

Holy Ground PDX

Re-zoning the City through Strategic Prayer

- I. Jesus initiated and currently leads the history's most prolific liberation movement. He is liberating both people and places.**

Luke 4:16-18

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. **17** And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon Me,
Because He has anointed Me
To preach the gospel to *the* poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to *the* captives
And recovery of sight to *the* blind,
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord."

Keys to this passage:

- >Anointed to Preach.
- >Sent to Heal.
- > Sent to Proclaim.
- >Sent to Recover.
- >Sent to Release.

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> Sent with understanding of the seasons, times, and activity of the Lord.

What time is it?

Jesus is returning to the Earth and bringing the heavenly city with Him. Human history begins in the Garden but the fullness of times culminates with a city. The whole earth will be filled with the knowledge of His Glory. He is inviting us into participation with Him as preparers of the Way. He is choosing and raising up whole cities as prototypes of the New Jerusalem.

2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. Revelation 21:2-3

II. God deeply desires to dwell with us.

A. *He has chosen us as a dwelling place.*

4 As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, 5 you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house...

1 Peter 2:4-5

B. *He has chosen cities as a dwelling place.*

13 For the LORD has chosen Jerusalem^b; he has desired it for his home. 14 "This is my resting place forever," he said. "I will live here, for this is the home I desired. 15 I will bless this city and make it prosperous; I will satisfy its poor with food. 16 I will clothe its priests with godliness; its faithful servants will sing for joy. 17 Here I will increase the power of David; my anointed one will be a light for my people. 18 I will clothe his enemies with shame, but he will be a glorious king." Psalm 132:13-18

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Jeremiah 23:5-6

*“Behold, the days are coming,” says the Lord, “That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute **judgment** and **righteousness** in the earth. 6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which **He** will be called:*

(Jehovah Tsidkenu) THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS

Jeremiah 33: 4,15-16 **4** *‘Behold, the days are coming,’ says the Lord, ‘that I will perform that good thing which I have promised to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah: 15 ‘In those days and at that time I will cause to grow up to David, A Branch of righteousness; He shall execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. 16 In those days Judah will be saved, And Jerusalem will dwell safely. And this is the name by which **SHE** will be called:*

THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.’ JEREMIAH 33:14-16

*Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne;
Mercy and truth go before Your face. -Psalm 89:14*

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Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people.

-Proverbs 14:34

When it goes well with the righteous, the city rejoices; And when the wicked perish, *there is* jubilation. By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted, But it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked. *Proverbs 11:10*

C. The attributes of a City of God based upon Psalm 132:13-18, Revelation 21:2-3

1. Divine Blessing (Socioeconomically)
2. Divine Character (Spiritually)
3. Divine Wisdom and Might (Governmentally)
4. Divine Joy (Culturally)

*There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
The holy dwelling places of the Most High. God is in the midst of her, she will not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. Psalm 46:4-5 (ESV)*

II. Cities are His possession, and our inheritance.

The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein. Psalm 24:1

Acts 17 26 And He has made from one blood every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed

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times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

E. He has given us the status of priesthood.

... to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood 6 and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father.. Revelation 1:5-6

F. Holy Districts (Ezekial 45)

- The Lord's Portion (Ezekial 45:1-3)
- The Priests Portion (Ezekial 45:4)
- The Servants Portion (Ezekial 45:5)
- The Tribes' Portion (Ezekial 45:6)

1“Moreover, when you divide the land by lot into inheritance, you shall set apart a district for the Lord, a holy section of the land; its length *shall be* twenty-five thousand *cubits*, and the width ten thousand. It *shall be* holy throughout its territory all around. **2**Of this there shall be a square plot for the sanctuary, five hundred by five hundred *rods*, with fifty cubits around it for an open space. **3**So this is the district you shall measure: twenty-five thousand *cubits* long and ten thousand wide; in it shall be the sanctuary, the Most Holy *Place*. **4**It shall be a holy *section* of the land, belonging to the priests, the ministers of the sanctuary, who come near to minister to the Lord; it shall be a place for their houses and a holy place for the sanctuary. **5***An area* twenty-five

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thousand *cubits* long and ten thousand wide shall belong to the Levites, the ministers of the [a]temple; they shall have twenty[b] chambers as a possession.

Properties of the City and the Prince

6“You shall appoint as the property of the city *an area* five thousand *cubits* wide and twenty-five thousand long, adjacent to the district of the holy *section*; it shall belong to the whole house of Israel.

7“The prince shall have *a section* on one side and the other of the holy district and the city’s property; and bordering on the holy district and the city’s property, extending westward on the west side and eastward on the east side, the length *shall be* side by side with one of the *tribal* portions, from the west border to the east border. 8The land shall be his possession in Israel; and My princes shall no more oppress My people, but they shall give *the rest of* the land to the house of Israel, according to their tribes.”

III. God Builds and Names the City

Ezekial 48:35

*“The distance all around will be 18,000 cubits.[f] “And the name of the city from that time on will be: **“The Lord is there.”**”*

17 Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. 2 Corinthians 3:17 (ESV)

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FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

***These Eleven fundamental principals were adapted from “Rebuilding a Nation By Reclaiming Your Cities Through Strategic Ministry and Prevailing Prayer” by Robert A. Tolliver”*

1. Every City Exists For A DIVINE PURPOSE.

- 1) Cities of Refuge -- Joshua 21:13
- 2) City of Praise -- Jeremiah 49:25
- 3) Cities for commodity storage ---- II Chronicles 8:6; Genesis 41:48
- 4) City for protection ---- II Chronicles 8:6
- 5) City for defense ---- II Chronicles 11:5
- 6) City of Commerce and Prosperity ----
- 7) City of Worship ---- Genesis 28:19
- 8) City of Peace ---- Jerusalem
- 9) City for a namesake ---- Genesis 4:17; Genesis 24:10; Judges 18:29; II Samuel 5:7

2. Every City has a Unique HISTORY. The greatest challenges often points to the DESTINY.

3. Every City Was Begun by PEOPLE Who Are Unique. What do you know about the origins of the people in your “city”?

- 1) Heritage and Culture
- 2) Values and Morality
- 3) Motives and Goals

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4. The Bible reveals God's heart and shows us His perspective of cities.

- 1) Ezra
- 2) Nehemiah
- 3) Judges
- 4) Jonah
- 5) II Chronicles
- 6) Joshua
- 7) Judges 1:22-26
- 8) Psalm 127:1
- 9) Proverbs 11:10-11
- 10) Proverbs 21:22
- 11) Isaiah 26:1-6
- 12) Genesis 18-19
- 13) II Kings 19:33-34
- 14) Jeremiah 30:18
- 15) Jeremiah 31:38
- 16) Deuteronomy 16:18

5. The Bible reveals God's attitude toward Godless cities.

- 1) Deuteronomy 2:34-36
- 2) Deuteronomy 13:13-16
- 3) II Chronicles 28:25
- 4) Habakkuk 2:12
- 5) Matthew 12:25

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6. The Bible shows the types of cities that humans build.

- 1) Genesis 11:4-5
- 2) Ezra 4:8-24
- 3) II Kings 17:9
- 4) Ezra 4:13
- 5) Esther 3:15
- 6) Joshua 17:12

7. The Bible reveals Jesus' emotions toward our "cities".

- 1) Luke 13:34
- 2) Luke 14:21
- 3) Luke 19:41
- 4) Luke 24:49
- 5) Matthew 9:35
- 7) Mark 6:56
- 8) Luke 4:43
- 9) Mark 1:38

8. The Bible reveals God's commitment to those who live in a "sieged city".

Psalm 31:21

Praise be to the Lord, for he showed me the wonders of his love when I was in a city under siege.

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9. The Bible reveals God's provision for spiritual leaders in the cities.

- 1) Numbers 35:4-5
- 2) Luke 24:49
- 3) Acts 9:6
- 4) Acts 18:10
- 5) Titus 1:5

- 6) II Chronicles 14:5
- 7) II Chronicles 15:8
- 8) Isaiah 40:9
- 9) Isaiah 61:4
- 10) Jeremiah 26:2
- 11) Luke 19:17
- 12) Deuteronomy 31:12

10. The Bible teaches us how to view our cities.

- 1) Judges 20:11
- 2) Deuteronomy 20:10
- 3) Joshua 11:19
- 4) Joshua 19:50
- 5) Judges 18:27-28
- 6) II Samuel 5:7-8; 6:12-ff
- 7) II Samuel 15:25
- 8) II Kings 18:30
- 9) II Chronicles 23:21
- 10) Nehemiah 2:3-ff
- 11) Jeremiah 29:7-ff
- 12) Joshua 14:12
- 13) Deuteronomy 15:7

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The ministry of Jesus (Luke 4:18-19) and the message of the Gospel convince us that we can see cities restored. It is God's intent to help.

11. Every City Has Certain IMPORTANT COMMON ELEMENTS.

- 1) **Name** ----
 - A. Identity
 - B. History

- 2) **Walls** ----
 - A. Boundaries
 - B. Protection/Safety
 - C. Breaches

- 3) **Gates** ----
 - A. Prosperity; commerce
 - B. Authority
 - C. Influence

- 5) **Towers** ----
 - A. Judges 9:51; II Kings 17:9
 - B. Identification
 - C. Power
 - D. Security
 - E. Alertness to Evil

- 6) **Judges** ----
 - A. Justice
 - B. Equality
 - C. Proper Government

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- 7) **Elders** ----
- A. Leadership
 - B. Integrity
 - C. Wisdom
 - D. Example
 - E. Longevity of Life

G. Levitical Cities and the Requirement of Righteousness

Numbers 35

1. v.1-5 **Cities assigned to the Levites** (A place under the governance of the priests)
2. v. 6-15 **Assign Cities of Refuge** (A place where the foreigner who doesn't live under the Psalm 91 covering can find rest. *immigrants/refugees*)
3. v. 16-32 Regulations the Accused Murderer/Guilty Murderer/Avenger (Stay until the High Priest dies) A place for a fair trial, righteous government, unbiased criminal justice system.
4. v.33-*"Do not pollute the land where you are. Bloodshed pollutes the land, and atonement cannot be made for the land on which blood has been shed, except by the blood of the one who shed it. 34 Do not defile the land where you live and where I dwell, for I, the Lord, dwell among the Israelites."**"Do not defile the land"* (The LAND itself is clean so that it can host the Holy One.)

Blood Has A Voice

10 *And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground. **Genesis 4:10***

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H. Defiled Land and the Day of Indignation

Ezekiel 22:24-31

24 “Son of man, say to her: ‘You are a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the **day of indignation.**’ **25** The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst. **26** Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known the difference between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. **27** Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and to get dishonest gain. **28** Her prophets plastered them with untempered mortar, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord God,’ when the Lord had not spoken. **29** The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger. **30** So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. **31** Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads,” says the Lord God.

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Deal with the Altars of Pain and Build Altars of Presence

***Any act of injustice on earth, is a violation of the Imago Dei.
This produces:***

Spiritual Breaches
Demonic Possession
Pathologies of Oppression
Transgenerational Wounding
Enculturated Pain
Post Traumatic Stress

Numbers 35:51

“Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When you have crossed the Jordan into the land of Canaan, ⁵² then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, destroy all their engraved stones, destroy all their molded images, and demolish all their high places;

AN ALTAR OF PRESENCE

Judges 6:12-24

12 And the Angel of the Lord appeared to him, and said to him, “The Lord *is* with you, you mighty man of valor!”

13 Gideon said to Him, “O [c]my lord, if the Lord is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where *are* all His miracles which our fathers told us about, saying, ‘Did not the Lord bring us up from Egypt?’ But now the Lord has forsaken us and delivered us into the hands of the Midianites.”

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14 Then the Lord turned to him and said, “Go in this might of yours, and you shall save Israel from the hand of the Midianites. Have I not sent you?”

15 So he said to Him, “O ^[d]my Lord, how can I save Israel? Indeed my clan *is* the weakest in Manasseh, and I *am* the least in my father’s house.”

16 And the Lord said to him, “Surely I will be with you, and you shall ^[e]defeat the Midianites as one man.”

17 Then he said to Him, “If now I have found favor in Your sight, then show me a sign that it is You who talk with me. **18** Do not depart from here, I pray, until I come to You and bring out my offering and set *it* before You.”

And He said, “I will wait until you come back.”

19 So Gideon went in and prepared a young goat, and unleavened bread from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and he put the broth in a pot; and he brought *them* out to Him under the terebinth tree and presented *them*. **20** The Angel of God said to him, “Take the meat and the unleavened bread and lay *them* on this rock, and pour out the broth.” And he did so.

21 Then the Angel of the Lord put out the end of the staff that *was* in His hand, and touched the meat and the unleavened bread; and fire rose out of the rock and consumed the meat and the unleavened bread. And the Angel of the Lord departed out of his sight.

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22 Now Gideon perceived that He *was* the Angel of the Lord. So Gideon said, “Alas, O Lord God! For I have seen the Angel of the Lord face to face.”

23 Then the Lord said to him, “Peace *be* with you; do not fear, you shall not die.” **24** So Gideon built an altar there to the Lord, and called it fThe-Lord-/s-Peace. To this day it *is* still in Ophrah of the Abiezrites.

Change through Voluntary and Involuntary Humility

The Day of Indignation/Trouble

Isaiah 26:5 For He brings down those who dwell on high, The lofty city; He lays it low, He lays it low to the ground, He brings it down to the dust. v.9 For when Your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness. **v.20 Come, my people, enter your chambers, And shut your doors behind you; Hide yourself, as it were, for a little moment, Until the indignation is past.**

Get CLEAN and CLEANSE the land through:

- I. Proximate Intercession
- II. Proximate Confession
- III. Biblical Proclamation

2 Chronicles 7:13-14:

“When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command the locust to devour the land, or send pestilence among my people, 14 if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and

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seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”

Nehemiah 9: Sacred Assembly-Corporate Confession

Now on the twenty-fourth day of this month the children of Israel were assembled with fasting, in sackcloth, and with [a]dust on their heads. 2 Then those of Israelite lineage separated themselves from all foreigners; and they stood and confessed their sins and the iniquities of their fathers. 3 And they stood up in their place and read from the Book of the Law of the Lord their God for one-fourth of the day; and for another fourth they confessed and worshiped the Lord their God.

Individual Confession and Intercession on behalf of the land, releases angelic activity, understanding, and prophetic vision.

Daniel 9: *3 Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. 4 And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, “O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, 5 we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. 6 Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land. 7 O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have*

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driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You.

8 *“O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. 9 To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him. 10 We have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets. 11 Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him. 12 And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem.*

13 *“As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth. 14 Therefore the Lord has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the Lord our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice. 15 And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!*

16 *“O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us. 17 Now therefore, our God, hear*

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the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake [a]cause Your face to shine on [b]Your sanctuary, which is desolate. 18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies. 19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."

The Seventy-Weeks Prophecy

20 Now while I was speaking, praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God, 21 yes, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, [c]being caused to fly swiftly, reached me about the time of the evening offering. 22 And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand. 23 At the beginning of your supplications the [d]command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision:

24

*"Seventy [e]weeks are determined
For your people and for your holy city,
To finish the transgression,
[f]To make an end of sins,
To make reconciliation for iniquity,*

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*To bring in everlasting righteousness,
To seal up vision and prophecy,
And to anoint the Most Holy.*

IV. He resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Ephesians 3:8 To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ;

Prayer Walking is a Display in the Heavenly Realms

10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, 11 according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Colossians 1:16

16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

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Through prayer walking, we dispossess the enemy and prepare our cities as the dwelling place of God.

Hebrews 2:3-4 .. *how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?*

Signs and Symbols



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5. *Portland Penny*
6. *Peace and Friendship*
7. *Oregon: The Union*
8. *Nothing Impossible. The Guiding (Pioneer) Spirit of St.Louis.*