

## ***Worship on Earth Like It Is in Heaven: David's Revelation of Worship (Psalm 132)***

### **DAVID'S SACRED VOW: TO EXTRAVAGANTLY PURSUE GOD**

Roman numeral I. We're going to begin in Psalm 132. Open to Psalm 132:1-8: "Lord, remember David and all his afflictions; how he swore to the Lord, and vowed to the Mighty One: 'Surely I will not go into the chamber of my house, or go up to the comfort of my bed; I will not give sleep to my eyes . . . until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob' . . . Arise, O, Lord, to Your resting place" (Ps. 132:1-5, 8).

I want to talk tonight about the greatest generation in all of human history that's emerging on the earth right now. Beloved, this is very serious. It's not just an exciting set of music. It's not going to be just an "I'm trying to get cool" type of thing. I'm talking about the greatest worship movement in human history, which has already begun to emerge in a way that's discernable. It's clear to see; It's all throughout the Bible, the promise of the end-time worship movement. I believe we're in the generation that's going to see the second coming of the Lord. Whether it's five years, or fifty years from now, I don't know. My guess is that it's closer to fifty years from now because there are a number of things in the Scriptures that point to that.

### **OVER 100 CHAPTERS IN THE BIBLE FOCUS ON THE END TIMES**

There are over 100 chapters that are focused on the end times in the Bible. There are over 100 chapters in the Word of God whose primary focus is the end times. I have made it a commitment to study these 100 chapters over the last years. There's dynamic and relevant information about the end-time worship movement. It will surpass anything we've ever imagined, because the plan of God's heart is what we pray in the Lord's Prayer, "On earth as it is in heaven" (Mt. 6:10). The Lord is going to establish a worship ministry on earth that will pattern the worship ministry around the throne of God in heaven. That's how committed God is to the end-time worship movement.

### **PSALM 132: THE VOW THAT CHANGED HISTORY**

Let's read Psalm 132. I call this the vow that changed history. This might be a new passage to some of you. It has been one of the most significant passages in my life for twenty-five years. My prayer is that some of you who are twenty years old will take this psalm, and even though it might be new to you, you will take hold of it and make it one of the most significant psalms in your life.

Psalm 132 is the vow that King David made that changed the course of his life. This vow changed the course of human history. It's this vow that will be at the very center of the end-time worship movement. IHOP-KC is a relational network of friends from all over the world—the people here, this conference, and all those who are connected to us. We're not an organization; we're simply a relational network of a lot of friends all over the world. We're not interested in a franchise; we're simply interested in what the Holy Spirit called us to do when He spoke this to us years ago as an international family of affection. He is raising up men and women, young and old, all over the world. He is joining us together as an international family of affection. As the IHOP movement is breaking forth across the earth, please remember, we're just one little stream in the global worship movement. There is a massive, global worship movement going on today. We're one small part. There are many different streams, but we're all in this thing together as lovers of Christ Jesus.

## **DAVID SWORE NOT TO REST UNTIL HE ESTABLISHED A DWELLING PLACE FOR GOD**

Let's look at this vow. I call it the vow that changed history. The psalmist writes, recalling King David in Psalm 132:1: "Lord, remember David and all his afflictions;" David is reminding the Lord of his vow in order to cry out for the breakthrough of the power of God. These afflictions are referring to the difficult decisions he made in order to keep the vow to radically seek God. These aren't just little afflictions that life is hard, his car broke down, or he lost his job. They aren't just afflictions in every day life. He's talking about afflictions that are directly related to his radical commitment to obey God in a way that disrupted many other people.

Beloved, when you obey God with all of your heart, people around you will sometimes be upset. That's part of the package. I know that you know that. He goes on in Psalm 132:2: "How he swore to the Lord, and vowed to the Mighty One of Jacob" (Ps. 132:2). Here's the vow. Here's what David swore (paraphrased): "I'll not go into the chamber of my house, I'll not go to the comfort of my bed, I'll not give sleep to my eyes until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob" (v. 3-5, paraphrased).

What David said is, "I'm not going to live my normal, everyday life; I'm not going to embrace all of my legitimate comforts, but rather, I'm going to pursue God in fasting, prayer, in unusual dedication until I find a place for the Lord, a dwelling place for the Mighty One of Jacob." David labored until the Lord had a place on the earth where people live in unity with the Holy Spirit; that's what a "dwelling place" means in this context. We call it *revival* and "a breakthrough of the presence of God."

The Lord is challenging many of you in this auditorium, and those viewing from television, to make an unusual commitment to Him. Beloved, extreme times require extreme measures. It's not an hour for business as usual. It's an hour for extreme dedication and extreme commitment to the Lord until the Lord has a place on the earth. We believe God for 1,000 places on the earth where there are people who experience the power of the Holy Spirit, and they live in unity with the Holy Spirit instead of quenching the Holy Spirit.

## **DAVID'S VOW TO LIVE IN DEVOTION AND SEEK THE LORD WITH ALL HIS RESOURCES**

Paragraph B. In this vow, David received revelation. He made this vow; he positioned his heart to receive insight into the kind of worship that moved the heart of God. Beloved, I believe this vow is an essential dimension of receiving understanding of the kind of worship that moves the heart of God. Here's what David did. Look at this: the Holy Spirit instructed David to get full-time singers and musicians—they're called Levites in this passage—and he put these Levites in front of the ark of the covenant. Twenty-four hours a day, they worshiped God before the ark of the covenant.

## **AN EXPRESSION OF WORSHIP ON EARTH LIKE THE ORDER OF WORSHIP IN HEAVEN**

The reason why they did this for twenty-four hours a day is because David saw by the Holy Spirit that that's how they worshiped in heaven before the throne of God. David saw that the ark of the covenant on the earth was a picture of the throne of God in heaven. God had singers around His throne, twenty-four hours a day, and the Holy Spirit instructed David, "I want you to worship on earth in the way that God is worshiped around the throne in heaven."

So David established an order of worship on the earth that was an expression of the order of worship in heaven. This was a full-time occupation; this was a full-time job, and it was a legitimate occupation in David's generation. David was so extravagant about this that he gave 100 billion dollars of his own money to finance the worship ministry in the next generation. The order of worship established in his generation was a reflection of

the order of worship around the throne, and the Holy Spirit's setting up that same order on the earth in the cities of the earth.

It's going to happen before Jesus returns. As a matter of fact, it's going to be a significant dimension of the return of Jesus, because He's not going to return until the worship movement across the earth is mature, and it is as He wants it. King David understood God's heart about worship like no one else in the Old Testament. He peered right into the heavenly sanctuary and he saw the kind of worship that God delights in.

### **DAVID GAVE A HUNDRED BILLION DOLLARS TO ESTABLISH THE WORSHIP MINISTRY**

Beloved, David gave a hundred billion dollars to the establishing of the worship ministry. It was at the end of his life, but David did it for the next generation. How many of you think that God has key men and key women already in place who are positioned to give a hundred billion dollars to the end-time worship movement? It's true. God is positioning His men and women like David; He's giving the wealth of the nations to them. They will do in this generation what David did in his generation with extravagant offerings to build the house of prayer.

The net result is this: there will be full-time singers, full-time musicians, and full-time Annas. That will be their occupation; that will be their dignity and their assignment from God. They will do it for years and years, because God wants to be worshiped on earth like it's done in heaven. Jesus told us to pray that. Just apply that verse, Matthew 6:10, to the worship movement—not only to the other dimensions of the kingdom.

### **THE VOW OF THE END-TIME PRAYER MOVEMENT**

Paragraph C. David had 4,000 full-time musicians. That's right—4,000 full-time musicians. In Kansas City, we have a few hundred. It seems like a lot. We maybe have 300 to 400 people. David had 4,000 people. I take a step back and I say, "Lord, I could picture 4,000 full-time musicians. I like this."

Beloved, the message of Kansas City is this: if we can do it, you can do it. The message of Kansas City is this: if the weak and broken people in this city can do it, then the weak and broken people in your city can do it, too. It's true. You get twenty-four hour worship established, you put anointed singers and musicians in place, and the power of God will begin to increase and manifest glory in those cities and in those nations. It's going to happen. I prophesy it from the Word of God. It's going to happen before Jesus returns.

### **DAVID HAD OVER 4,000 FULL-TIME SINGERS AND MUSICIANS**

David had 4,000 full-time paid musicians, paragraph C, and David had 288 singers. These were the first string singers. These were the most developed, skillful, anointed, and prophetic singers in the entire nation—288. Can you imagine 288 singers that sing like Misty Edwards and Eddy James, flowing in the Spirit in unity twenty-four hours a day?

You're going to see that in a number of cities across the earth before the Lord returns. I love it. I can already see this thing emerging in the earth. It's one of the great signs of the times.

### **A SIGN OF THE TIMES: THE EMERGENCE OF THE GLOBAL WORSHIP MOVEMENT**

The emergence of the global worship movement is, in itself, one of the great signs of the generation of the Lord's returning. I personally believe that we're three or four decades out, maybe longer. We have time to do

this thing right. You have time to get married, have your children, and train them in future prophetic music schools, and they will probably be the main leaders of the worship movement when the Lord returns.

I'm talking to twenty-year olds. Twenty-year olds: If I had to guess, I'd think it would be your children who will be the leaders at the highest point of the end-time worship movement. We're at the beginning of the beginning of a historic phenomenon in the kingdom of God related to singers in the order of King David. In paragraph C I describe how David financed about 10,000 staff members. He had the support ministries and the gatekeepers; I took a step back and said, "Lord, what would it cost us to have 5,000 full-time singers and musicians? What would it cost if we gave them a very humble, small salary, of about \$3,000 a month?"

Please notice: that's not our commitment. Our singers at this point and time raise their own support, and we have other ways that we help them here and there. I began to dream some time ago, "What would it cost to fund 5,000 full time singers?" The number is very small—200 million dollars a year. You think that might be a big number, but 200 million dollars a year is a really small number to have worship on earth in the order of how God revealed it to David—"as it is in heaven."

Beloved, I have so much faith; I'm not trying to be a big shot here. I have profound confidence in my spirit for 200 million dollars a year. I look up and say, "God is that easy, or is that really easy?"

The answer I receive is, "It's really easy for Me to give 200 million dollars." It may be a little stressful to the guys who *gets* the 200 million dollars to because of all the warfare and issues, but it's easy for God to give 200 million dollars. I want to push some of you who are only twenty years old. I'm fifty-two years old, so I have thirty years on you. I want you to take my vision and I want you to double it in your generation, so that you go far beyond where I'll go. I mean this. I really encourage you with this!

I took a step back and said, "Lord, I can believe You for 200 million dollars! I really, really can. I can do that, but I want to be pushed. I really want to be pushed to give You all that I can give You. This is the end of the age, and the King of Kings, the glorious God is returning. So, I think 200 million is nothing!"

It was like the Lord just smiled on me. The Lord began to stir my heart a few years ago, "I want you to believe Me for twelve 5,000 member IHOP-KC mission bases—200 million dollars a piece every year." I did the math—three billion a year. For three billion dollars, we can see twelve centers going twenty-four hours a day with 5,000 people. Did you know that there are men on the earth right now who can write a \$3,000 check and not even miss it, or even know it was gone in terms of it affecting their lifestyle?

I asked, "Is this easy for You, Lord?"

"I can give three billion dollars, but I'm looking for people who will make a vow. I want people who won't live in business as usual, who will commit themselves to this kind of reality." God is raising up men and woman, young and old, all over the earth with this kind of consecration and this kind of dedication.

#### **DAVID'S VOW DEMONSTRATED INSIGHT TO POSITION HIMSELF TO RECEIVE FROM GOD**

Paragraph D. David wasn't casual about this revelation. It's not like David said, "Hey, guess what, everybody? I saw the revelation of the heavenly sanctuary, and I have insight on how God is worshiped in heaven." No, he

didn't offer it as a casual insight. He came back out of this revelation with God; no doubt he had several revelations, and he commanded the people of God to embrace this reality.

Look at what it says in 2 Chronicles 29:25: "And he stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king's seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the Lord by His prophets" (2 Chron. 29:25). Hezekiah stationed the Levites in the house of the Lord; he gave them the instruments.

Why did Hezekiah do this? According to the command of King David! This was 300 years after King David was commanded to do this. Hezekiah lived 300 years after David, plus or minus a few years. This command was still in full force 300 years later, and this command of David was actually the command of the Lord Himself.

Did you know that putting twenty-four hour singers and worship leaders before the presence of God wasn't a suggestion? It was a commandment with which God commanded David to command the people of God. This brings it up to a whole new level. These worship principles are timeless. What God revealed to David is valid today. Things like full-time singers and musicians: this is on God's heart today. Nowhere in the Bible is there even the slightest suggestion that God rescinded, nullified, or cancelled this commandment. This commandment was never canceled by God—never. God never changes; it's still in His heart. Now, it's true to say that the Holy Spirit hasn't emphasized this commandment, but it's also true to say this commandment has never been taken back; it has never been nullified or rescinded. The Holy Spirit didn't emphasize this commandment in a universal way; there have been key times in history where God the Holy Spirit enforced and emphasized this to key ministries throughout church history, and they had twenty-four-seven worship.

### **EMBRACING DAVID'S REVELATION OF WORSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT**

Roman numeral II. We have a lot of research on the twenty-four-hour worship throughout history. It's a fascinating study. The Holy Spirit has occasionally mandated this, but in the generation the Lord returns, He's going to press this in a way that will be dynamic and glorious. He's already beginning to do it. How many of you—I'm going to have you stand up—personally received a dream, or someone gave you prophetic word that you're supposed to do something related to twenty-four hour prayer? Look at how many people in this room have had a dream or a prophetic word that they're to be involved in twenty-four-hour worship.

This is what I'm talking about. Beloved, this is multiplying all over the earth, this kind of thing right here. I realize that people who love worship show up to a conference like this, but this is the real deal. This is exploding worldwide. This is real. It's powerful.

### **SOLOMON ESTABLISHED WORSHIP ACCORDING TO DAVID'S INSTRUCTIONS**

Look at paragraph E. Solomon established the singers according to the direction that God gave his father David: "And according to the order of David his father, he appointed the division of the priests for their service, the Levites for their duties (to praise and serve before the priests) as the duty of each day required, and the gatekeepers by their divisions at each gate; for so David the man of God had commanded" (2 Chron. 8:14). Solomon appointed the Levites to worship, as David commanded. This was the command of God to David, so Solomon put singers in place.

Look at the next passage in paragraph F. Whenever Israel went astray, God would stir up a man who then received the vision to establish worship on earth according to the pattern that David saw in heaven. Seven times in the Old Testament, a reformer was raised up in that city of Jerusalem; the thing the reformer did was to place the singers and the musicians back in place as a full-time occupation. Not a half-hour on Sunday morning, but a full-time occupation. There were thousands of them in one location in the city of Jerusalem.

### **REFORMERS WITH A ZEAL FOR PSALM 132**

God is raising up reformers right now. The Church has been astray for many generations. In the cities of the earth—Cairo, Egypt; London; Singapore; Frankfurt; Berlin; all over South America, Africa, and Europe, God is raising up reformers. They have a zeal for Psalm 132. They're grabbed by God at the heart level, and they're going to put singers and musicians in their place according to the order that God gave David. Josiah said to the Levites in 2 Chronicles 35:3-15, "Prepare yourself . . . following the instruction of David." And then "the singers . . . were in their place, according to the command of David" (2 Chron. 35:3, 15).

"Prepare yourself." Following the commandment of David, the singers were in their place according to the command of David. Ezra and Nehemiah—445 BC—established full-time singers and musicians as David commanded.

Paragraph G. Turn the page. Now notice that not every one of these leaders were saying, "Hey, I just got stirred up one day." They're obeying a command that God gave David and never took back. Never did God take this commandment back—never. There's no evidence whatsoever. I don't believe that every church is supposed to do this—not even close. I believe that every church is to be a part of this in their city.

### **BELIEVING FOR ONE MILLION FULL-TIME SINGERS AND MUSICIANS**

I believe that we will see one million full-time singers and musicians. How many of you can believe for one million people? Do you know what a million people looks like? We're expecting God for one billion new souls in the great harvest. Did you know that one million people is only one tenth of 1 percent of that great harvest? If one-tenth of 1 percent of the billion give themselves to this, one-tenth of 1 percent is a million singers, and that would be enough to build houses of prayer across the cities of the earth.

I don't believe that 99 percent of the people will do this as their job. I think that 1 percent might. That would be ten million. I like ten million better than one million. Even if it were ten million people, it would still be only 1 percent. Is it possible that in your city, God is going to begin in the next decade to do this and build the prayer movement? We want Him to do this immediately, but can you imagine that in the next few years, God will begin to establish this kind of order in your city? Imagine in your university or at your campus.

Paragraph G. Look at what Zerubbabel did in Ezra 3. He put the Levites in place. Why? According to the command of David.

Paragraph H. He put singers in place as established by David. Paragraph I. Ezra and Nehemiah put singers in place according to the command of David.

### **GOD IS RESTORING THE NEHEMIAHS FOR THIS END-TIME HOUR**

Paragraph J. This is a really important note: Nehemiah is telling his story. I have a Nehemiah-type ministry, and so do many of you in this place. I'm going to call forth the Nehemiahs for just a moment, but I want you to pay

attention. Here's what Nehemiah did. In Nehemiah 13, the tithes were commanded to be given to the Levites and the singers. Nehemiah 13:10-13: "I also realized that the portions for the Levites had not been given them; for each of the Levites and the singers who did the work had gone back to his field. So I contended with the rulers, and said, 'Why is the house of God forsaken?' And I gathered them together and set them in their place. Then all Judah brought the tithe of the grain and the new wine and the oil to the storehouse. And I appointed as treasurers over the storehouse Shelemiah the priest and Zadok the scribe, and of the Levites, Pedaiah; and next to them was Hanan the son of Zaccur, the son of Mattaniah; for they were considered faithful, and their task was to distribute to their brethren" (Neh. 13:10-13).

Did you know that the tithes are commanded to help support the worship ministry to go night and day? By saying this, I'm not trying to start a revolution in the Church. Many churches have music or a worship department. They do this in part. That's honorable. Nehemiah said, "I realized that the financial portion for the Levites wasn't given to them." Here's why: the Levites and the singers who had been in the temple ministering, singing, and worshipping unto the Lord had to go back to the field.

All over the Body of Christ, there are singers who are working in jobs; however, if the Body of Christ had a vision for the building of the tabernacle of worship according to the revelation of David, these singers and musicians wouldn't be working at Starbucks. They would be in the house of prayer twenty-four hours a day worshipping. The passage indicates that these singers had to go back to the fields, which means their jobs. They said, "I wanted to sing in the house of the Lord, but they wouldn't give me any finance." I'm not talking to local churches right now, because this is going to be bigger than a local church. This is going to take citywide efforts. There won't be one local church that's doing this by themselves. It will involve the timing of God in cities; God will raise up men and women like David who supernaturally finance them, and we're going to see a radical transformation of understanding about the place of the singer and the musician in the kingdom of God.

It's as if Nehemiah said, "I was so stirred up that those singers went back to work at Starbucks, I contended with the rulers of the land." He went to the top leaders of the nation of Israel, and it's as if Nehemiah said, "I'm contending with you. It's not OK that the singers don't have money." That's what he told them. He contended with the major leaders of the land of Israel. Then he told them, "Why is the house of God forsaken?" What he meant by this was, "Why are the prayer rooms empty?"

Here Nehemiah is talking about the singers. I want to contend, challenge, and get in the face of financially powerful men and women across the earth, and I want to ask just like Nehemiah asked, "Why are the prayer rooms of the earth empty? We must pour the first of the wealth of the nations to build the worship houses according to the order of King David."

You know what Nehemiah said: "I'm not going to wait until the money comes. I gathered the singers together and I put them in their place anyway."

He said, "The leaders didn't help me, but I said, 'Tough.' I'm going to talk them into it anyway. Hey, singers, why don't you do a little of this and a little of that? Maybe work at Starbucks a few less hours and be in the house of prayer." Nehemiah put them in their place. Look at what happened in verse 12: the entire nation saw a living demonstration, their eyes opened, and the rest of the nation said, "We get it; we get it," and they brought in all the tithes and supported them.

### **THE CALLING TO BE A NEHEMIAH**

Many of you who are Nehemiahs are going to have to begin to put the singers in place before the money comes. Look what Nehemiah did. He basically said, "The Lord is remembering everything about this. The Lord is remembering me in this." Be encouraged. Those of you who are called like Nehemiah was called to finance houses of prayer, the Lord will remember your work. I'm emphatic about raising money for singers and musicians. I don't sing; I don't dance. Well, I do; they won't let me do it on a platform. I don't sing, I don't dance, but I'm emphatic about getting money for singers and musicians in the house of the Lord.

Some of you are eighteen and some of you are eighty years old. If that's in your spirit, if you have a desire to be a vessel of supply for the singers and musicians, I want you to stand up across this room. I'm going to skip a lot and go right to the roman numeral IV.

### **THE GREAT END-TIME CONFLICT: TWO GLOBAL WORSHIP MOVEMENTS**

Roman numeral VI. Paragraph M. The great conflict at the end of the age is between two worship movements. You know what the great conflict at the end of the age? There are two houses of prayer that are in collision with each other at the end of the age. It's the Antichrist house of prayer and the Jesus house of prayer. This is the main conflict on the earth in the realm of the Spirit—there will be two houses of prayer.

### **THE ANTICHRIST DESIRES WORSHIP AND LEADS A COUNTERFEIT WORSHIP MOVEMENT**

Paragraph N. This may be a new piece of information: the Antichrist will raise up state-financed houses of prayer that are devoted to himself and to Satan. I want you to hear this. It's a new idea to some of you. There's coming forth a real man who is called the *Antichrist*. He may be alive on the earth right now as a young boy. I don't know that kind of detail. There's a real man; there's an antichrist spirit for sure, but more than that—there's an actual man who's the Antichrist. This man is going to raise up state-financed Antichrist houses of prayer; he's going to pay for it by means of the governments of the earth. He will fund worship houses.

Beloved, the worship movement of the Antichrist is not going to be like a bunch of people gathered singing some dead Buddha chant. They will be skillful musicians who sing with power and emotion. They will be financed by the Antichrist. Billions of dollars a year will be poured into Satan's worship movement. Billions of dollars every year will be funneled into these houses of prayer. There will be signs and wonders, but I want to assure you this: it's the counterfeit, and it's Satan's attempt to cut off the real worship movement. That's what God is doing right now across the earth. Amen and amen.