

CITY STRATEGIES

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Winning City Strategies Tape #169B
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Well, Praise the Lord! I want to speak tonight about the whole concept of the biblical side of winning cities and showing from the Scriptures that this is God's will.

In Ezekiel 4:1 & 2, "Now Son of man, take a clay tablet, put it in front of you; draw the city of Jerusalem on it; then lay siege to it and let the siege work against it; build a ramp up to it and set up camp against it; put battering rams around it..." It sounds like he was playing with his army or something, doesn't it? He started with a clay tablet and drew out a map of the city, then he did spiritual warfare against that city. I didn't even know that verse was in the Bible for a long time. Here is this crazy old prophet Ezekiel. He had some strange visions and he saw some strange things and he did some strange things. Some people call him the "acid prophet" because of the stuff he saw.

Spiritual mapping helps us to discover what is going on in the hidden spiritual realms of your city. It helps for the Lord to show you what you can't see with your eyes. Ephesians 6:12 says, "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world, against spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly realms." We have been spending too much time trying to change the spiritual world by doing physical things. Now I know we need to actually get out, that's physical, but we need to war in the spiritual sense. We need to battle principalities the way principalities should be beaten. We need to war against demonic forces in ways that take care of demons, not in ways that affect people and demons indirectly. Go after the demons first; take care of those things, but then go after the people directly. We need to war according to the things of the spiritual realm, because that's our job. When that was written by Paul, he was pointing out how to do evangelism effectively, by doing it by the spirit to reach people, that's our goal, to reach people. But, we must go through the spiritual realm to get to them. Our trouble has been we have been trying to go to blind people to how them light. It doesn't work, we have to first take care of the darkness in order to show the light. Right? That's the way you do it.

There are five skills that are necessary to transform any city:

#1 - You need to hear from the Lord. You need to allow Him to lead , hear and obey. Obedience is better than sacrifice. Some of us have geared up a lot, but unless the Lord asks for it, it didn't do anybody any good. 2 Corinthians 4:3 & 4 says, "but even if our gospel is veiled; it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of the unbelievers so they can not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ who is the image of God." If they are blinded they can't see the light you are bringing to them. You have to first heal their spiritual blindness. You have the power to do that. But, you don't do it through special techniques , you don't do it through all the worldly means. If we take care of the darkness that has blinded them, then when we turn on the light, they see it. You can shine a light in front of a blind man all you want , it's not going to help him because he can't see it. First take care of that blindness. He'll see the light automatically. You won't even have to tell him about it , he'll see it.

The Bible says, "to be ready to always give an answer to any man that asks you of the hope that is in you." Well, how many people have been asking you about that hope? First off, it tells you something , you have to have that hope in you so people can see it. So we should be manifesting that hope , we should have the hope , then we should love in relation to that hope , so that there is something showing. Then we need to pray for the people around us to see it. They aren't seeing it because they are blinded by the god of this age. The devil is not a god , he is a fallen angel. But to those whom he has blinded he is a god , it is time for you to show him he is just a fallen "arch" angel. That's what he is , he's an angel. He has no authority of his own , only what he steals from us. All you do is take care of the blindness that he has put on those people , we have authority over what he does. We can take his authority all away and the light comes on. The people say, "What , what is going on? What is in your life? Why are you always , no matter what , up or down , you still have this strength within you? What is it?" Now you have a chance to tell about that "hope" , it's Jesus Christ! It is Christ in me! "I can do all things..." "Whether I be abased or abound, I know how to suffer in want or how to have need or how to prosper or anything I go through...Christ is always with me." Do you have that? Would you like that? Yes, I would. Where have you been? I wish I had known about this years ago.

The implication is that effective evangelism is primarily against the god of this age. Nothing of spiritual warfare has ever saved anyone, but it releases the people from their blindness so that they can receive. We've not gotten further along with our efforts, because we've not warred according to the weapons of our warfare , the things that God has given us , these great spiritual weapons. But, because we've not thought spiritually, we are using carnal weapons. They don't work in the spiritual realm.

#2 - We need to engage the enemy on three levels. These are Peter Wagner's levels and I have been teaching them for a while , I think they are very good ways to look at the spiritual battles.

1. Ground level spiritual warfare level. This includes on an individual level. We are dealing with demons and the demonic.

2. Religious level. We are dealing with shamanism, satanism, the New Age , things at that level. We are talking about a religious level where there is a corporate power.

3. Strategic level. We are confronting the powers and principalities directly.

How many of you know , if you have never cast out a demon , don't go getting a principality over the whole state mad at you. Take it face-to-face individual first and learn how to handle that. Okay? I've seen too many intercessors go out saying, "Oh, I've learned this stuff. Okay. I'm going to take down the prince over the entire Northwest tonight , as if nobody else ever thought of that. You know what? More intercessors are limping in wondering what happened. You aren't ready for that yet. Yes, you have all authority in Christ , but He needs to delegate it to you. He's not going to send you after that thing until you're ready. He didn't send David after Goliath until he had already proved himself on a lion and a bear. First he had to prove himself with sheep. Pastor's all know sheep bites hurt. You have to work your way into it. It is all available to us, right? But, the Lord doesn't expect us to go three steps until we get to the first step.

Mark 16:15- This is the Great Commission according to Mark , in most churches it is the Great Omission, "He said go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature..." Do you know what? That even gets the dogs and cats preached to. Every creature , he didn't want anybody missed. One day I was preaching in New Delhi, India. I was preaching out of Matthew , the great commission , He said go into all the world and make disciples of the nations. I was teaching to a group of men and women that we were discipling and all of a sudden it dawned on me that He didn't say go into all the world and disciple the individuals , He's got a bigger vision than I do. He said, "Disciple the nations." I thought, "My goodness. I thought I was doing good with this little group over here." He wants me to disciple the whole nation of India. I have plenty of time to stay humble, believe me. Jesus' vision is higher than ours. We think we are doing good if we bring a few thousand people to the Lord. But, He didn't even say to do that. He said, "Bring them and then disciple them." So the job isn't done when they first receive the Lord , it's just started. To be saved and come to an experiential knowledge of the truth , and the Truth's name is Jesus. An experiential knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ , that is where we are going. We have had our vision way too small. I've read that passage for years and I'm still thinking individuals. That isn't what He said. He said, "Nations." He's thinking big. He's thinking groups. He's thinking corporately. We need to start thinking the way He thinks because together we have the mind of Christ. We have been trying to have it individually , we'll never get it , we have to start seeing it together , then we have the mind of Christ. He saw it big.

Anyway He said, "Go and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." So He is teaching His disciples , He says, "Here's what I want you to do , you go out , you preach , you get people saved. Here's what He said, "Now this is what I say..." When somebody asks you, "How do I know somebody is saved?" I can give them my own pat answers: Did they confess Him as Lord? Did they manifest the Holy Spirit in their life? I can say all those things and they're probably true , but here is what Jesus said to His disciples in

Mark 16:17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons;..." That is the first thing a new believer is supposed to do , cast out demons. What church did He go to? He is telling His disciples that this is what the new saints are going to do. This is how you're going to know if they believed you. That is what He is saying , I just read it to you. He said, "You go out and get them saved and this is what they are going to do and then you'll know they are saved. "They are going to cast out demons in My name; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." These are the signs that Jesus said you will find in the people that you see really converted.

Let's look at some of these things. I know you can pick up serpents if you are a believer. I picked them up when I was a kid all the time. So I don't think it is talking about picking up serpents. We know the record of the Apostle Paul when he was out gathering fire wood and the asp came out , it bit him , they thought he was a murderer , he should die, but he just shook it off in the fire and didn't die. So we know there are miracles that can happen in that sense , but, I don't think you have to get bit by a rattle snake to prove that you are a believer. I think Jesus is teaching us something different here.

What example of picking up serpents is there in the Bible? There was Moses. What did he do? He threw down his rod. What does a rod indicate? The rod indicates authority. He picked up that authority right , when it became a snake he picked it up by the tail. You don't pick up snakes by the tail. He did and it became a rod in his hand. This signified taking authority from the serpent. What did Moses do in the wilderness when they were getting bit by snakes? He lifted up a brass serpent that represented Jesus Christ. When they looked upon it they were healed. What does it mean to lift up serpents? It means to lift up the Lord Jesus Christ and take authority from the serpent. That's what believers do. And if that means if you get bitten and you live, fine , but that's not what you have to do to prove it. You need to prove it by taking back Satan's authority that he has stolen. That's what it means to lift up serpents. That's what you do to show you are a believer. You need to teach a new convert how to take back the authority from the serpent , to turn it into a rod , to hold it up in the wilderness so others can see it and come into the same experience. This is what they are supposed to be doing when they get saved. That's just ground level. That's just the first level.

How many of you know if you pull the foundation out from under a building, it's going to fall? We are so busy trying to shoot the wind guage off the roof of the house , the principality , just take care of the foundation , he'll come down soon enough. If we get our people doing these things he'll jump off the roof , we'll set a fire on his building. Do you know what's going to happen when you start living like this? Those little demons hate your guts , but the reason they come after you is because they are afraid of the bigger demons that are pushing them after you. They hate their boss, too. Do you know what is going to happen? We are going to get so tough spiritually, they'd rather fight each other than fight us. In Berlin in World War II, when the Americans and the Allied Forces came in from the West, the Germans took all their defenses down on the Western front and threw it all on the Eastern front because they wanted to get captured by the Americans

and the British and not by the Soviets. That is what the demons will do if we get tough. They will say, "We want to go back against our masters rather than face these Christians." That's the attitude we have to have.

Do you know what will happen then? The same thing that happened when Jonathan and his armor bearer went forward , they put confusion in the camp of the enemy. Now what did Jesus say? Jesus said, "A kingdom divided against itself cannot stand." Whose kingdom was He talking about? Satan's. Who was listening? Satan , because he has been using it on us for two-thousand years , he listened to the Lord better than we have. Our job is to send confusion into the camp of the enemy. How do you do it? Not by your programs. You do it by manifesting the Lord Jesus Christ and obeying what He said to do and teaching other people to do the same thing , by lifting up the serpent in the wilderness , by taking back authority from the enemy , siccing him back on his own camp. If it worked good on the demons the Philistines had, it'll work good on the demons in your town. We need to be like Jonathan's armor bearer and say, "It matters not to God whether he saves by many or by few."

I think I might have mentioned it before , but being an anthropologist I thought I'd bring it up again , Margaret Mead said that not in any society or in any place in history can you find another example of society being changed by any other method than a small group of committed individuals. She wasn't a Christian. We need to see small groups of committed individuals like Jonathan and his armor bearer that say, "We're not sitting here anymore. We're tired of stupid pomegranate trees. We're going uphill and we don't even know if the Lord's going to deliver them to us but we are tired of sitting here , maybe if we do something He will be there when we get there." Guess what? You guys went out today, didn't you? Was He there when you got there? Yeah. Big time! He'll be there tomorrow. We need to be equipped and we need to go. We need to be with Him and then we need to be sent.

Second Corinthians 10:4-6, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but might through God to the pulling down of strongholds..." What is a stronghold? This is my definition: A stronghold is a belief that something is true when it is not resulting in an invisible block from receiving what is true in that particular area. Those are the things we war against. Those are the things we pull down in our own lives and then in the lives of others. That is what the Bible says we are supposed to be waring against. This is what we do. These are the weapons of our warfare. They are not carnal. They are not techniques. They are spirit and they are life and they are power. Verse 5, "...casting down imaginations and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." The word "imagination" is the Greek word "logismos" which means arguments that are of human origin, thoughts, attitudes and actions , we need to cast those down when they are against God.

The word that is translated "high things" is the Greek word "hupsoma." I want to quote from a New International Dictionary of the New Testament. It says, "The Greek word hupsoma reflects astrological ideas and denotes cosmic powers; powers directed against God seeking to intervene between God and humans." We do both of those things, but we

haven't even done a good job with our minds. We sometimes just stop there , but it says both: We cast down imaginations and spiritual high things that exalt themselves against the knowledge of God.

Verse 6, "...and being ready to punish all dis- obedience when your obedience is fulfilled." I just came from a few weeks in India. Every place I went they wanted me to speak on spiritual warfare. Every place I went I did. I don't think I ever got far from the subject of sacrifice and obedience because unless we have that down and understand we can't move on to some of these other things , but that's spiritual warfare. You take care of the basics. We are always wanting to do greater works than Jesus and He said we could , so I know we can , but do you know what you need to do first? Do the regular works of Jesus , before you worry about the greater works. You be as obedient as He was. By His sacrifice He learned obedience. You get out there and do some sacrifice , give up your television for a while , go out and pray for some people.

#3 - Target prayers accurately , 2 Corinthians 2:11, "...lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices." Spiritual mapping helps us to uncover the strategy and to target our prayers accurately. I think I have used the analogy before of trying to get into that safe and the energy that you expend. You can use a sledgehammer and you'll get in eventually , but it takes a lot of energy. If you have a key you can get in easier with a lot less energy expended. Spiritual mapping gives us keys so we can target those prayers to specific areas. But here it says, "we are not ignorant of his devices." You went out today , prayed on your prayer walk , the Lord revealed things to you. When you came together and shared and found out how much the Lord had shown other groups that were so similar , you found out that you were not ignorant of Satan's devices. When you find out that everybody is seeing the same things , the devil can't take away your faith. He can't punch holes in the bottom of your faith pail. But if only you had seen it, it would have been easy for you to be talked out of it. That's what he wants to do , he'll tell you, "Oh, no, you didn't really see that," or, "It doesn't do any good to pray like that," or "That's awful weird to pray like that." But, when you find out everybody else was shown the same thing by the Holy Spirit , you as a group are not ignorant of Satan's devices. If you aren't ignorant about them then you can do something about them. The secrecy of his moves is where he gets most of his ability to walk in our lives. He is an angel of darkness; he only masquerades as an angel of light. When you shine the light on him he is like a cockroach , he likes to run and hide. If he can't get away , he quivers in the corner. You need the light turned on , you need to turn it on him.

We need to target our prayers. We have been praying scatter-gun prayers too often. It is like hunting elk with a shotgun. You don't usually reach them. How about this? Don't hunt grizzly bear with a shotgun. Okay? It just riles them up. Do you get the picture? The devil hates you. He's like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour. Some of us go out and use these little popguns and all you do is show him where we are. Oh, there's one , let's go get him. I like doing that , but I like to lure them in , cause I'm like Peter and the wolf , see I only have a popgun but I've got a bunch of friends with me. But, I have found out one good thing , if I didn't learn anything else, I learned this , God loves to use the foolish things of the world to confound the wise. And there's nobody that thinks he's

more wise than Satan. He thinks he knows better than God. God always enjoys showing him that he doesn't. He uses us foolish little jars of clay to do it. I just think He put the Holy Spirit in these clay vessels just so He can laugh at the devil every time we pray and some angel thumps on him. We don't have the power to battle the devil, but, we have the authority in Jesus' name. The angels have the power. They are the ones with those big muscles you see in those pictures and visions, eight feet tall with those huge swords that never need to be sharpened. But, do you know what they need? They need somebody down here to pray so they can go out on those words, they need to go out on somebody's words. They have the power, not you, but you have the authority to send them in Jesus' name. Let them go send confusion in the camp of the enemy. I think the angels just like playing dominoes with the enemy. If we'll set it up right, the angels go and hit the first domino and the whole camp of the enemy goes down flat on its face.

It says in the Bible that one angel was sent out and ten-thousand people died in one night. So what if you had a few angels at your disposal, I think if you use them, God will give them to you. But He's tired of sending them just to be sitting around. I think He'd rather have them up there worshipping, at least they're doing some good. I think He's got one down here with a radio, "Hey, there's somebody down here praying, send a few more down, would you?" God says, "Alright!" Praise the Lord.

#4 - We need to remit corporate sins. There is a term coined that I like to use, "identificational repentance." I was used in this fashion a number of times. One time in Montana, at the first Montana School of Prayer, I was asked to close out the School of Prayer. I certainly had not expected that, but the Lord had told me ahead of time that He wanted me to pray certain things and lead people into covenant relationship. As it turned out, the man that was supposed to close it out came to me and said, "Lloyd, I don't believe I'm supposed to close it out. I think you are. Do you mind?" I said, "Now, I know where I'm supposed to use this stuff the Lord has been putting on me." So I did. I closed it out. The Lord had me bring all the Native Americans out and I asked them to forgive me for what our ancestors had done. I had a Native American woman come up to represent them. As I was repenting to her on behalf of the white brethren the Lord told me also to repent for sins of men against women and shepherds, ministers against the flock. I said, "I don't understand this, but the Lord wants me to ask you for forgiveness for pastors against the flock and for men against women." She just lost it, because she had been raped by her pastor when she was a child. When that happened, I can't describe to you what happened to the people in that hall, I can't describe to you what has happened since that day on Indian reservations in our state, and what is continuing to happen. That didn't complete the process, but, I believe it has hit the first domino.

A few months later I was down in Argentina and there was a minister from Japan who was teaching on "Identificational Repentance." He began to repent for Japan's role in World War II, he asked if there was anybody there who lost relatives in World War II? There were a few people there, they came up and he got on his knees before them. There was another man of Japanese descent who I had met on the airplane from Hawaii. He was born and raised in America, he was an American citizen. He ran up and took the microphone and said, "This isn't enough. We Americans of Japanese descent were

persecuted." He started crying and telling the story of how his dad went to a concentration camp in America , how the windows were knocked out of their house. But, before he even started , as soon as he grabbed that microphone , the Holy Spirit kicked me out of my chair and I was on my way up there before I realized why or where I was going , when he began to speak I realized why I was there. The city I came from, Missoula, Montana, had an interment camp for non-military Japanese citizens. So, here I was , I wasn't born then , but here I was coming from a city that represented the exact thing that was a sin against my own brother. How on earth did God get some guy from Japan , some guy from Hawaii , some guy from Montana , on stage in Argentina , to repent for sins that are fifty years old? I don't know how He did it , but I'm starting to understand why He does it , because it puts a stranglehold on the devil , he only has authority because of sins that we do. When we repent he loses the authority. This is biblical.

In 2 Samuel 21 you can read the record of a three year drought in the land. David sought the Lord and asked, "What is going on?" The Lord said, "This is on Israel because of Saul's sins against the Gibeonites." Now Saul was dead, but earlier Saul had decided to do some ethnic cleansing. He was going to kill everybody that wasn't a descendant of Jacob. The Gibeonites were there , it just so happened that before him , when Joshua came in with the Children of Israel , Joshua had made a covenant with the Gibeonites never to hurt them. When Saul almost whipped the entire nation he broke the covenant that God said needed to be honored. God held that judgment back for a time because there was enough going on as it was , but years later , Jonathan was gone , Saul was gone , David was in power. David didn't sin and do that , but yet his nation was being judged , God said, "It is because of Saul." David took care of that problem. He went to the Gibeonites and said, "What can we do so you will bless us and take this curse off the land?" He obeyed what they said and the curse left the land.

We have curses on our land because of innocent blood , because of sins in the past , because of broken treaties , because of broken promises. We have to do something about it because the people that created these problems are gone. God still requires there be repentance to break the stranglehold the devil has that is unseen.

After that I was getting ready to going to India and had done a week's training on winning cities because I wanted to train my team before we went. One night in one of our meetings a pastor saw a vision of me. In that vision he had to pour oil over me. The next day at church he pulled out this chalice , I thought he was going to have communion , but it was filled with oil and he poured it all over me like Aaron , it was quite powerful. There just happened to be a number of people from all around the country that had come in for this particular weekend. Two prophets prophesied at different times , one was from the West Coast and one from the East Coast , they both prophesied that we were being sent out as representatives of the church in the United States. I'll be quite honest with you, I thought, "Yeah, right. Those are just nice big words, but we are just little old people up here in Montana. That's nice."

We worked in Northern India and a couple of weeks later we were down in Southern India and things are happening. It was my second year there working with the same pastors. I'm thinking, "Why am I not getting through on some of these things?" Especially on finances. I kept trying to convince them that it is the same Lord in South India as in the United States. He wants them to prosper just like He wants us to prosper. I'm preaching and telling them and explaining what the Word of God says about prosperity. They go, "Yes, praise the Lord." We have a break. They come up and say, "Give me money." There is money in America. There is no money in India. I say, "Yes, there is because He is the same God." I was up all night, very distressed, very discouraged, "What's the problem? What's the problem?"

God showed me that we as missionaries have come to India for many, many years, first representing our denomination and secondly representing the Lord Jesus Christ, not the other way around. One way we keep the ministers in our denomination is by paying them. We make sure that the finances that they get come from our denomination so they don't go over to somebody else's denomination. We have put a curse on them that they think their finances have to come from overseas. So they have never met the God of prosperity, we did it to them. The next day I went in there to that group of ministers and I got on my knees and I explained what the Lord had shown me and asked for their forgiveness. I said, "We the church of the United States..." , I looked at Dave and the light came on for both of us. Those prophecies in Montana were for just one reason, to give us a spiritual authority so we could go over there and repent on behalf of the church in the United States for the curses we have put on those people.

I'm not a Billy Graham. I don't represent the church in the United States like someone of his stature, but for one time, for a spiritual reason so we could take Satan's stranglehold off of those men's throats, God had given us authority, spiritual authority. We carried it out by "identificational repentance." Now what they did with that, I can't say, but I've heard some good things from some of them. So, first we must bind the strongman before we can steal his goods. I was trying to teach them how to steal and spoil his goods before I bound the strongman. I can't tell you what happened from that day on the rest of the time we were there, how many breakthroughs there were, how much deliverance there was, because we wrestle not against flesh and blood, only the Holy Spirit could reveal, and only the Holy Spirit could orchestrate what He did. Through "identificational repentance" the strongman was bound so the Holy Spirit could release the people of God.

There is a judgment coming on the world. The clock is about to strike twelve. Do you know what happens at 12 o'clock? Judgment comes on the world. Do you know what happened in Egypt when 12 midnight came? The angel of death came and took care of the first born of every household of Egypt. But do you know what else happened at midnight? The Children of Israel were set free. That is what is happening to us. The judgment is coming on the world and for those of us who are wise and understand spiritual things, it is the cry, "Set my people free!" It is time to release those people that want the Lord Jesus Christ. We need to release the people that already have Jesus Christ first. "Judgment first on the Household of God," it says. Judgment is not necessarily bad. Judgment can include mercy if we ask for it. "His mercies are new every day." Amen.

#5 - We need to invade the community. Joshua 1:3 says, "Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread on that I have given unto you as I said unto Moses." Now you can read that in different translations. Here is the NIV: "I will give you every place where you set your foot as I promised Moses." I always like to tell what Peter Wagner told me on this because he showed me in the Hebrew this says, "Every place where the sole of your foot shall go I have already given it to you." In the Greek it says, "Every place that the sole of your foot goes, I've given it to you." He said actually in the Chinese it says, "Every place that the sole of your foot goes, I'll give it to you." What does it mean? GO. Get your feet out there so He can give it to you. You are sitting home asking for something you are to go get.

Probably the most amazing man I have ever met is a man by the name of Carlos Anacondia. He is an evangelist down in Argentina. He has won more people to the Lord than any other know person in history , over nineteen million people now. He wasn't even a Christian twenty years ago. He got saved as an adult businessman. When he got saved he said to the Lord, "Lord, this isn't right that someone had to come from far, far away to teach me about the Lord Jesus. Somebody from our country should be able to reach our country. Lord, I've been reading the Bible. If you will just give me the power that they had in the early church, I'll go out and pray for people and You can heal and they'll come to You." He prayed that over and over for about five minutes. He said, "No lightning came from Heaven." He thinks he bored God. The Lord spoke to him in a quiet voice and said, "You already have the power. Just go out and use it." He went out on the street and started doing it.

We need to get out there and take it to the streets. Most of the people in your churches are saved, I hope, so when there is a miracle at church that is great , but you don't get anybody converted. It might build up their faith and it is always great for the person that got healed , but when the man at the gate of Temple Beautiful was healed thousands of people came to the Lord that day because it wasn't hidden. They all saw it , they heard about it immediately. We have been hiding out too long. David took those people to the cave of Adullam but he didn't stay in there forever. He got his sword and went to battle. Do you know why we fight with each other? Because that's all we do is hang out with each other. We should fight not against each other but with each other against the enemy. So we need to get out once in a while. Revival will come when we get the walls down between the church and the community.

Spiritual mapping , spiritual warfare , prayer walking , all the techniques we use are wasted effort if we do not keep our eyes on the ultimate goal of winning the lost, glorifying the Lord and raising up the next generation to accomplish the same goals.

Paul was able in two years and three months to reach all of Asia Minor , so all Asia heard the Word of the Lord. We have never been able to duplicate that with all the wealth we have and all the radio and the television and everything else , we have never reached the world in one generation , ever. We've never reached our city in one generation. I think we need to go back and start from scratch like maybe with humility. We need to cast off

some world wisdom and find out what they did that worked so much better than all this stuff that we have. I'm not saying we shouldn't use what the Lord gives us , but I'm saying that He has already given us stuff within that we never manifest. We need to start manifesting. These spiritual things are much greater than the natural things. If we listen in the Spirit , if we can be taught of the Spirit , then He will show us how to use the things of the physical world to our advantage. But we have been going at it backwards way too long.

God cares for cities. He cares for entire cities. He wants entire cities to come to Him. In Jonah 1:1, it says, "Now the Word of the Lord came to Jonah; it said rise and go to Nineveh that great city and cry out against it for their wickedness has come up before me." Now these guys went up there , I think Nineveh is up where Syria is now , it wasn't in Israel. God spoke to Jonah and you know the story , Jonah said, "I'm not going to go up there. They are our enemies. If they get converted then they are going to be stronger than us because we are sinning like crazy." That was what he was afraid of , that they would get converted and be blessed of God and they'd come down and attack his people. That is exactly what happened. God loves people. The people of Nineveh were wicked people. He told Jonah to go up and prophesy against that city. Hey if God wanted to destroy that city , why warn them? I don't think that He wanted to destroy that city , obviously , because He warned them. But Jonah didn't want to go , he starts heading to Spain , God puts something in front of him and won't let him go , he gets back , gets turned around and gets spit out on the beach , he starts hiking , he gets to Nineveh and starts prophesying , he starts walking across town.

Jonah 3:1 says, "Now the Word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time saying..." Remember you never flunk one of God's tests. He just keeps giving you the same one over and over again until you learn it. Have you learned that? "Arise and go to Nineveh, that great city, and preach to it the message that I will tell you. So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh according to the Word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city a three day journey..." See, go preach the message to the city , He said make disciples of the nations , He said go prophesy to cities. We say "each one win one." We ought to say, "Each one win one nation." Or at least, "Each one win one city." Okay? Jonah was just a small prophet , he just got one city. "And Jonah began to enter the city on the first day's walk and he called out and said, 'Yet forty days and Nineveh will be overthrown,' so the people of Nineveh believed God..." These guys are amazing, "...they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth from the greatest to the least of them; then the word came to the King of Nineveh and he rose from his throne; laid aside his robe; covered himself with sackcloth and sat in ashes."

Verse 7, "And he caused it to be proclaimed and published throughout Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles saying, 'Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything; do not let them eat, or drink water...' Now that's a serious fast when you don't even drink water. The king said no food or water even for the animals. "But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily to God; yes, let every one turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands. Who can tell if God will turn and relent, and turn away from His fierce anger, so that we may not perish?" Now wait a

minute , Jonah is a prophet , prophets are to prophesy and if they don't prophesy the truth you stone them , if you're prophetic at all you have been told that a few times. But, here is Jonah and he goes in there and prophesies and he says forty days from now you guys are dust. He didn't say anything about unless you repent. He says, "You're dust , you're out of here , you're gone." They said, "Let's repent because who knows , maybe God will relent." Well you know what? That is the nature of God. If you will repent , He will relent. Jonah never said that , but Jonah wasn't a false prophet. Do you know why? Because you have to take into consideration the nature of God which changes not. Jonah never said, "unless you repent." He just said, "You're dust." But God said, "If they repent, okay, I'll reconsider." That's His right. He's God.

Verse 10, "Then God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God relented from the disaster that He had said he would bring upon them, and He did not do it." Chapter 4:1, says, "But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he became angry." If you have faith that everyone in your city is going to be saved , not everybody else is going to believe you. Not everyone believes that entire cities can be saved , and not everyone is going to be pleased to hear it when you tell them about it , they're not even going to be happy when it happens. Too bad!

We went to Genesee, Idaho, and taught some of these things. When I met our host for the first time he said, "Lloyd, everyone in Genesee is going to receive the Lord. Everyone is going to get saved." I said, "That's what we are saying in our town." He said, "I know. I heard the tape." He said, "I don't know if I believe it , but I am saying it." That's a start , right? I didn't believe it when I first started saying it. I believe it now. I don't know if it is going to happen in my lifetime. But It's going to happen. I've been saying it. I've been praying it. I've been proclaiming it. I've been telling the witches to leave unless they get converted. The ones that have already committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit don't have a choice to stay anyway. If they stay , they die. Because it says, I'm not supposed to pray for them. Now it doesn't say that about witches and homosexuals that have not committed blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. We need to pray for these men and women that are so confused , I'm telling you , that is the way you spoil the devil's kingdom. Because they're just flesh and blood , they are human beings , that's what the battle is about. God loves them, right? When it came to Elymas the sorcerer Paul said, "You go about and be blind for a while because you are a child of the devil. So I'm not praying for those guys, okay? But unless God tells you specifically who is and who isn't , you pray for them. You pray for the person , now you do not pray for the sin , you pray for them to repent.

We need to start proclaiming. In Guatemala the Christians are now proclaiming that every-one in the country is going to be saved. Sixty percent of the nation, they estimate, is already Christian. It begins with someone that will proclaim it. If you start proclaiming it , you begin to believe it , if you believe it then God can bring it to pass. But, somebody has to say it. I am proclaiming it because three prophecies came to me from three different people when I was on the East coast at a retreat with a bunch of other prophets and prophetic people. Three different people came up to me with three different visions and revelations , totally different from one another but with the same interpretation. That

caught my ear. So now it's up to me , am I going to believe it or not? In my mind I didn't believe it , but in my heart I said, "This is God." So you know what I did? I took action on it. Do you know what's happening now? A lot of people are taking action on it and speaking it. "He calls the foolish to confound the wise." God loves people and people are God's primary interest , and cities are the largest containers of people. We should begin to minister to cities as we would to individuals.

Jonah 4:10 & 11, "But the Lord said, 'You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left, and also much livestock?'" God was interested in those one hundred thousand people , it was easier for Him to deal with the whole city than to go down to talk to everyone of them. It was easier for Jonah, too. He didn't have to go to every door. God is the same God now as He was in Nineveh, only greater , that was before He began to pour out His Spirit upon all flesh. Look at what happened with one cantankerous old, disobedient prophet , what could he do with someone that wants to obey so that when their obedience is fulfilled they can punish all disobedience. That's what we need to do , raise up a generation of people that are willing to punish disobedience when our obedience is fulfilled. Praise God.

God watches cities. Genesis 18:20-21, "Then the Lord said, 'The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous I will go down now and see whether what they have done is as bad as the outcry that has reached me; and if not, I will know.'" Why did God say, "I will go down and see." God didn't have to go down and see , He knew , He didn't have to actually go down there and see. What is He trying to tell us? Maybe you should go out and see. If He is willing to come down off of His throne and go out and see what is happening in Sodom and Gomorrah , where He couldn't even find ten righteous , what are you doing watching television so much? Go out and see what is happening out there and pray for the people. See if you can find some righteous men and women that will stand with you. Maybe your city will be saved then. It didn't happen for Sodom and Gomorrah but the Lord was listening. We need to hear what God is hearing about our city. Get out there and He will tell you and He will tell you what to do about it. God's heart weeps for cities.

Luke 19:41-44, "And as He approached Jerusalem, and saw the city, He wept over it. And He said if you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now it is hidden from your eyes. The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side, they will dash you to the ground and you and the children within your walls, they will not leave one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you." How close are we to missing God's timing for our cities? Are we going to miss His timing? Are we going to recognize His call to win our cities because we won't go out and see what their state is? Maybe we need to weep over our cities, also. God's weeping. God's heart cries out for our cities. Matthew 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the one who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How

often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!

God will judge cities. Luke 10:10-15, "But whatever city you enter, and they do not receive you, go out into its streets and say, 'The very dust of your city which clings to us we wipe off against you. Nevertheless know this, that the kingdom of God has come near you.' But I say to you that it will be more tolerable in that Day for Sodom than for that city. Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting on sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, who are exalted to heaven, will be thrust down to Hades." Who is He talking to? He is talking to cities.

Isaiah 51:17, "Awake, awake stand up O Jerusalem, You who have drunk at the hand of the Lord the cup of His fury; you have drunk the dregs of the cup of trembling, and drained it out. There is no one to guide her among all the sons she has brought forth; nor is there any who takes her by the hand among all the sons she has brought up." Isaiah prophesied to that city.

There is a story about a Quaker preacher named George Fox. He and his wife went to Litchfield, England on personal business. When he got into town the Lord told him to take his shoes off, put them under a hedge and go through the streets and prophesy with his hands in the air saying, "Litchfield, Litchfield you bloody city. Woe to you Litchfield you bloody city." He went through town once and then prophesied back through the town as he came back for his shoes. He said, "Lord, I'm so thankful that you gave me the courage to do that , because I never could have done it without you." The Lord said, "Good, go do it again." He ended up in the square where the marketplace was and all the people were out watching him. He was standing barefoot with his hands in the air saying, "O Litchfield, Litchfield, woe unto you, you bloody city." When he was done he put his shoes on and probably didn't go shopping. At the time he didn't understand what it was all about. A few weeks later he was at a pastor friend's house looking through his books as he waited in his study. He found a history book that included the history of the city of Litchfield, England. He took it out and discovered that two hundred years previous, two hundred Christians had been killed and martyred on that spot where he stopped and preached in the square. God sends His prophets to prophesy to cities. Just because it happened a long time ago doesn't mean the devil is not still using it against us and it doesn't mean God can't break those powers of darkness so the people can be released.

Cities bear responsibility before God. Deuteronomy 21:1, "If anyone is found slain [murdered], lying in the field in the land which the Lord your God is giving to you to possess, and it is not known who killed him, then your elders and your judges shall go out, and they shall measure the distance from the slain man to the surrounding cities. And it shall be that the elders of the city nearest to the slain man will take a heifer which has not been worked and which has not pulled with a yoke..." Then it tells all of these things that you must do. Verse 6, "All the elders of that city nearest to the slain man shall wash their hands over the heifer whose neck was broken in the valley... Then they shall see

these things....verse 8, To provide atonement, O Lord, for Your people Israel, whom You have redeemed, and do not lay innocent blood to the charge of Your people Israel." And atonement shall be provided on behalf for the blood. So you shall put away the guilt of innocent blood from among you when you do what is right in the sight of the Lord." Cities had responsibilities. If somebody was murdered and they didn't know who was guilty , they couldn't bring justice , then the city closest took responsibility. Why? Because God didn't want the curse of innocent blood on the land and He told them it would be there if there was innocent blood shed. They had to make atonement. We have the Blood of Jesus Christ. We don't have to kill heifers , but we still have to call upon the name of the Lord Jesus when these sins occur. We have responsibility. Your city , my city , we have responsibility even if we weren't born when these things happened. We have responsibilities as cities.

Do you know what that also tells me? We have authority as cities to break these curses if we'll rise up , if your elders won't do it , you do it , somebody do it. I know God has good protocol. He goes to whom He should first. A lot of us are called to do jobs we're not very good at. Do you know why? Because we're the only ones that will do it. Somebody has to say, "Here am I. Send me." Pray for your city. But let the Lord show you these things so that there can be atonement made to release the people from darkness into the light.

The founders of a city, for a large part, form the personality of that city , even though it may be many years later. To discover the personality of a city, go back and learn the history of the foundations which were laid. If we can discover how things got to be the way they are, we will better see what Satan is using to keep the people in bondage and Christians ineffective in their offense.

Ask what God's plan and purpose is for the city and how the city can be redeemed for the Kingdom. Each city has a unique and divine purpose , a redemptive call. Generally, Satan tries to corrupt that call until he has made it the opposite of what God desires it to be. God has a call for each of us individually but He also has a call on us corporately. He has a call on our cities. He has chosen each city to rise up and be that which it was called to be. I believe we live in a time when we are going to see entire cities saved. I believe we live in a time when there are going to be cities of light. Now, I also believe there will be cities of darkness because there will be places that the devil will go to because he can't keep his hold everywhere. Those places are going to be the places where the people have seen , have chosen , have said, "No." Is that your town? I don't think so. Your town should be a city of light. Mine is going to be. It is going to continue to grow in that. There will be cities of refuge where the people of God can go and people can come to be healed , where people can come to be forgiven. Each of our churches should be a city of refuge, but we should be able to get our churches together to the point that our cities are cities of refuge. That's going to happen. God wants it , so He will get His way. If you won't do it , He'll raise up rocks to do it , but the rocks will get your reward.

You are living stones. Let Him work in you. We need to rise up. We need to start thinking outside of what we can comprehend. We need to start doing things that have

never been done before. These things have never been done in our lifetime, but they have been done. Right? Can't we at least do what Jonah did? We talk about doing greater works than Jesus. Why can't we just do as old Jonah did? He didn't even get Jonah Book Number Two because he was so disobedient. So we ought to be able to do at least what he did. Shouldn't we? Let's keep this stuff in perspective.

You can read the record sometime in Nehemiah Chapter One where Nehemiah went to Jerusalem to rebuild the walls. There are four things that he did in order to get to the point where he could rebuild those walls: (1) He prayed; (2) He reprioritized his life; (3) He went to see for himself the condition of the city; and (4) He asked the people to join hands, that's unity. He asked each family to take a section of the wall. That's our Church that is coming together. Each of us taking a wall in the city.

Then it says in Nehemiah 4:17, "They worked with a sword in one hand and materials in another building and prepared to fight." We may have to do more than one thing, also. But, if you are willing to do it, God will energize you. I walk in things and do things that I am not equipped to do, that I was not called to do. But whenever the Lord asks me to do something I have always just trusted Him as my Lord and said, "If you think I can do it, I don't know I can do it, I'm not able alone, but since You asked me and You are able, I'll go if You will equip me. So He sends me on these jobs, there is no way I can do, but He gives me grace, not by might or not by power but by My Spirit, says the Lord. So I am happy to tell you, because it glorifies God, I have been able to accomplish things that I can't accomplish, that I don't have the ability for, I don't even know how I do them, because it's God who does them through me.

God has a bigger vision than we do. God wants us to be joint heirs with Him, He wants us to be joint-heirs with Christ. The things that the Son has, we can have and share fully in it. But, we need to obey and we need to start getting our vision above where it is now. We need to not be so concerned about what we are or what we are supposed to do. We need to learn what we are supposed to do, okay, don't go running off and do things that you haven't been trained to do because you haven't done what you have been trained to do yet. Let's do that and see if God will open the doors to do more. We are Christians and Christ is in us and Christ is all things. If He chooses to use you in a certain way, let Him. Let's not try to put God in a box anymore. Let's release Him into our cities. God is big enough. He has the might and He has the power. Praise God!