

A Pilgrimage to Secure Boundaries

by Jack Hayford

Jack Hayford emphasizes the importance of intercessory prayer and the establishment of spiritual boundaries through a pilgrimage to Israel.

Scripture: Genesis 13:14, Psalm 113:1, Psalm 119:165, Ezekiel 37:9, Zechariah 12:10, Zechariah 14:16, Matthew 9:37, John 8:32, Ephesians 6:18, 1 Thessalonians 5:16

Topics: "Prophetic Prayer", "Spiritual Warfare"

Description

Jack Hayford shares about a pilgrimage to Israel where a prayer team engaged in prophetic prayer, building altars at the North, South, East, and West boundaries of the nation. Each altar represented key issues to be proclaimed over the land, applicable to all believers. The Altar of TRUTH in the South focused on honoring the Word and seeking freedom through truth. The Altar of LIFE in the East prayed for an outpouring of the Spirit and revelation of Jesus. The Altar of WORSHIP in the North interceded for true worship to invoke grace and break spiritual drought, while the Altar of PRAISE in the West praised for breakthrough and expansion of God's mission.

Transcript

"Lift your eyes now and look from the place where you are--northward, southward, eastward, and westward; for all the land which you see I give to you and your descendants forever...Arise, walk in the land through its length and its width, for I give it to you." (Genesis 13:14b-15, 17)

My visit to Israel at the end of 2002 marked the first time that I have ever referred to one of our trips to the Holy Land as a "pilgrimage," but it was just that--a mandate from the Lord to go and pray in Israel. We were a group under God's hands, joining in prayer with multitudes also praying for the peace of Jerusalem. We knew somehow that our actions in the invisible realm were pivotal, invoking through prayer the rule of God Almighty. Never have I felt involved in a more significant venture. Believers and secular people alike in Israel were deeply moved by our visit.

We went with a sense of mission to exercise the practice of prophetic prayer, literally moving through the land to touch the North, South, East, and West. As a prayer team, we built altars at each of these boundaries of the nation, where we lifted up key issues to be proclaimed over the land. These are the same issues that need to be raised up over your life--kingdom principles that apply to all of us.

In the South, we built the Altar of TRUTH (Psalm 119:165), praying that Israel will honor the Word; that the Word be made alive--a veil removed to see more than words; to see truth: "You shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free" (John 8:32).

In the East, we built the Altar of LIFE (Ezekiel 37:9,14), praying that there would come an outpouring of the Spirit according to Zechariah 12:10: "I will pour on Israel the Spirit of grace and supplication, and they will look upon Me whom they pierced."

In the North, we built the Altar of WORSHIP (Zechariah 14:16-18), praying in intercession that all who worship the Lord now in spirit and in truth would become a token invoking further grace, including breaking the drought in this land.

In the West, we built the Altar of PRAISE (Psalm 113:1-3), praying praise to drive back the darkness; praise for what has begun; and praise that Israel's boundaries not only be secured but expanded in her mission to mankind.

I gained three convictions from this divinely appointed visit to Israel. First, the Spirit of prophecy is ready to come upon people who will rise in faith, obey with action, and work with discernment. Second, the Spirit of life is breathing with force ready to break down walls and bring salvation. Finally, the Spirit of harvest is calling for a cadre of prayer warriors who will resist the Adversary and contend for God's boundaries of intended blessing.

More than ever, there's reason for us as the people of the Lord to let our hearts be quickened with anticipation and stirred with a sense of accountable duty. We are called to occupy until Jesus comes, and that responsibility centers on intercessory prayer and a faithful life of service that shows the love of God in everything we do. As the world faces uncertainty, let us march forward in full confidence that He has called us to action in prayer that will result in the securing and expansion of boundaries of intended blessing in our world and in each of our lives.

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