ask yourself why the prayers of Daniel and his companions were answered but not the prayers of many believers today! In fact, we have many examples in the Bible showing what the prayer of faith can do and achieve; all men of faith were Prayer Warriors and they availed much!

Normally we say “If you pray God's answer will be: **1. Yes; 2. No or 3. Not now**” – therefore there is always an answer when we pray...still there are many reasons why we don't receive answers to our prayers.

A main factor/reason in our life for not answered prayers is SIN; and we may have allowed some sin in our lives, something that defiles our union with Christ. King David said **“If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me” Psalm 66:18**. I want you to imagine what King David is saying, that if he ONLY regards sin, then the Lord will NOT hear him – let me ask how many believers regard sin in their hearts? These sins become roadblocks that dam up the flow of blessing from God, our heavenly Father.

And as a Holy God, He won't answer our prayers until we've forsaken our sins. In fact God repeat it many times in His Word, asking His People to return back to Him, to forsake their evil ways and to repent, because He KNOWS that SIN separates us from Him...AND stop the flow of blessing.

Perhaps the blockage/ no answers to our prayers, is due to lukewarmness or halfheartedness toward the things of God; if we were dead and have no will, then the Lord could deal with us differently. But a lukewarm person is different – he still has free will -- and the Lord told us that He will spit such people out of His mouth!

Perhaps we're being stifled by doubt, which cuts us off from the **power in Christ**. **James warns “But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering/doubting**. For he that wavereth/doubt is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord”

James 1:6–7. Believing in an all-powerful and able God should encourage us NOT to doubt, when we ask for ANYTHING, because our God is able AND willing to give. Our God also knows our hearts, and He knows when we're undecided in our commitment to His Son Jesus Christ. He reserves the power that's in Christ for those who surrender wholly to Him.

Finally, we should remember that God uses answered prayers to glorify Jesus **“He shall glorify me: for He shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you” John 16:14**

I believe the best example to follow is our Lord Jesus; no matter where He was, He always took time to pray – may THIS example of our Lord be an encouragement for you and me.

Normally Daniel represents God's holy remnant in an evil time, and his captivity in Babylon illustrates our present struggle in a modern Babylon; a world system built on principles and laws AGAINST God and His plan for mankind. He shows us today how to persevere in seeking God until His hand is upon us as well.

Our God is in the business of redemption, and we are so grateful to bring His message of love and salvation by grace through faith in Messiah Jesus alone to people. What an extraordinary and amazing love, yet one that is difficult for the heart of people to understand. People have been conditioned by

religion, tradition, and endless forms of deception. We cannot do this work of the gospel alone. Only by the Spirit of God, via the power of the Gospel, can the spirit of man be touched (“Then he answered and spake unto me, saying ‘This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the LORD of hosts**”**Zechariah 4:6**). Your prayers are critically important and we are deeply grateful for this partnership that YOU pray with us; believe me it takes two – One to go and one to send and in both cases, God is with us. Last word to encourage you: IF Daniel could stay true to God in a day of apostasy and idolatry, we can do so today, no matter how wicked the times become. If he could not only keep his faith but also become so engrossed with the Lord that God came down and touched him, this too is possible for us today. The same God who touched Daniel and answered his prayers, will touch us and answer our prayers too, because He is the same God: We need to pray and understand the value of prayer more now than at any other time.

Prayer Ideas

1. Please join our prayer to our Father in heaven; O, Lord when people and circumstances are against us, please give us the courage and strength to do what is right and fulfill the work You’ve called us to do. Help us to NOT tremble when we face the enemy; Father You have given us the weaponry of Christ, the fellowship of brothers and sisters who are there to help, and Jesus, the great General is with us. We are never alone; may Your Spirit remind and encourage us. Amen.
2. We pray that “Thy will be done” remembering that all heaven is watching as we fight our battles and strive to make this world a far better and brighter place through spreading the Gospel. Make us, O Lord, an instrument of your peace, and help us to sow peace everywhere we go. Lord, where there is hatred let us sow love; where there is injury, let us sow pardon; where there is doubt, let us sow faith; where there is despair, let us sow hope; where there is darkness, let us sow light; and where there is sadness, let us sow joy. In Jesus holy name we pray. Amen.
3. Lord Jesus by Your Spirit create in our hearts a hunger and thirst for righteousness, and a loathing and abhorrence for evil and depravity. And please, dear Lord, raise up men and women of God to lead on the path of righteousness. Mighty God, please bless our nation with a great outpouring of Your Holy Spirit, bringing conviction of sin and repentance across our land and turn our hearts to You, Lord Jesus Christ.
4. We encourage every believer to set their hearts to be blameless; do it NOW...do it today! Desire it with everything in you and soon you will discover God’s great favor upon your life. Your words and actions will have an impact on others as you find yourself focused totally on Jesus. Lord Jesus, into Your loving arms we flee; cleanse and forgive us of any HIDDEN sin. Heal our wounded souls and save those who need your salvation. Fill the void in our hearts with Your presence and make us completely free. The Word of God says “**Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free...**” **Galatians 5:1a** – help us, dear Lord, to stand fast and draw us, O, Lord, day by day, into a deeper and more loving relationship with You, Lord Jesus. Amen.
5. Lord Almighty we are so touched by your word which states “The LORD bless thee, and keep thee; The LORD make His face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee. The LORD lift up His countenance upon thee, and give thee peace...” Number 6:24-27 – you are so gracious that putting your name on the people brings them blessing!
Help us, Lord, to proclaim your name everywhere we go, to share your name with others and also to SMILE at others, despite their or our circumstances. Isn’t it your Word that says “When the king smiles, there is life; his favor refreshes like a spring rain” Job 29:24?
May we be a blessing to many, through your name, our smile and preaching the Gospel; please LORD continue shining upon us through your face. At such a time we NEED your Presence and ask you to keep us protected everywhere we go to serve you and those Christians in need.
6. We want to remember our persecuted brothers and sisters in Afghanistan; join our prayer for Afghanistan and its people. Proclaim justice through the Presence of the Just One in the land THROUGH HIS PEOPLE: ask the Lord for protection for everyone who confessed Christ as his/her Saviour. Rebuke the spirit of deceit and confusion and claim LIGHT for the people. Cry with us to our heavenly Father in heaven: LORD, before I face the world and its troubled souls, please revive my heart and fill me with Your joy and peace. Don’t let me see only the negative side, but remind me that YOU are in control.

Help me, Lord, to greet everyone on my path with a cheerful countenance that I may be a blessing and not a burden. MAY THIS be true for the believers in Afghanistan, despite persecution. Amen.

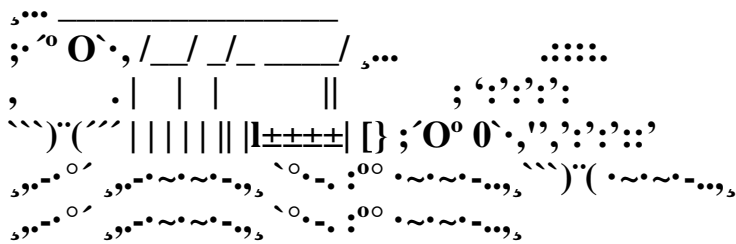
7. During the last few months Muslim terrorists carried attacks not far away from our New Mission House in Ainkawa, Erbil, Iraq thus we encourage every believer to remember us and to pray for our Teams there. Yes, there will be some changes in our service, still ALL who are working with us need protection; pray like Daniel and may the Lord stop the mouth of the lion. Yes, we are facing hardship, but we ask our Lord to open our eyes to see all the treasures He’s poured into our lives and in our Ministry. May the Lord train us to hunt for the good and to give thanks in every situation.

8. Because of NEW measures concerning the so-called ‘pandemic’ and the ‘variants’ we feel like cornered and could not do all what the Lord entrusted us with. We ask you, if you are willing, to pray for us; we are asking the Lord for a clear Vision concerning the Direction of our Ministry and also for us as a family, as He’s given us years ago “A Vision for America”.

Finally, we encourage you in the name of Jesus to keep the Word, live the Calling and continue serving in a humble heart WITHOUT fear. Don’t ever forget your joy in the Lord no matter what might happen---He will never fail you.

We also ask you, dear Saints, to forward our Messages to as many people as you can, whether believers or else with many thanks. We would love to visit you, if invited to your Church, Prayer Group or else and share our testimony with all the Saints or hear from you. Please let’s know through an E-mail containing a phone number to send a message to or even call you back. We will be waiting for your Feedback or commentaries too. What did the Message tell you and what did the Holy Spirit teach you through it? If you want us to pray for you, or for somebody else, please let us know and we will pass the name/s over to our 24/7 Prayer Team-Jesus Highland Prayer House- JHPH.

Have a \\\^I^\\\ Blessed Day



Built on the Rock: JESUS CHRIST THE LORD

**“Choose this day whom you will serve, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord”
Joshua 24.15**

**“...I will look unto the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me”
Micah 7:7**