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**Womanhood
and
God's Dominion Call**

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**Let us labour therefore
to enter into that rest
Hebrews 4:11**

Foreword

I am the mother of a large family. My husband and I are blessed with six sons and four daughters. Early in our marriage and even before, God began laying the foundation of dominion principles in my heart. They have ruled my life throughout our thirty-some years of marriage. As I would share them with my daughters and now my daughters-in-law, I will share them with you.

I first wrote *Womanhood and God's Dominion Call* as a series of articles for our church women around the time of the birth of our fifth child, a daughter Sabbath Hope. Her name expresses the message here. We look toward that Great Sabbath Day when we with God shall rest and eternally enjoy the fruits of dominion labor.

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Dominion - What is it?

Dominion: the power or right of governing and controlling; sovereign authority¹.

Genesis 1:27-28 *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.*

*In the beginning was the word,*² says the Apostle John. God had a plan. *The word, logos* in Greek, is the very intent and purpose that inspired the Creator. John says that *logos was with God and logos was God*. There is no randomness to God's creation order. All things have their purpose, and all things are according to God's plan. To Man, both male and female, He gave sovereign authority to rule the earth under Himself alone.

The Psalmist says: *What is man, that thou art mindful of him? and the son of man, that thou visitest him? For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of thy hands; thou hast put all things under his feet*³.

God's first words to his newly created humankind were a five-fold blessing. The purpose He assigned to the creatures who bore His image was that they should *be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion*. The psalmist responds to this dominion mandate by exclaiming, *What is man, that you take notice of him? You have even put all things under his feet!* Ten centuries later an apostle quotes the psalmist, then reveals a little more of God's plan saying, *But now we see not yet all things put under him.*⁴

It is quite evident that man is not governing the earth in the way he was created to govern. Our first parents began their decline toward abdicating Godly dominion by heeding the words of the serpent in the garden, *Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.*⁵

The appeal was that in eating the forbidden fruit they would become gods in their own right, deciding good and evil for themselves outside of the Creator's commandment. This was the original sin, and for this sin man lost his position of dominion under God, and Satan usurped his position as *the prince of this world*⁶. Ever since that time, God has been working to recover man from his sins, and to reveal Himself and His true character to all the earth. Until man is in his rightful place of dominion under God, the condition of the world will remain as the writer of Hebrews expressed it, *we see not yet all things put under him*.

One man, Jesus Christ the only begotten son of God, has fully walked in God's dominion mandate. Paul put it this way: *We see Jesus... That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*⁷ In another place it is said like this: *Giving thanks unto the Father, ... who hath translated us into the kingdom of his*

¹ Random House Dictionary, © Random House, Inc. 2010

² John 1:1

³ Psalm 8:4-6

⁴ Hebrews 2:6-9

⁵ Genesis 3:4-5

⁶ John 2:31; John 4:30; John 6:11

⁷ Philippians 2:8-11

*dear Son: ...who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: for by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: and he is before all things, and by him all things consist.*⁸

Jesus came as the perfect man that God desired when he created Adam. According to Genesis, Adam was created to be the son of God having dominion under God, but Adam fell from this position. He had no more right to God's dominion because he was no longer willingly subject to God. Yet even when they were still in the Garden, God promised that through Eve he would send a Deliverer⁹. So then, in the fullness of time, God sent Jesus *to destroy the works of the devil*¹⁰.

Now we can answer the question with which we started. What is dominion? Dominion in God's order must start within the heart and mind of each individual. The soul must be grieved with his sins. He must come to God in repentance¹¹ to be covered by the atonement of Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Then cleansed of his sins, he must reckon himself to be dead to sin¹², and like Jesus, forgive those who sin against him.¹³ Through this process he now re-replaces himself willingly under the authority of God his Creator. God's originally intended dominion order can only be obtained under God and according to his commandments as Jesus Christ has revealed to us the Father's nature and true character.

From this beginning, we then grow to affect our environment. Our promise is the same as God gave to Joshua when he led the children of Israel into the Promised Land, *Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you.*¹⁴ The degree to which we can affect our environment increases in proportion to our personal growth in subjection to God's dominion over our own lives. Dominion begins by our living as Jesus would in our homes and among our own family members. From there we yield ourselves to God's dominion order in our churches, our communities, our nation, and even beyond.

Apostle Paul described our growth in dominion order:

*For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time
are not worthy to be compared with the glory
which shall be revealed in us.
For the earnest expectation of the creature
waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God.*¹⁵

⁸ Colosians 1:12-20

⁹ Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

¹⁰ 1 John 3:8 For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

¹¹ Ezekiel 33:19 if the wicked turn from his wickedness, and do that which is lawful and right, he shall live thereby.

¹² Romans 6:11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

¹³ Matthew 6:14-15 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

¹⁴ Joshua 1:3

¹⁵ Romans 8:18-19

Womanhood - God's Gift

God created man in his own image, in the image of God created He him: male and female created He them. Genesis 1:27

The creation of Woman was not God's after-thought. The five-fold Dominion Blessing is directly preceded by our opening verse. The command to be fruitful and multiply, replenish the earth and subdue it, and to have dominion is to Man, both male and female. Genesis one shows us that it was God's original intent to create Man, male and female. In the second chapter, we see a distinction of roles in the dominion of God's kingdom. Genesis two gives us the picture of Adam's need not to be alone; so, God creates woman out of Adam's own flesh. Woman's role was to be an aide and a help to man. *All true authority is under authority, since God alone transcends all things and is the source of all power and authority. A colonel has authority because he is under a general, and his own authority grows as the power, prestige, and authority of those above him grow, and his unity with them of mind and purpose is assured. So, too, with the woman; her subordination is also her symbol of authority.*¹⁶

A major aspect of Dominion comes first in one's own home. It is said that no one can be a good leader unless he has first learned to follow. Jesus put it this way: *Whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant.*¹⁷ We will do little good in our church or our community unless we have peace in our homes. To have peace, each member must be in his proper place doing his proper duty. The duty of a Christian wife is to love, honor, and respect her husband and to order the household¹⁸ under him and under God.

In Ephesians five we are shown the husband/wife relationship as a representation of Christ's relationship with the Church. Women have the privilege of representing God's purpose for the Church by their marriage. The Church is to execute God's Word in the Earth; the wife is to execute her husband's word in the home. The Church is to know Christ in such way that it can teach His ways to the world. The wife should know her husband in such a way that she can order his household in his stead.

Many avenues are open to the dominion woman. Most of us are capable of far more than we accomplish. The enemy is always ready to steal our mental, physical, and spiritual energy for taking dominion in our realms of responsibility. We must learn to be alert to his devices and to resist his tactics.

First, each woman must gain a vision of the capacity which God created in her. This must be done individually, because, thank God, He has given us different abilities and varying degrees of capability. Recognizing her God-given responsibilities, a Christian wife may set goals for herself to increase her efficiency and fight the workings of Satan against her gaining dominion for God. A person in full dominion under God is one who reaches and maintains his full and growing capacity.

In I Timothy 5:14 young women are told that they should *marry, bear children, guide the house*¹⁹. The woman of Proverbs 31 reveals a wide range of dominion opportunities for women. Some of them are: providing good and suitable clothing for her family; preparing food with the

¹⁶ R. J. Rushdoony, *The Institutes of Biblical Law* (The Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1973, p. 347)

¹⁷ Matthew 20:27

¹⁸ Titus 2:4; Ephesians 5:33; I Timothy 5:14

¹⁹ *Guide the house* is one word in Greek, Strong's number 3616, *oikodespoteo*

Meaning: 1) to be master (or head) of a house 2) to rule a household, manage family affairs

fore-thought of a merchant ship gathering goods; making sure that each family member is well-nourished; possibly becoming involved in a business venture, such as buying a field and planting a vineyard in it, or selling wares to a merchant; reaching out to help the needy; taking care of herself and her own needs. She is certainly not idle.

Also in Proverbs 31, we find another thought. *Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land.* In ancient cities, all commerce and business was transacted at the city gates. The elders of each city sat at the gates judging and governing the city. The idea in this verse is that the husband of this type of woman can fully trust her at home with his business and farming affairs while he engages in business and public affairs at the city gates.

*In 17th century England, women were often in business, were highly competent managers, and were involved in the shipping trade, as insurance brokers, manufacturers, and the like.*²⁰ Women were often expected to take over business matters when their husbands had to be away on a long trip or at sea. It was with the revival of pagan humanistic philosophy, especially that of Plato, in the 18th century that women began to be regarded by men as less reasonable, less intelligent, and generally lesser creatures. The *Age of Reason* exalted male reason. Woman began to be regarded as emotional and irrational. Therefore, especially among the higher classes, women came to be regarded more and more as the property of their husbands, and that more for ornament than for service. This idea is antithetical to Biblical thought.

God created every human being to have responsibilities. The Bible makes clear the duties, privileges, and authority of women. Woman shares the Dominion Mandate with man. Her subjection to her husband doesn't give her less authority in her realm of responsibility; rather, her subjection proves her authority in her God-given place.

The dominion wife is one who takes every opportunity to influence her world for God and His Kingdom. She takes each detail of her responsibility and executes it with clear-mindedness and purpose. She realizes that as she is faithful in what seem to be small things, God will increase her ability and entrust to her greater responsibility. Whether she is washing the windows or training the toddler, she accomplishes the task to the best of her ability and for the glory of God²¹. As her mind is sharpened to execute her daily tasks efficiently and cheerfully²² she is able to take on responsibilities with a wider range of influence.

Her home is her first domain. She must remember that her husband and her home come first. Whatever else she undertakes, a business venture, a community project, or church work, must never overrule or replace her responsibilities in her home. If she loses that first domain, any other will be of little value.

Do not expect to gain this dominion overnight. *Precept upon precept, line upon line, precept upon precept, line upon line. Here a little, there a little.*²³ The dominion woman must set her heart and mind to do all that she does heartily unto the Lord. Nothing is too small to be placed under this dominion, because it is dominion under God. At first it may well seem overwhelming to expect this level of diligence from one's self. Remember the scripture, *line upon line.* In faith, it is truly amazing what diligence and time can accomplish.

²⁰R. J. Rushdoony, *The Institutes of Biblical Law* (The Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing Co., 1973, p. 349)

²¹ 1 Corinthians 10:31 whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.

²² Colossians 3:23-24 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

²³ Isaiah 28:9-11 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? ... For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: ... will he speak to this people.

The Battle for Dominion Begins in Prayer

Take warning. Satan does not give up his strongholds easily. Man gave up the dominion in the beginning, and Satan took all that Man lost. In order to take dominion or regain dominion for God in your home, you must be willing to give yourself to God in prayer.

The dominion woman must rise daily, before the rest of the household, to battle for the day's dominion. This point is neither to be disregarded nor to be taken lightly. It is the first rule of dominion. Without daily morning prayer, the enemy will not be fully conquered, and full dominion will never be reached. It is in prayer that a woman submits herself to God's authority. In prayer she stands against the usurpation of Satan. By prayer she seeks guidance, wisdom, and strength to accomplish her responsibilities efficiently. In prayer she seeks greater vision and the ability to accomplish God's work. It truly is the work of God for her to regain her world for God.

For His Kingdom's sake, let us take to the battlefield and pray!

Motherhood

Introduction:

When a society loses its respect for motherhood, it makes a mockery of motherhood's provision for future generations, and it loses its regard for the family. That society sees people no longer as individuals, but only as members of the corporate world body. This is an affront to God's order and his plan of government in the earth.

Susannah Wesley, John Wesley's mother, wrote to her husband in the early 1700's ...*As I am a woman, so I am also the mistress of a large family. Although the superior charge of the souls contained it lies upon you; yet in your absence, I cannot but look upon every soul you leave under my care as a talent committed to me under a trust by the Great Lord of all the families both of heaven and of earth. And if I am unfaithful to Him or to you in neglecting to improve these talents, how shall I answer unto Him, when He shall command me to render an account of my stewardship?*²⁴

I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house... 1 Timothy 5:14

Just as God planted within a young woman the desire for a husband, he also placed within her the desire to bear children. Although our society mocks and denies this innate desire, the truth aches within the heart of every woman who has submitted to its denial.

Children are a gift from God. They are the greatest blessing we will ever know in this life. As Susannah Wesley expressed to her husband, they are the greatest responsibility we will ever have. More than any other person, parents have the opportunity with their children to form them into faithful servants of God or reckless servants of hell.

Susannah Wesley saw her children as the talents of Jesus' parable²⁵. The talent was a piece of money. It was something that had worth when it was given to the servant. Each servant was expected to improve the good thing the master had given. This is an appropriate picture in which to place ourselves and our children. We have two choices. We may choose to supply our children with food, clothing, shelter and a little advice now and then until they reach the age at which they go out on their own. Or, we may painstakingly observe each of our children's strengths and weaknesses, praying and doing all within our ability to encourage the good and to overcome the faults within each child.

Children can and will be molded. Godly parents should see themselves as responsible for their children's development. Is there anyone who has excelled in any field without encouragement from another person? Parents are admonished to train their children. Training goes much deeper than good advice. It involves setting a goal and practicing daily, repeatedly, until that goal becomes second nature to the trainee. The Bible promises that if we train up a child in the way he should go, when he is old, he will not depart from it.²⁶ Why? Because he has been trained in it. The way he should go has become second nature to him. Is this degree of training really possible?

The truth is that parents are responsible either directly or indirectly for a child's behavior. Ideally, parents must not allow secular or immoral influences upon the child before he is

²⁴ The Journal of John Wesley, Moody Press, Chicago, IL 60610, p. 102

²⁵ Matthew 25:14-30

²⁶ Proverbs 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

sufficiently trained in righteousness. In the days before the internet and cell phones, this level of protection was more feasible. Today, our children cannot even ride down the highway without some immoral influence being perpetrated upon them. I do not advocate monastic seclusion for rearing our children. But we must remember that parents are accountable to God for the way they rear their children. Let us fear, as did Susannah Wesley, lest we neglect to improve these talents.

Motherhood Part I:

How can a young child who spends eight or nine hours daily in childcare be sufficiently trained in righteousness before he encounters secular or immoral influences? We see here the high priority of a mother to be at home with her young children. All children, especially pre-school children and babies, need large amounts of love, comfort, and security. Mother is the prime source of all three of these very strong basic necessities. If these things are supplied in abundance during childhood, we are less likely to produce unstable adults.

Christian parents must not allow a secular society to set their priorities. The woman's first priority is her children. As long as the husband/ father is able to work to provide the basic physical necessities of the family, mother is more needed at home than as a wage earner. There are many single mother households who have no choice in this matter, and God has much grace for the fatherless. I am speaking here to two parent homes where the father is physically able to work.

The mother must guide her toddler in socialization. Little children need constant training in unselfishness. As infants, children's survival instinct causes them to know only their own needs and desires. As the child matures into toddlerhood he must be taught respect for others. This training will take many years, but the dominion mother gives herself unselfishly to the task. Selfishness is the root of all sin. Training children to be unselfish is of supreme importance to produce adults of Godly character.

Take note: the mother must give herself unselfishly to the task of training her children in unselfishness. Although this may sound redundant, it is absolutely true that a teacher must possess the character trait that she teaches. If she doesn't, her teaching will be hypocritical and of little effect. Children will become what they see. If they see hypocrisy, they too will become hypocrites in their own way.

Selfishness is the crux of the matter. In the parable²⁷, the wicked and slothful servant *did* return the talent to his master. It was his selfishness and fearful pride that caused him not to improve what he was given. Parents are entrusted with something of much greater value than a piece of money. The lives and very souls of their children are at stake. The choice is clear. Do we live for ourselves and teach our children only at our convenience? Or, do we put away our own selfishness, loving God and serving people, so that by our example and training we may demand unselfishness from our children.

Let's return to Susannah Wesley's letter to her husband.
I cannot yet dismiss this subject. As self-will is the root of all sin and misery, so whatever cherishes this in children insures their after-wretchedness and irreligion; whatever checks and mortifies it promotes their future happiness and piety. This is still more evident if we further consider that religion is nothing else than doing the will of God and not our own; that the one

²⁷ Matthew 25:14-30

*grand impediment to our temporal and eternal happiness being this self-will, no indulgences of it can be trivial, no denial unprofitable. Heaven or Hell depends on this alone. So that the parent who studies to subdue it in his child works together with God in renewing and saving a soul. The parent who indulges it does the devil's work, makes religion impracticable, salvation unattainable; and does all that in him lies to damn his child, soul and body forever.*²⁸

Motherhood Part II

As a child matures he becomes more and more capable of bearing responsibility. Parents must be ever watchful from the earliest years to adulthood to know what each child is able to handle. It can be harmful to the child to ask too much of him, but it is more damaging to require too little of him. As we have said before, God created Man to have dominion, and dominion is responsibility. If we believe in God's dominion mandate, it is imperative that we train our children to live in dominion under God, too.

Parents must know their children. They must be well aware of each child's strengths and abilities, and also of his weaknesses and faults. They will use this knowledge to develop the good in each child and to teach each one to overcome his deficiencies. To succeed in this process takes selfless devotion on the part of the parents.

Training in responsibility may start as simply as teaching the toddler to pick up and put away the toy he has just thrown down. Requiring children to make their beds and to put away their own clothes is training in personal responsibility. Children also should be expected to help with household duties. Often a meticulous mother will neglect to require of her children household chores because she knows that the job will be done better and faster if she does it herself. This is a great mistake which she will bemoan later when her teenagers live like slobs and have no respect for all the work she does to keep up the house.

A person who has worked will have respect for the work of others. It does no harm for a boy to wash dishes or fold laundry. Later, he will know how to take care of himself, and if someday his wife does these chores, then he will appreciate her work.

Children must not be allowed to do their work in a sloppy manner. They must be taught to glorify God in all they do. Some children are naturally very neat and conscientious. Others must be trained day in and day out to do their work to the best of their ability. Do not give up. Your diligence in training your children will be rewarded. The Christian mother is called to dominion in her house and her children are subject to her. *It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth*²⁹.

The transition from childhood to adolescence often comes as a jolt to parents. Is the change really as sudden as it may appear? Many parents lose touch with their children during the nine to twelve year old stage. During that time the child has grown out of the cuteness of little children and has gained more independence. But, he still has not grown up to act or to reason on more mature levels. It is too easy for adults to overlook the developing personhood of this child.

So much is happening inside the pre-teen that cannot be seen and barely seems to be felt. The groundwork for parent-teen communication must be secured during the pre-teen years. Parents must be able to view their pre-teens as people and allow themselves to cultivate true friendships with them. It is not degrading for an adult to be the friend of a child; instead it is

²⁸ The Journal of John Wesley, Moody Press, Chicago, IL 60610, p. 106

²⁹ Lamentations 3:27

uplifting for the child. He will need your strength. He will need your experiential knowledge. He will need your confidence in him as a person. The parent/friend will benefit by building a friendship that will last a lifetime and may even sustain him in old age.

How does a parent go about establishing a friendship with his child? The answer is another question: how does one go about to establish a friendship with anyone? Any friendship begins with love. Love sees the other person for all he is and for all he can be. Parent and child must spend enjoyable time together, but true friendship is established by much deeper things than just going to ballgames. Open communication is primary to true friendship. Any child can see, or at least feel, when a parent is deceptive with him. A child who feels that his parents distrust him is not likely to trust his parents. Parents cannot hide their lifestyle from their children. If there is something in your life that you don't want your child to copy, get rid of it! The thing you hold on to is not worth the loss of your child's respect.

Every teenager needs a friend to confide in. When that friend is his parent; the emotions, conflicts, and choices that affect the pre-adult will cause him to develop into a confident and responsible man or woman. The foundation of love and friendship will remain a strength to him throughout adulthood.

May God give us the grace to be unselfish parents, training our children in God's righteousness and humbly ruling our households as God rules His.

In the Church – Where is the Dominion Woman?

On my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.
Acts 2:18

The Great Mystery

The Church is often called the Bride of Christ³⁰. This is the *great mystery*³¹, as Paul calls it, *concerning Christ and the Church*. The mystery is that as a woman has work appointed to her by her role as a wife, so the Church has work appointed to her as the Bride of Christ. As a wife, a woman has the privilege of representing the position and role of the Church³² in the earth. There is a great need for women to understand their place and to realize their responsibilities in the church.

I have said that the home and family responsibilities must be met and kept in order or else little good will be accomplished in other areas, but that is just the beginning. While every local church needs women for such roles as singers and musicians, teachers for various positions, program organizers, and office workers, the focus here is on the role of women in prayer and prophecy. These are two very powerful tools God has entrusted to women, as well as to men, in the church.

Prophecy

*Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts,
but rather that ye may prophesy.*
1 Corinthians 14:1

It shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy ... And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. Acts 2:16-18

These two passages prove that every member of the Church, i.e. every child of God, may prophesy. More than that, we are all exhorted to desire such a gift³³ that the whole church may benefit. We are even told to *covet to prophesy*³⁴. As an example, Philip the evangelist had four daughters who prophesied³⁵. The scripture is clear that women have a role in exercising the gift of prophecy in the church.

³⁰ Revelation 21:9

³¹ Ephesians 5:31-32 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

³² The word *Church* is capitalized when it refers to the whole Body of Christ in the earth. The non-capitalized word *church* refers to a local congregation of believers.

³³ 1 Corinthians 14:1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

³⁴ 1 Corinthians 14:39

³⁵ Acts 21:9

If the ability to prophesy is to be coveted, we must know exactly what it is. We are told that *the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy*.³⁶ Jesus said, *When he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will show you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.*³⁷ By these we know that true prophecy testifies of Jesus Christ and brings messages to the church from God's heart.

*He that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.*³⁸ Let's take these one by one. To edify is to build or to establish, so prophecy is for the purpose of spiritually building up or establishing the church. To exhort is defined as to give warnings or advice or to make urgent appeals. Therefore, prophecy may be an urgent warning or advice from God. Comfort here is associated with consolation which is alleviation of grief or sense of loss. Prophecy may bring a word of comfort to a grieving church.

We will look at one more passage to see what true prophecy can be. *If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, ... if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth.*³⁹ Prophecy can reveal the secrets of a person's heart to show him how personally God cares for him.

Surely there is much more that could be said about prophecy. The idea to be emphasized is that true prophecy is a message from the heart of God through a human mouthpiece to His people. The message itself can take on many different forms, but always emanates from God, not from any calculated personal motive of the speaker.

Prayer and a Coal from off the Altar

Prophecy and true prayer are very similar. One can only prophesy what God has revealed in the prayer closet⁴⁰ which is our entrance to God's throne room⁴¹. If we desire to prophesy, we must give ourselves to prayer-closet prayer.

The prophet Isaiah had a vision in which he was touched on the mouth with a coal from God's altar⁴². The significance of this vision is profound. The priests of old were strictly charged to keep the fire on the Altar of Sacrifice burning continually. It was never to go out⁴³. The priests were to use coals from the Altar of Sacrifice to light the incense inside their censers⁴⁴. Once a year on the Day of Atonement, the high priest entered into the Holy of Holies behind the veil. He carried incense and a censer holding the coals of the sacrifice. Inside the veil, he sprinkled incense on the coals producing a fragrant smokescreen between himself and

³⁶ Revelation 19:10

³⁷ John 16:13-14

³⁸ 1 Corinthians 14:3

³⁹ 1 Corinthians 14:23-25

⁴⁰ Matthew 6:6 When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

⁴¹ Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

⁴² Isaiah 6:6-7

⁴³ Leviticus 6:13

⁴⁴ Leviticus 16:12

the Mercy Seat of God. The Book of Revelation refers to this smoke and tells us that it is the prayers of the saints⁴⁵.

In his vision, Isaiah's mouth seems to be like the censer to offer holy prayers to God. Peter called the Church a royal priesthood⁴⁶. In doing so, he ordains the Church to Isaiah's kind of prayer. Our prayers must be according to the will of God revealed from the heart of God. Then our prayers become a sweet smelling savor⁴⁷ to God. They will be just what he was waiting to hear from us for God's will to be done on earth as it is in heaven⁴⁸.

Aaron the first high priest had two sons, Nadab and Abihu. These men, also being priests of God, came one day to offer incense to God⁴⁹. The coals on which they burned the incense were called *strange fire*. Nadab and Abihu brought coals that were not consecrated on the Altar of Sacrifice. Coals from any other source were not acceptable to God. It is not a light thing to offer unholy prayers to God. Our prayers must not originate from selfish desires or any other source but the revealed heart of God.

The Biblical prophets called the knowledge and understanding of God's will *the burden of God*. The incense is the burden of God. This burden is ignited by the embers left after the sacrifice is offered on the altar. The live coals are found in the ashes of sacrifice. God's altar fire never went out. We, as the censer, may contain the knowledge of the will of God; but only after laying ourselves in living sacrifice⁵⁰ on his altar shall we find the live coals of God's fire to ignite the burden. Then shall the sweet smelling smoke arise to minister to God.

This is how it works. God desires a certain work to be accomplished. Man sees what God wants and in sacrifice lays down his own life, i.e. his own cares and desires, to pray and to work toward that goal. The coals of sacrifice join with the knowledge of God's will. The smoke of prayer rises to God's throne. God's heart is moved, and his work is carried out. This is what the old timers called *praying through*. We pray until God's heart is moved. Then we know that he will bring to pass that for which we pray.

A Royal Priesthood

Quoting from Exodus⁵¹, Peter called the Church *a royal priesthood*⁵². It is God's desire that all of his people be priests unto him. A priest is one who ministers to God and one who ministers the essence of God to the people. The Levitical priesthood represented in the flesh what God wants in spirit from every believer. The priests of old ministered to God behind the veil in the Holy of Holies, and they ministered God's word to people outside the veil. Peter tells us that we the Church are a royal priesthood, so the Church is God's witness to the world to shed the light of the gospel into the hearts of men. The Church must also burn the holy incense of

⁴⁵ Revelation 8:3-5

⁴⁶ 1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light

⁴⁷ 2 Corinthians 2:15 For we are unto God a sweet savour of Christ,

⁴⁸ Matthew 6:9-10 After this manner therefore pray ye: ... Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

⁴⁹ Leviticus 10

⁵⁰ Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

⁵¹ Exodus 19:5-6 Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: 6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

⁵² 1 Peter 2:9

prayer upon fire from the Altar of Sacrifice lifting holy prayers to God's throne. This is the two-fold call of priesthood: to minister to God by praying according to his will, and to minister God's word to the people.

As the Bride of Christ, let us be about his business.

The Dominion Woman in her Community

*She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy.*⁵³

Outside our homes is a world of needs. The peace that the dominion woman enjoys in her home must be shared with others. The community in which you live is also your domain. It is a shared domain and you have your part to do in it. Stretch out, therefore, your hands to the needy.

King Solomon said, “*Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.*”⁵⁴ The virtuous woman Solomon describes, not only keeps her own household in order, but she looks for ways to help others. She lives by God’s commandment; *Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*⁵⁵ We may not choose to love one and not another. Respecting one person over another⁵⁶ is forbidden to the Christian.

Once a man asked Jesus, “*Who is my neighbor?*” Jesus replied with the parable of The Good Samaritan⁵⁷. *A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, which stripped him of his raiment, and wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. [Two men came by, but ignored the man’s plight and passed on]...A certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was: and when he saw him, he had compassion on him, and went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the morrow when he departed, he took out two pence, and gave them to the host, and said unto him, Take care of him; and whatsoever thou spendest more, when I come again, I will repay thee.*

Which now of these three, thinkest thou, was neighbour unto him that fell among the thieves? He said, He that shewed mercy on him. Then said Jesus unto him, Go, and do thou likewise. The neighbor whom we must love is anyone who is in need.

Abigail in the Bible is an example of a wise and virtuous woman⁵⁸. In her case the poor and needy were David and his men who were hiding from King Saul. Abigail’s husband refused to send food to David and his men who had protected her husband’s sheep for months. So, Abigail loaded up the donkeys and took food to David and his men. By this act she saved her whole household from the destruction determined by David; and she gained favor with David to become his wife after the death of her husband.

Let’s take the idea of caring for the poor much further.

*Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy. Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked.*⁵⁹

*If thou forbear to deliver them that are drawn unto death, and those that are ready to be slain; if thou sayest, Behold, we knew it not; doth not he that pondereth the heart consider it? and he that keepeth thy soul, doth not he know it? and shall not he render to every man according to his works?*⁶⁰

⁵³ Proverbs 31:20

⁵⁴ Proverbs 31:10

⁵⁵ Leviticus 19:18; Matthew 22:39

⁵⁶ James 2:8-9 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: 9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

⁵⁷ Luke 10:29-37

⁵⁸ I Samuel 25

⁵⁹ Psalm 82:3-4

⁶⁰ Proverbs 24:11-12

The poor and needy are not only those who have little money. The poor and needy is any innocent victim of oppression. It is the duty of every person to protect the innocent. These verses show that when wickedness prevails and the innocent are being harmed, those who turn their heads away are worthy of the judgment of God. We must do all that is in our power to stop injustice. It is our duty to make their voices heard.

The community expands into the nation. The work of dominion must assume a political nature. We must *deliver them that are drawn unto death*. Who, you say, is drawn unto death? The most innocent of the human race is committed to death daily in our nation, as well as around the globe. The unborn has not even taken his first breath, yet the laws of our land allow for his murder. Your tax dollars are again paying the executioners and funding massive abortion complexes both in our own land and abroad. And there are others who must be released *out of the hand of the wicked*. The scripture calls us to defend all who are unjustly oppressed.

Whenever a nation rejects Biblical values as the foundation of civil government, the people become oppressed, and innocent individuals are persecuted. A nation will be blessed with liberty, peace, and prosperity that will hold the Biblical standard as the highest law of the land. In that nation individuals can make their furthest appeal to God's justice. *Behold, I have taught you statutes and judgments... Keep therefore and do them; for this is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the nations, which shall hear all these statutes, and say, Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people. For what nation is there so great, who hath God so nigh unto them, as the LORD our God is in all things that we call upon him for? And what nation is there so great, that hath statutes and judgments so righteous as all this law, which I set before you this day?*⁶¹

Christians can and should band together in community efforts to forbid immorality and to resist unjust infringement by government. This work begins with a mother diligently training her children in the moral principles and justice of God's word. It expands to the classroom where the proofs of God's moral justice can be explored. The key to using the tools available to us lies first in education ourselves in God's standard of justice found in his commandments and statutes. Then we may see the foundation of our early laws and that the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights are laid in Biblical values. It is our duty toward God, as well as to our fellow man, that we diligently pursue this self-education.

A powerful tool in the United States for its citizens is the jury. In The Bill of Rights Article Seven, every citizen is assured of the right to a jury trial. A jury of common citizens has the right and privilege to decide not only the guilt of a defendant, but the jury may declare a law to be unconstitutional or unjust. Yes, a jury may invalidate a law! In the hands of Godly, informed citizens the jury can be a formidable medium against ungodly laws. As a Christian, one should not be indifferent when called for jury duty. The jury duty is a great ministry to guard the freedoms of our people.

Many Christians today are involved in various efforts to preserve Godly morals in their communities. They have organized to protest abortion and pornography and to oppose same-sex marriage. Christian parents attend school board meetings; some run for school board positions to guard our children's education. Growing numbers of Christian families are choosing Christian schools or home school for their children. Across the United States men and women are feeling called of God to run for public office. Letters to the editors of local newspapers are used as a means to re-teach Christian principles to our communities.

⁶¹ Deuteronomy 4:5-8

What is the purpose of these efforts? Have not the wickedness, perversion, and sin of our nation come up before the throne of Almighty God? Is not the judgment of God poised against this nation's wickedness? Indeed it is, and to what end? The purpose of God's judgment is to bring repentance. *We are sure that the judgment of God is according to truth against them which commit such things ... Despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?*⁶² It is our duty to call all men to repentance and to do all we can to turn the nation to righteousness.

Hear the word of the prophets. *Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.*⁶³ God will repent of the judgment due when we repent of our sins. *If so be they will hearken, and turn every man from his evil way, that I may repent me of the evil, which I purpose to do unto them because of the evil of their doings*⁶⁴.

The perversion and rampant sin that we see daily in this nation has not come about in just one generation. As a nation, the sins of our great-great grandparents and each generation following them are gathering to fill God's cup of indignation⁶⁵ in our day. We must each rigorously search our own lives and honestly repent of our own sins, bringing restitution to those we have wronged where possible. Also, we are responsible to acknowledge the sins of our parents and forefathers, both natural and national. In prayer we may confess and repent for their sins as did Daniel⁶⁶ and Nehemiah⁶⁷.

We need a nationwide revival in the spirit of the Great Awakening of 1740-42. At that time God prepared the American colonies for the work of acquiring independence from an oppressive king by stirring the hearts of many in repentance and faith. God shall again prepare a people in repentance and faith for the work of freeing the land from oppression.

Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly: Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say,

Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them. Wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.⁶⁸

The dominion call extends past our homes. The whole world beyond needs our hands of care. If we think to be satisfied within the safety of our homes, we deceive ourselves. Alone safety does not exist. We must bravely go beyond our homes to places where we are needed and bring them help.

⁶² Romans 2:2-4

⁶³ Joel 2:12-13

⁶⁴ Jeremiah 26:3

⁶⁵ Genesis 15:16 But in the fourth generation they shall come hither again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full.

Revelation 14:10 cup of his indignation

⁶⁶ Daniel 9:3-19

⁶⁷ Nehemiah 1:5-11

⁶⁸ Joel 2:15-18

Conclusion

A wealthy household on a sprawling estate employs many servants. Among them is a girl who works as a maid. She hears a knock at the door and opens to greet an important-looking man on the front step. The little maid has the authority to let the man in or to turn him away according to the will of the householder. Whatever this girl tells the man, he must do. Because she is under authority and in her rightful place, she bears the full authority of the head of that wealthy household.

Every man, woman, and child has the same authority that belongs to the maid. Each in his rightful place carries the full authority of the Creator within his own domain.

This authority of which we speak is dominion. God has put Man, male and female, in the earth to have dominion in it. If we are in our proper place in God's order, even demons must obey us. Our actions are not our own, but his that sent us. Under God we have authority over all things, and as the psalmist, we are inspired to cry out, "*What is man, that thou art mindful of him?*"⁶⁹

Our own lives and our families, our communities, and our nation are in serious trouble. Yet we are not without a lifeline. The Great Creator has offered us hope from the beginning. The hope starts in our own hearts as we learn to love and obey God and to love our fellowman. Only unselfish love can fulfill God's Dominion Mandate.

In repentance let us all send up this cry to heaven, "*Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them.*" God will hear. The Logos-Word by which he created all things shall fill all the earth. *The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.*⁷⁰ God desires his kingdom to fill the earth. It is not his will that men be persecuted and oppressed by antichrist powers. Yes, we are warned that the spirit of antichrist will *wear out the saints*,⁷¹ but the very next verses promise that the saints will *take away* antichrist's dominion. Then, *the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.*⁷²

Our outlook is not one of defeat. Our motivating hope is that God will empower a holy people by his Spirit to overcome the spirit of antichrist. They will overcome him personally by fully yielding to the dominion of the Creator. They will overcome antichrist oppression in the lives of others by compassionate deeds laying down their own lives and following their Savior. They will overcome antichrist nationally in restoring justice by Biblical values. These are a people living by the Dominion Covenant with God.

It is a woman's place to take her authority under God and affect this world for God. Her sphere of influence grows as she is found faithful in each domain that God has given her. She must give herself fully to the work, realizing that the work is only hers as God's ambassador. The goal toward which we aim is that God's kingdom will fully come in our own hearts and lives and that his kingdom will spread to include our families, our communities, our nation and finally fill the whole earth.

⁶⁹ Psalm 8:4

⁷⁰ Revelation 11:15 This prophecy shows God's plan for the kingdoms of this world.

⁷¹ Daniel 7:25

⁷² Daniel 7:26-27

*And the LORD said ...As truly as I live,
all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.⁷³*

*Let us therefore fear, lest,
a promise being left us of entering into his rest,
any of you should seem to come short of it.
Hebrews 4:1*

⁷³ Numbers 14:20-21

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