

The Revelation of Intercession

I. THE PRIMARY WAY THAT GOD GOVERNS THE UNIVERSE

- A. God has chosen intercession as the primary means in which He releases His (government) power through Jesus and with His people (now and forever). We need revelation of the majesty and mystery of intercession (Eph. 1:17-19). This is seen in Jesus engaging in intercession forever.

²⁵ ***Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always (forever) lives to make intercession for them. (Heb. 7:25)***

³⁴ ***Christ...at the right hand of God, who makes intercession for us. (Rom. 8:34)***

- B. ***The mystery of intercession:*** the primary principle of intercession is simply to tell God what He tells us to tell Him as the means of releasing His power. This is profoundly simple. Intercession is God's brilliant strategy for including the saints in ruling with Him in power. Its mystery is in its "weakness", simplicity, humility and accessibility to all.

- C. ***The majesty of intercession:*** the highest means of releasing God's power is intercession. Jesus as the second Person of the Trinity operated in this "principle of intercession" when He created the heavens and the earth (Gen. 1). Jesus continues to use intercession to govern the universe in partnership with His people. The governmental center of the universe is in the Prayer Ministry, which includes all the Spirit inspired prayers on earth and in heaven that converge before God.

- D. God requires us to cooperate with Him in the grace of God. This is an expression of His desire for intimate partnership with us. ***God will not do our part*** and ***we cannot do His part.*** If we do not do our part then God withholds some of the help and blessing He would have given us.

II. JESUS USED THE "PRINCIPLE OF INTERCESSION" WHEN CREATING THE EARTH

- A. The Father has deep thoughts (plans) burning in His heart. The Father ordained that Jesus would speak out the Father's thoughts (intercession) as the way to release the Spirit's power in Gen. 1.

¹ ***In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was without form, and void...and the Spirit of God was hovering over the...waters. 3 God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. 9 God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together...and it was so...11 God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass...and it was so." (Gen. 1:1- 11)***

⁹ ***For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast. (Ps. 33:9)***

³ ***By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible. (Heb. 11:3)***

- B. The "Us" is a deliberate plural of God acting in the unity within the fellowship of the Trinity.

²⁶ ***God said, "Let Us make man in Our image..." (Gen. 1:26)***

⁷ *Come, let Us go down and there (Babel) and confuse their language... (Gen. 11:7)*

³ *Let Us break their bonds in pieces and cast away their cords from Us. (Ps. 2:3)*

C. Jesus is identified as the creator who spoke and said, “let there be light” in Gen. 1.

⁶ *By the word of the LORD the heavens were made... (Ps. 33:6)*

³ *All things were made through Him (Jesus)... (Jn. 1:3)*

¹⁶ *For by Him (Jesus) all things were created...in heaven and that are on earth. (Col. 1:16)*

⁹ *God who created all things through Jesus Christ... (Eph. 3:9)*

² *God has....spoken to us by His Son...through whom also He made the worlds. (Heb. 1:2)*

III. JESUS CREATES, SUSTAINS AND GOVERNS BY SPEAKING GOD’S WORD

A. Jesus sustains, upholds or holds together the created order by speaking the Word (type of intercession) to the Father in the present tense.

³ *Who (Jesus)...upholding all things by the word of His power... (Heb. 1:3)*

¹⁷ *He is before all things, and in Him all things consist (hold together: NIV, NAS). (Col. 1:17)*

B. God “brings us forth” in blessing and power as Jesus speaks His Word over our lives.

¹⁸ *Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth... (Jas 1:18)*

C. When Jesus was tempted by Satan in the wilderness, He used the Word to strike like a sword cutting into Satan’s domain. This is our model of how to release God’s power against darkness.

³ *He (Satan) said, "If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread." 4 He...said, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'" 5 The devil....said, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down..." 7 Jesus said..."It is written again, 'You shall not tempt the LORD...'" (Mt. 4:3-7)*

D. Speaking God’s Word is what releases the power of the Spirit as a sword against Satan.

¹⁷ *Take...the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. (Eph. 6:17)*

IV. JESUS IS THE WORD OF GOD

A. When Jesus articulates the Father’s thoughts, He functions as the Living Word. One reason that Jesus is called the “Word” is because He brings God’s private ideas into existence in the natural.

¹ *In the beginning was the Word (Jesus speaking the Father’s thoughts), and the Word, was with God, and the Word was God (Jesus)...³ All things were made through Him (Jesus in intercession), and without Him nothing was made that was made. (Jn. 1:1-3)*

B. Jesus' name is the Word of God in that He acts and rules by speaking the Word of God.

¹³ **His name is called The Word of God... (Rev. 19:13)**

¹ **That which was from the beginning...concerning the Word of life (Jesus)... (1 Jn. 1:1)**

V. JESUS RELEASES GOD'S JUSTICE IN RESPONSE TO INTERCESSION

A. Jesus taught that justice would be established through night and day prayer (speaking God's Word). **Justice is God making wrong things right.** Jesus is the ultimate social reformer. He was the first to connect justice (social reform and making wrong things right) to night and day prayer.

⁷ **Shall God not avenge (bring about justice for, NAS) His elect who cry out day and night to Him? 8 I tell you that He will avenge (bring about justice to, NAS) them speedily. (Lk. 18:7-8)**

B. The two sides of God's justice:

1. **Judgment** (punishment, vengeance) to the **rebellious** who resist God's justice
2. **Salvation** (deliverance, vindication) to the **redeemed** as He makes wrong things right for them

C. Examples of God's justice (judgment/salvation) that makes wrong things right

1. **Healing**: God's judgment on sickness is seen in the manifestation of healing power
2. **Revival**: God's judgment on compromise is seen in reviving the Church by the Spirit
3. **Soul winning**: God's judgment on the kingdom of darkness is seen when people get saved
4. **End-Time judgments**: God's judgments against the evil governments and their actions
5. **Righteous legislation**: God's judgment on unrighteous legislation (abortion laws, etc.)
6. **Unity (reconciliation)**: God's judgment on division in the family, society and the Church
7. **Holiness**: God's judgment on sin, anger, pornography, drugs and rebellion, etc.

D. Jesus **requires** night and day prayer as the condition to release justice. Prayer is a very practical expression of the commandment to love one another in that it releases deliverance for the needy.

E. The revelation of intercession affected David's method of government. He established 24/7 worship and intercession as the foundation of his kingly reign in Israel (1 Chr. 23-25). His revelation of heavenly worship (as seen in Psalms) is foundational to David's throne which is "political government in the spirit of the Tabernacle of David" or government based on 24/7 prophetic worship and intercession. He had revelation of the power of worship (Ps. 22:3).

³ **You are holy, enthroned (release power) in the praises (singing the Word) of Israel. (Ps. 22:3)**

⁶ **Let the high praises of God be in their mouth... 7 to execute vengeance (justice) on the nations, and punishments on the peoples; 8 to bind their kings with chains...9 to execute on them the written judgment-- this honor have all His saints. (Ps. 149:6-9)**

VI. THE GOVERNMENTAL CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE

- A. The governmental center of the universe is in the “Prayer Ministry”, which includes all the Spirit inspired prayers on earth and in heaven that converge before God. God’s government flows from prophetic worship based on the beauty of holiness. God is restoring the spiritual weapons of worship with intercession in prophetic worship. The End of the Age government and power is linked to singers and musicians. The Davidic Church is one that functions as a house of prayer. It is remarkable how central singers are to the End of the Age drama.
- B. Corporate intercessory worship is the **primary means** God has chosen to release His government (power). It is the highest expression of His government in time and eternity and is the most powerful weapon that exists. It is the front line of defense in our war against darkness.
- C. In Dan. 10, through fasting and prayer, Daniel changed human government by hindering the demonic activity that energized evil government. David understandably saw this.

VII. JESUS’ INTERCESSORY PRINCIPLE AS A MAN (IN THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM)

- A. In Psalm 2:7, David revealed that Jesus will use intercession to govern the world. He will rule in the Millennial Kingdom by making decrees (intercession) that come from the Father.
⁷ I (Jesus) will declare the decree: The LORD (Father) has said to Me, “You are My Son...8 Ask of Me, and I (Father) will give You the nations for Your inheritance...” (Ps. 2:7-8)
- B. Jesus will rule by intercession which is referred to as the rod of His mouth (Rev. 19:15; 12:5; Ps. 2:7, 9; 110:2; Isa. 11:4; Eph. 6:17-18). Moses’ rod that released judgment was a parallel of this.
⁴ He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth... (Isa. 11:4)
² The LORD shall send the rod of Your strength out of Zion... (Ps. 110:2)
- C. The sword from His mouth is another term for releasing God’s power through His words.
¹⁵ Out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. (Rev. 19:15)
- D. Father commissioned Jesus to rule in the midst of His enemies in this age. From the Father’s right hand, Jesus releases His rod against His enemies through His obedient praying Church. Jesus uses His Church to release His rod of justice throughout history. The Lord spoke to Lou Engle, saying, "Stretch forth My wakening rod across the earth".
¹ The LORD (Yahweh; the Father) said to my Lord (Jesus), "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool." ² The LORD (the Father) shall send the rod of Your (Jesus’) strength out of Zion. Rule in the midst of Your enemies! (Ps. 110:1-2)
- E. Jesus rules as a king in context to His high priestly ministry (in the order of Melchizedek; Gen. 14:18; Heb. 5:6, 10; 6:20; 7:1-28). His government is exercised through His and our intercession.
⁴ The LORD (the Father) has sworn and will not relent, "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek." (Ps. 110:4)

VIII. INTERCESSION: EMBRACING WHAT MEN CALL FOOLISH AND WEAK

- A. God has chosen to use the things that men consider as weak to triumph over the things that men consider wise and mighty. God will use those who embrace the “so called weakness” of praying, fasting, giving, serving and suffering persecution to triumph over human wisdom and might.
²⁷ God has chosen the (so called) foolish things of the world to put to shame the (so called) wise, and God has chosen the (so called) weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty...²⁹ that no flesh should glory in His presence. (1 Cor. 1:27-29)
- B. Because intercession is telling an invisible God what He tells us to tell Him, men consider this to be too weak and offensive to do (especially since it is so simple that everyone can do it). We see God’s wisdom in sharing His government in a way that leaves no place for our glory or boasting.
- C. Intercession is a form of “voluntarily weakness” (as are fasting, persecution, giving, etc.).
⁹ He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." ...I will boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. (2 Cor. 12:9)

IX. THE WEAKNESS AND WISDOM OF INTERCESSION: THE BENEFITS WE RECEIVE

- A. The very fact that God chose the simplicity of intercession (so that all could do it) expresses His desire for partnership with us. He allows us to wrestle with Him and prevail (Gen. 32:24-30).
- B. Intercession causes us to internalize God’s Word by saying it back to Him throughout our life. Each time we say what God says, it marks our mind and spirit and changes us. This process progressively renews our inner man. I compare it to a computer programmer who rewrites thousands of lines of code when developing a computer program. The way we are transformed in prayer can be compared to “rewriting many lines of code” in our mind and heart.
- C. God’s words are spirit and life. They impart God’s life to us. Each time we say what God says, we receive a small impartation of His life that illuminates our mind and tenderizes our heart.
⁶³ The words that I (Jesus) speak to you are spirit, and they are life. (Jn. 6:63)
- D. The Father’s word abiding in us is our fuel for intercession and personal transformation.
³¹ If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. ³² You shall know (experience) the truth, and the truth shall make you free. (Jn. 8:31-32)
- E. One way that we are filled with the Spirit’s presence is by singing God’s word back to Him.
¹⁸ Be filled with the Spirit ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord... (Eph. 5:18-19)

- F. Intercession renews our hope and faith as we continually speak God's Word back to Him while waiting for the release of His promises. Intercession unites our heart to the people and places that we pray for. We love who and what we pray for. Intercession helps produce community with people and ownership of God's purposes in various cities and nations. One reason that most of the NT prayers are for the Church instead of the lost is so that we grow in love for the Church that we tend to despise due to being overly familiar with it. An anointed Church will always bring many into the Kingdom (Acts 19:10-20).
- G. The process of intercession humbles us so when God answers us we are protected from pride. God is humble. He is the only One who has based His entire government on humility. He has chosen that His people would rule with Him in humility through speaking His simple words. The way that prayer functions expresses humility. We speak God's simple words back to Him. Often our prayers are offered without feeling God's power yet they ascend before God in power.
- H. Intercession changes the spiritual atmosphere of cities and nations and thus prepares the way for the presence of God. It releases anointed ministry to bring blessing and deliverance to many.
- I. Intercession makes a long term impact (beyond this age). Our prayers for people and cities continue to have an impact in the age-to-come. Prayers from history are stored in a bowl near God's Throne (Rev. 5:8; 8:1-6). Intercession gives us an "inheritance" in the people and places that we pray for. This inheritance begins in this age and continues in the age-to-come.
- J. Intercession positions us to receive freely from God rather than earning us God's power. All spiritual disciplines (prayer, fasting, meditation on the Word, etc.) are ordained by God as a necessary way to posture our heart to freely receive more grace. **Analogy:** we put our cold heart before the bonfire of God's presence by seeking Him in the Word and prayer.
- K. Intercession positions us to hear from God so as to obey Him that we might walk in our calling and destiny. In intercession, we position ourselves to receive revelation from His heart for our lives. In intercession, we receive revelation into the destiny of people (loved ones), cities or nations so that we may stand with them in contending for God's fullness for them.
- L. Intercession for others causes multiplied blessings to return back on the life of the intercessor. Every prayer of blessing for another is a prayer that God returns back on you and your family. The law of the Kingdom requires that we always receive more than what we give away by faith.
³⁸ ***Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you. (Lk. 6:38)***
- M. **Summary:** Intercession is God's brilliant strategy for including the saints in ruling with Him in power. Yet, it has such great impact on us as it draws us into intimacy with God as it protects with humility, transforms with holiness, anoints with power, unifies in community, releases revelation and increases our inheritance while it trains us to rule with His wisdom.