

Father, this morning we just want to thank You. We are standing here at the final day of this fourth month and we are here only because of You—it was not because any one of us were better than the people who are lying in the ICU or who have already died, it was Your mercy and Your purpose alone. Either we are sinners to whom You are extending life or we are saints whose purpose is not yet complete. That's the only reason we are alive and well – not because any one of us is better than the ones who have gone ahead. I pray we will value life, we will value every day that You add to our lives because it's a gift from God to the deserving and the undeserving that we will redeem our time for the days are truly evil, nobody has to tell us anymore that the days are evil. And I pray Lord—young and old—we will redeem our time, we will walk circumspectly for there is an enemy who roars, who looks for somebody he can devour and so many have already been eaten away by him but his appetite is whetted only for more. Hell has enlarged itself is what Your Word says, hell has a capacity like nothing else, so has Heaven. Therefore, we stand, therefore we pray, therefore we preach, therefore we proclaim Your Gospel, for the Gospel is always the power of God unto salvation. And we lift Jesus up, we glorify the name of Jesus, we magnify the name of Jesus because there is no other name under Heaven given by which men can be saved. So we are not ashamed to proclaim Your name, we are not ashamed to proclaim Your Gospel and we will say with Your servant, "Woe unto us if we do not declare Your Gospel for we are both constrained by the terror of the Lord and the love of God," O Father, to preach Your Word. Speak to us through this day, cause us to hunger after You, Lord. We hunger after so many things—it's not that we do not have hunger; it is that we hunger after other things—today, I pray, cause us to hunger after You, for You are the One who satisfies our soul. We have eaten so much of the world; we are still hungry, we have drunk so much of the world; we are still thirsty but You said that those who drink of the water, You give, will thirst no more. Let the river flow! It can only flow from one place—it is not from behind the pulpit; it's from the throne room of God, the river flows from the throne room of God and I pray Lord today, let it flow from there. Let the anointing flow, let the anointing touch Your people—wherever, whichever part of the world they are, the anointing can reach them, anointing can touch them, anointing can set captives free, even today. Speak to us, Lord. For in Jesus' name we pray, Amen!

We will go to *Psalms 80* and we will read from verse 9-18.

Psalms 80:1-19

¹Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock; You who dwell between the cherubim, shine forth! ²Before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, Stir up Your strength, And come and save us! ³Restore us, O God; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved! ⁴O Lord God of hosts, How long will You be angry Against the prayer of Your people? ⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears, And given them tears to drink in great measure. ⁶You have made us a strife to our neighbors, And our enemies laugh among themselves. ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved! ⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt; You have cast out the nations, and planted it. ⁹You prepared room for it, And caused it to take deep root, And it filled the land. The hills were covered with its shadow, And the mighty cedars with its boughs. ¹¹She sent out her boughs to the Sea, And her branches to the River. ¹²Why have You broken down her hedges, So that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit? ¹³The boar out of the woods uproots it, And the wild beast of the field devours it. ¹⁴Return, we beseech You, O God of hosts; Look down from heaven and see, And visit this vine ¹⁵And the vineyard which Your right hand has planted, And the branch that You made strong for Yourself. ¹⁶It is burned with fire, it is cut down; They perish at the rebuke of Your countenance. ¹⁷Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself. ¹⁸Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name. ¹⁹Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!

Cry for Israel is the cry for the Church now. The Church is in crisis and if you do not see it, either you are blind or you are not in the Church—I am not talking about GTC, I am talking about the Church of God. It looks as if God has taken His hand away. The Church is gasping for breath everywhere and all around the world the Church thinks the days are numbered and the Lord is coming. Everywhere the churches that are spiritually aware are preparing for the coming of the Lord which I do not know—it's not our job to set a time and a date but the cry is "Revive us! Restore us!"

So, first we have to look at the state of the church; not the state of the union, it's the state of the church. Why is the church like this? What has happened?

Psalm 80 can be a story of a person, of a family, a church or a nation. *Psalm 80* is the history of Israel. God had planted her, drove out the nations and planted her and as long as she obeyed Him, He prospered her but when Israel turned away from Him to other gods and became corrupt, God took His hand away. In the same way, God drove out all the powers of darkness in us and planted His seed in us—the Word of truth that saved us. And He planted us, He prospered us in our souls—don't look at outside; look inside, that is true prosperity—He prospered us but then when we started turning away and started looking at all the things in the world, pursuing other gods, you know what happens? We start moving into trouble.

So, there is this cry! Now the enemies are laughing at them, the enemies are mocking them, they have no protection.

In verse 12, why does this happen?

"¹² Why have You broken down her hedges, So that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit?"

You see when God plants a person—God is a gardener, one of the images of God we have and Jesus Himself puts across in *John 15* and when you go down the road you will always see there are few patches where still some sowing is taking place but when they do, one of the first things they do is that they fix the fence. I have always seen them; the laborers come and they fix the fence so that the animals don't break in and finish the crop that is planted. So, God doesn't plant His seed and leave you like that. When He plants His seed, He puts a hedge around us. It is something which God does. What is a Hedge? Hedge is a wall of protection. God puts a hedge around a nation, God puts a hedge around a family, God puts a hedge around a church, God puts a hedge around a person, because God is a gardener and His seed is very precious. The seed that He plants in a family, in a church, or a nation is the very life of His Son! It's very precious! It is His Spirit and ultimately your spirit determines who you are and whose you are, that is why when you are saved you are given the Holy Spirit and He puts a hedge around it.

But in this case, you will see when Israel went after other gods, you know what? God broke down their hedge. Very rarely do you see out in the world a farmer breaking his own hedge. He broke the hedge so that all who pass by the way pluck her fruit. Meaning: the labor of the child of God, he never profits from it; your hard work somebody takes it away, like Haggai says, "You work and work, you make money but your bags have holes in it," it's always taken away by other people, other families, other nations. You slog and you slog and say, "Lord, what is happening over here?" God says, "I took your hedge away."

So, we have to first diagnose before we can have a solution, okay, church needs to look at it, we need to examine ourselves, it's a personal examination. If I don't rebuild, I will be destroyed. Right now, they are only laughing, plucking the fruit but one day they will run over. That's what happened to Jerusalem; Jerusalem was run over by the gentiles and they had to wait like hundreds and hundreds of years, it's only like 70-80 years ago they came back because He allowed that nation to be over run. Generations passed away without ever seeing their homeland, they died and lived like aliens and exiles in the ends of the earth.

In *Job 1:10*, we see God placing a hedge around a family; a person and his household.

Job 1:10

¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge around him, around his household, and around all that he has on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

Here is man and here is his family and God planted him and put a hedge around him and blessed him inside. So, you know what? He is eating the fruit of his labor; it is not being stolen. What is the reason? The reason is *Job 1:1*.

Job 1:1

¹ There was a man in the land of Uz, whose name was Job; and that man was blameless and upright, and one who feared God and shunned evil.

He did not have any idols in his heart, he did not run after the world; he ran after God, he was a fearful man, he was a blameless man, he was an upright man. It's not saying he was a perfect man—none of us will be perfect until Jesus comes but we can walk with God blamelessly one day at a time without blame. We have more chance of walking

blameless before God than Job because Job did not have access to the throne room of grace, Job did not have the blood of Jesus, Job did not have an advocate in heaven contending for his soul; we have! Therefore, if we allow the Holy Spirit to convict us, allow the Holy Spirit to speak to us and run to the throne and allow the blood of Jesus to cleanse us, we can walk blameless with God. So, he was blameless, upright, he feared God, shunned evil. You know what God did? God put a hedge around him and his home and he prospered. Therefore, Satan cannot touch him until God allows. Now God takes the hedge off, He didn't break the hedge off; He just took the hedge off for him to be tested, proved to Satan that this man can be tested, he will worship for nothing.

The question God asks is – Can you worship God for nothing? Just for salvation alone? You know, I always say – You don't have to do one more thing for me, what You did for me 2000 years ago on the cross is enough! You don't need to do one more thing for me to worship You, one more thing to praise You, one more thing to thank You. In eternity we will realize that one thing God did for us on the cross; all of eternity we will thank God. And we know what it is, what it really is.

In this case, God removes the hedge to test the man; in Israel's case, God broke it down, it was to discipline them. Third case,

Hosea 2:6-7

***⁶ "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns, And wall her in, So that she cannot find her paths.
⁷ She will chase her lovers, But not overtake them; Yes, she will seek them, but not find them. Then she will say, 'I will go and return to my first husband, For then it was better for me than now.'***

The implication is: you are a child of God and you are running after the world, you don't want to obey His call, you don't want to walk with Him. You know what He says? "I will frustrate you in everything you try, I will frustrate you." I know how He frustrated me. Nobody is so excited when the call of God comes unless you are a prosperity preacher—because you know what it costs you, what it will demand, what you will have to face – everybody is in some way or the other way a little bit of Jonah, will run in the other way. But what God says about His children is that, "I will frustrate you," and those who do not have call of God, per se like that, but He says, "You are My child and if you are running in the way of sin, you know, I will frustrate you, I will put thorny hedges on the way," verse 6,

⁶ "Therefore, behold, I will hedge up your way with thorns,"

Not ordinary thorns. You know that pineapple—when we were in grandfather's farm. during our childhood, all the edges were planted with pineapples. You know how pineapple is – the hedge was of pineapple; it has thorns so no cow or goat will get over it. We didn't use fencing and all, we planted pineapples all around the edge that if you try to cross over, you cross over at your own risk. God says, "I will do that, you are My child!" thorny hedge that when you sin, it will hurt you, it will cost you; you will not get away like the world does, they will get away but you won't get away, it will hurt you, it will cost you. Why? So that she cannot find her paths.

He is hedging us. Sometime, it is just to protect us; it's not that you need to be a sinner per se—you could be a righteous man too, when God gave a man like Apostle Paul a thorn in his flesh so that he wouldn't go in the way of the sinners. What would be his sin? Pride! "Because of the exceedingly great revelations you have received and you are the one who came last, born out of time and I don't want you to look down upon others who have come before your time. So, you know what – I am going to hedge your way with a thorn, it will be in your flesh so that you do not go in the way of the sinners," and the greatest sin and the greatest sinner is the devil.

Ecclesiastes 10:8

⁸He who digs a pit will fall into it, And whoever breaks through a wall will be bitten by a serpent.

You break through the hedge; remember there is a devourer, an enemy, waiting. You break through the hedge; the enemy will bite you but if you are within the hedge, even if the enemy bites you, the enemy dies, you don't – remember, what happened in the island of Malta to Paul, he was within the hedge; the enemy bit him and he shook the snake into the fire and the serpent died, Paul didn't. So, God is teaching us spiritual principle: if you break the

hedge; the enemy will get you, you have to stay within the boundaries God has set. Stay! There is safety there, there is protection there, don't break that hedge.

So, in Psalm 80, verse 12, it says God has broken its hedges. Why has God broken it down? It's judgment!

Isaiah 5:5

⁵And now, please let Me tell you what I will do to My vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it shall be burned; And break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down.

In Job's case, it was not judgment, it was testing, but in many cases He takes it off until we learn—like they say, *"The best teacher is experience."* One good solid whacking is better than two hours of counseling. The lessons I learned from my father's assistant—that was the cane, it's very difficult to forget them. He used to have a statement, "When I spank you, you will see fireflies during the daytime."

God removes His protection to awaken us. One of the fundamental things He has to teach His children is—Jesus taught in that illustration about the wine and the gardener in the verse 4 and 5...

John 15:4-5

⁴Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. ⁵"I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.

One of the fundamental lessons God has to teach His children the hard way is that without Him you can do nothing and even if you do nothing, somebody will take it away; it will be total loss for His children. One of the lessons why He takes it away is to teach—because what happens to a church, what happens to an individual or a family, or a nation when they start becoming prosperous? They start becoming independent of God – it can be prosperity in anything. You know, in America, the leftists look down on the people in the countryside because they are basically class 10 and class 12 pass, while all the graduates say they are atheists, they don't believe anymore, while the simple ones in the countryside, they stick to their families, they stick to their God, they stick to their church, generally speaking—I mean you have to see the videos of my friends and all over there. They are cute – they have their church, they have their families, they will not leave their God and fellowship but the rest of the country looks down upon them but if you look at their educational level, you will see they are so much below the rest of the country.

See, what happens to young people is that, when they start getting educated, pride gets in, they get snooty because the Gospel is preached to the poor, it's not easy to remember poor in the spirit all the time—how can you be intellectually great and poor in the spirit at the same time? You can be! Understand, you can be, but it's a fight.

So, what happens over here is, God removes your hedge and we have to learn that without God, we can do nothing. So the simple thing is that, if we want revival, restoration, the way is we have to start building the hedges back – first, as an individual because most of the people sitting here are unmarried, we build hedges around our life, we build hedges around our homes, we build hedges around the church, we cannot build hedges around the nation because there is no nation like that anymore but if the churches build hedges, then ultimately the churches will have effect on a nation.

Ezekiel 22:30,

³⁰ So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.

God says that it only takes one. All God's work has begun with one man. So even though we may have 30 people in our home, all it takes is one person. One person stands up before God and says – "You know what, change begins with me. I am willing to stand in the gap. Yes, these are all my brethren, we all came from so many places, we all lived together, we have grown together but I see nobody is interested; but Lord, I am interested, I will stand in the gap." One person; everywhere, it's just one person. In a church revival, one person. Nobody has to see, only God has to see. You are standing in the gap before God and not before man.

Psalm 106:23, this is talking about the six hundred thousand men and women.

Psalm 106:23

²³ Therefore He said that He would destroy them, Had not Moses His chosen one stood before Him in the breach, To turn away His wrath, lest He destroy them.

One man stood in the gap for six hundred thousand; two million people/1.2 million people owed their lives to one man because one man stood in the gap and turned away the wrath of God. So, how do you begin revival? How do you begin restoration? And you see the walls are down, you see the enemy coming and eating away your home, your life, your family, your nation, your church – God is always looking all around, one person who is moved, one person who is burdened, one person who will stand up. If you look into our church, GTC Hyderabad, nobody is afflicted by COVID but every day we pray for COVID patients; we are standing in the gap for people whom we do not even know and people are getting healed. We are either preaching through the pulpit or sending them recorded prayers – why are we doing it? Because God says that He is looking for one man who will stand between the living and the dead so the plague may stop.

These are not natural thing, these are unnatural things, these are demonic things and you need to stand up before God and say, “These people are not just going to die on my watch.” He looks for one man and you know, every man who is saved has the same power and authority to stop the plague because if the Spirit of God is in you, the same Spirit gives you the authority because one day God is going come and ask all of us, “What did you do with My Spirit? This is the Spirit that created everything, this is the Spirit that raised Jesus up from the dead, this is the Spirit that upholds everything, and I put that same Spirit in you – what did you do?” He comes and asks accounts! We do not see because we do not try. Moses stood in the gap and turned away the wrath of God and God is looking for people who will stand in the gap. Every day when I pray, when Ma prays, people are praying – “Let the pastors not die!” This is an incredible opportunity for men and women and children of God. Let them go forth, let them lay hands on the sick, let them not be afraid, let them say – as this pandemic is sweeping across India—India is the worst affected nation on earth. Yesterday, America has put India on category 4, you know what category 4 is? It’s like a storm, meaning – nobody should travel to India, asking American citizens to evacuate India.

People are dying like flies – the question is: what are the Christians doing?! What is the Church doing?! Stand up in the gap! Lord, my nation will not perish, have mercy Lord! These people do not know, these people are like the people of Nineveh; they do not know their right hand from their left hand. God was mad at Jonah because these people do not know their right hand from their left hand and he is so mad that these people repented. And the people of India do not know their left hand from their right hand. God prepared us all these years, that is the whole idea—teaching-preparing, teaching-preparing, so when the day and hour comes, when the day of evil comes, we stand. After having done everything we still stand. And the question you need to ask is – the day of evil has come upon my nation, am I standing? Am I fallen or am I asleep? The day of evil has come upon USA, the question the church has to ask is: Am I standing? Have I fallen? Have I gone into depression? Have I fallen asleep? Or are we like Jonah; gone into the depths of the boat and fallen asleep and the storm is going to wreck the whole ship off. The only man who knows God, only man who knows the solution to the problem is fast asleep, and sometimes I feel the church is fast asleep. They have solution because Christ is the solution and only the church has Christ, but the problem is, are we awake?! Are we asleep?!

God builds a hedge through a man or a woman who stands in the gap and intercedes and intercession is one of the most powerful ministries of the Church. God doesn’t need everybody to preach but God needs everybody to pray. There is no great glory in intercession until the day of revelation in that day, then God will show the intercessors on earth. Nobody sees intercessors but God sees and hears. When Moses was standing before God, Israel did not see him, Israel did not hear him but God heard him and God told Moses, “Write down these words,” otherwise generations would not have known, and if the generations have perished, it is simply because when God looked down, He found no man.

Ezekiel 13:8

⁸ Therefore thus says the Lord God: “Because you have spoken nonsense and envisioned lies, therefore I am indeed against you,” says the Lord God.

God builds a hedge through the preaching of the Word of God. This hedge is spiritual. It is built brick by brick, brick by brick. You hear the word of God, you obey the Word of God – but you need to be very sure that what you hear is the Word of God and it is true, otherwise you will build the wall which the enemy knocks over.

Ezekiel 13:9-12

⁹ “My hand will be against the prophets who envision futility and who divine lies; they shall not be in the assembly of My people, nor be written in the record of the house of Israel, nor shall they enter into the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the Lord God. ¹⁰ “Because, indeed, because they have seduced My people, saying, ‘Peace!’ when there is no peace—and one builds a wall, and they plaster it with untempered mortar—

Think about it—just for you to understand what it is: get cement, get sand, get bricks. Mix it nicely and just put little cement and sand and keep all the bricks over there and you don’t put any water in the cement—it looks good but don’t lean on it and on all the walls you have to write: “Statutory Warning!” “Don’t lean; Don’t touch,” and what is the wall for? That’s what He is saying - ***say to those who plaster it with untempered mortar, that it will fall.***”

¹¹ say to those who plaster it with untempered mortar, that it will fall. There will be flooding rain, and you, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall tear it down.

¹² Surely, when the wall has fallen, will it not be said to you, ‘Where is the mortar with which you plastered it?’

Where is the word that you heard? Was it the truth because the truth can stand any storm. That’s why God allows His children to go through trials and testing to show to you, to prove to you what you have heard, what you have believed and obeyed is the truth because the truth can withstand anything that comes, anything: sickness, epidemic, flood, famine, anything, it can withstand. Because like I saying if the Christ in you is true and if you allow Him to magnify in your life, Christ takes His Church to triumph in every place and every time, Christ has never lost a battle; He is a Man of war. We live our life; we will lose, He lives His life in us; we will never lose if any calamity comes and we will be actually able to say, “For me to live or die is gain, there is no loss. Heads I win; tails you lose” you tell the devil. You want to gamble, we will gamble but this is my coin – Heads I win; tails you lose, I cannot lose because Christ cannot lose.

How do we build a wall? We build the wall by hearing the Word of God, by the preaching of the word and that’s why Ezekiel is sent to preach. There are false prophets who will tell you tickling things but where are they all gone now? Somebody sent me a forward from one of my college groups with the picture of all the big-time prosperity preachers asking, “If you find any one of these people, please report them to the nearest police station.” It is a joke. Meaning – in this time of calamity, people are dying like flies and these people have disappeared. Where are they? This is the time you should be standing up and giving them a Word of hope: God has not left you, go like Gideon. God has not forsaken you; God never forsakes. He will deliver you for discipline but He never forsakes His children, He will be with them in trial and sorrow, in sickness and death. If your marriage covenant is so powerful, how much greater is the covenant God has made through His Son with His blood?! The marriage covenant is only until death to part but God’s covenant is even after death, forever! It is what He says, “The Holy Spirit I give you will be with you forever,” even death cannot separate it because it is He who takes you to the other side. And this is time of hope, this is the time of strength because we have been tested and God is saying, “Have you looked at the wall?”

Psalm 80:17-18

¹⁷ Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand, Upon the son of man whom You made strong for Yourself.

¹⁸ Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name.

This is why our church—there are great other churches, plenty, wonderful churches are there—I am talking about our church GTC, when we began GTC, God gave us a word to build it on, it was the promise: “Christ Jesus shall have preeminence in all things.” When Christ Jesus has preeminence in our lives, the Christ in me, the Christ in you is growing and that’s what the Bible is saying, ***“Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand.”*** Where is Jesus seated? At the right hand of God. “So, if I have to be revived, if I am not to turn away from You; Your hand has to be upon the Christ in me, let Him be magnified, let Him have preeminence, then Lord, revive us, we will call upon Your name.” The problem is that we are feeding our flesh; we are not feeding our spirit which is Christ in us. We are

feeding our flesh; we are not feeding our soul; we are not feeding our spirit; our spirit will only take the Word of God. We are not even doing practical things; how many times we have to say. You know what, sometimes most people don't even understand the stress level we go through because of being in the forefront of this battle, but you know how we beat stress; that's why headphones are always with us. You do not have the power of listening to a powerful message, by that you have listened to a message, it has washed you clean, it has pepped you up. Instead, we are sitting before our computers and TVs and watching junks which makes us even more lustful, even more sloppy, even more lazy and more depressed and discouraged and it gives us no hope because nothing in this world has the power to give you hope except Jesus Christ and if you think you will get hope from any of the things in the world, go back and read the book of Ecclesiastes over and over again. He was saved, if he was not saved, Solomon would have committed suicide out of depression. It is because he knew God, he could not kill himself.

You know what God's people say when they are depressed and discouraged? They say like Elijah— "I know I cannot kill myself, why don't You kill me?" You know how many people are saying today, "Why don't You kill me, why don't You take my life, Lord?" You know why? Because they cannot suicide because they know that they will go to hell. Ask these questions. Lord let Your hand be upon the Man of Your right hand; the Son of man whom You made strong upon Yourself. God is not interested in me; He is interested in the Christ in me. The Christ in me is the hope of my glory.

You know why people have very little hope? It is because Christ in them is a toddler—if he is a toddler. Toddler has more hope, because at least he can crawl, he can reach from point 'A' to point 'B' but the baby has no hope that's why they are forever crying, "Meet my needs." It cannot even move on its own. Question is: Christ in you is the hope of glory; can the Christ in you stand up? Can the Christ in you move? Can the Christ in you make decisions? That's the question God is asking. Christ is the hope of our glory, otherwise there is a burden when you see people perishing but there should be an excitement when you see the signs happening – you know what! He is coming!

"This is the beginning of sorrows," Jesus said. When you see this pandemic happening, earthquakes happening— earthquake happened, 6.7, in the very town I was for 4 years in Assam. The epicenter was the town. And all the young people over there sent me a text. They are not young now; they are all married with children now. 23 years ago, they were all part of my youth group from different churches. So, girls were very happy and they sent me a text saying, "Our men needed a shaking to wake up! The earthquake has woken them up. Now they are all discussing the old Bible studies which you took of the end days." Because right before them paddy fields were opening, water was coming up—because Brahmaputra flows that way—the biggest hotel in Guwahati; everything is flooded, leaking, broken. People are waking upright before our eyes. Yet, does it move us? Do we have the hope of glory? Yes, we are looking at terrible things, but the Scripture says, "Lift up your heads for your redemption is near," there is an excitement that comes in the air because you know, you slogged; you slogged, and finally you know the game is about to end and you are on the winning side and not on the losing side. Nobody can be on Jesus' side and be on the losing side.

So he is crying out, ***"Let Your hand be upon the man of Your right hand."*** And then what will happen? ***"¹⁸ Then we will not turn back from You; Revive us, and we will call upon Your name.***

¹⁹ Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; Jehovah Sabaoth.

Meaning- join into this battle, O God! This is a battle. Our enemies are overrunning us, my flesh is overpowering me, the powers of darkness have free flow in my life, Lord, Jehovah Sabaoth, rise! The Egyptians are chasing and there is no Red Sea to stop them. They are after my life. Lord, I need You to come into my life as Jehovah Sabaoth. Arise!

Cause Your face to shine, And we shall be saved!

What was the promise given in numbers? What is the cry of them? He will cause His face to shine upon them, give them salvation. Now they are not asking for peace; they are asking for salvation. What was it supposed to be? A people living unto God, hedge all around, God's hand is upon them, He causes His face to shine upon them. They have peace, they have joy, they have rest—instead, what is it now? "Lord, will You cause Your face to shine upon us that we may be saved from our enemies.

It's a cry. That's how it begins. We don't understand how it begins; we don't understand our state. First examination is: Are we really able to look at ourselves in the mirror? Where am I? Do I really pray? How is my prayer life? Do I have a prayer life? How is my praise and worship life? Do I have a praise life or am I singing Telegu songs? Yesterday I put it on the Praise and Worship team—Benny sent it to me, it was so beautiful because she sings well but she is from Nagaland, and I said "Oh, this is the song Raj sings all the time." It's so beautiful the way she sings. A Kannada boy and a Naga girl singing a Telegu song for the sake of the Telegu people who are going through COVID. He is releasing it around May 1st— "*A timeless Telegu song releasing on May 1st.*" You know why I like him? Because somebody who should be panicking during COVID, it should be Benny because he has got only 10% of his lungs functioning, he has travelled to every nation in this world and have sung the glory of God with only 10 or 15% of his lungs.

God is same. Do we have a praise and worship? Is Christ in you magnified? Are you an intercessor? Nobody has to see, that's a task anybody, everybody can do! Whenever you wake up—you have to put it that way; during lockdown, it's not when you wake up, it is whenever you wake up—can you just go before the presence of God? Can you say, "Lord, Spirit of God, I offer myself as an intercessor." You don't have to do any of these things on your strength, that's why the Holy Spirit is given. Can you offer your body as a living sacrifice and say, "Holy Spirit, would You pray through me? Would You just praise through me, Lord?" I am not a singer but I can praise. You don't have to be a singer to praise. And God enthrones Himself in the praises of His people. Jesus, forever making intercessions, looks back and says, "Aye, one small little girl in Hyderabad stood up behind Me interceding with Me." He is interceding for the nations and somebody is interceding with Him for the nations. He is excited.

Like today, there are so many people sitting over here – usually, it will be 2 or 3, but when there are more people, we get excited: "Oh, 10 people, 15 people have come to hear the Word of God." And Jesus gets excited when all around the world He sees intercessors popping up, He says, "Daddy, did You know, there are so many people praying with Me today?" That is why it says, "*It is impossible to please God without faith.*" These are things which we do by faith and we please God. The book of Hebrews says, "The ancients received a good report, a good testimony because of their faith." Do we have a good report? Do we have a good testimony with God? Some people are excited when exam results come, others are excited when they have passed, but ultimately, it's a report card. Five years later when you are looking for jobs, you will suddenly realize: "Oh, 2019-21, COVID batch, ignore them." You will be called Corona batch because nobody is sure whether you studied or not. So, you will suddenly understand, report card matters. You see, when you are living on earth, you can receive an incredible report in Heaven.

Jesus lived 30 years—nobody saw Him, nobody even knew Him, but when He came out of the water, the Father gave a report card: "This is My Beloved Son in whom I am well pleased!" You know there are so many things which you can do by faith, so easy, you don't have to go anywhere outside the four walls of your room; you can please God, you can pray. Prayer is that which moves the hand of God. God says, "*I look for one man.*" Imagine: one 80-81 year old man, stands before God and stops the wrath of God over an entire nation – one man! That's the power of an intercessor! He stood in the breach; if he hadn't stood, what was going to come through the breach was the wrath of God, but he stood there. And that's what God is asking – here, everywhere! Will you stand up in our churches? You need to see the hunger—I just sent to 3 or 4 people in the church, all around our churches are writing, "Don't slow down, don't worry about time." Who are these people writing—let me tell you what the time there is, where they are writing from, so you will understand; it's 1 A.M in the morning now and they are all awake. They said, "Don't stop. You can go up to 4,5, we don't care when you stop, don't stop, don't think about us and cut there, we are hungry! We are waiting, we want revival, we want God to restore our lives, our homes, our churches, our nations."

This is where we have to be careful, there are so many things which we can do. First step is: we look into the mirror and we say, "Lord, where have we gone wrong? You show me, where have we gone wrong? What has happened to the hedge? Why has the enemy broken through?" Enemy may break through, it's a spiritual thing: he has taken your joy away, he has taken your zeal away. See, the enemy doesn't come with its horns and tail, he is very subtle; he knows Scripture very well. Scripture is the Word of God, scripture is forever settled in heavens and God says, "No man can love two things at the same time." He is very subtle, he just slowly causes you to love something other than God, little by little. You know what? Without you realizing, your zeal is gone away. But look at the people who have always done the things which they have done in the beginning: their prayer life, their Word life, their witness life;

they don't lose their zeal. You know why? It's simply because they followed what God has said as He told to the church of Ephesians, "Go back and do the things which you did in the beginning." You don't lose your zeal. But what does the enemy do? He quietly, very subtly takes your mind and your attention away. And what does God do? He allows a breach and allows the enemy to come and you finally cry out, "Lord, Lord, what is happening?" and God says, "This is why it happened." Then you cry out, "Lord, revive me, restore me, O Lord." God says, "I will, I will revive you, I will restore you, My hand will come but who will it come upon, it will not come upon you, it will come upon the Christ in you."

You have to get back and start feeding the Christ in you, you have to start feeding the soul in you because Christians are not like other people; Christians are one set of people who can go into the world, prosper and be miserable. People in the world can go into the world and prosper and be happy; Christians will never be allowed to be happy in the world without God, He won't allow it, coz you have tasted something that was of eternity. If you were really not saved, it doesn't matter, you will enjoy the world but if you have tasted God, you will never be able to be happy in the world, you will be miserable.

So, first session is that—let us look into ourselves: why are we frustrated? Sometime, God frustrates us because we have idols in our heart—it may be a good idol, I am not saying it's a bad idol, but it's a good idol, not all idols are bad but if it supplants God; good idol becomes bad. A Career is not a bad idol, you should be career oriented but if your career gets ahead of God, you know what will happen? You will lose in the long run. To fall in love is not a bad thing, but if you put that person above God, like Jacob did, your marriage will die one way or the other. In his case, his wife died. Because a Christian marriage is held like the bangles on my wife's hands—only last night I discovered that they are together, they cannot be separated. I never knew all these days and I was trying to take off and it's not coming off and she said – your sister gave it to me. This is the three cord which cannot be separated – book of Ecclesiastes; the third cord is God. The ring is also the three cord she has got.

So, this is one of the things about the believer – a believer is born again from heaven, his soul cannot be satisfied with earth alone, anymore. You have tasted heaven, you have tasted God Himself, nothing of the world is going to satisfy you, and so many people in the church are trying and they are miserable. They go to sleep with guilt and God says, "Come back to Me." That's all! Do a thorough check, ask the Holy Spirit, He will show each one—who is listening online—what it is. Like America: patriotism – it's a good thing but, question is, you can love your nation more than you love God. You cannot love your nation – more than you love God. So, you need to be very careful that my identity first is in Christ, then, patriotic. So, if Christ says, "I am going to judge your nation," then take your hands off, don't stand in the gap, I will say, "Lord, Thy will be done!" If He says that this is the only way your nation will come through: "Lord, I love my country so much, I don't want You to..." God says, "Step aside." So we need to understand, these are so many things we need to realize.

There are so many people in US who are hurting because they are patriots but our citizenship is of Heaven. Yes, we are born in a country, we belong to a country, but we are born again with an eternal citizenship. You look at the pictures coming from all over India, especially from Delhi – parks are being made into crematorium, there are no place, and one of the places they have taken the animal crematorium also for humans, no place to bury, to burn. So that's your citizenship on earth, at the end of the day, pshhhh, gone! No rituals, nothing, one-by-one, putting it over, next one. Waiting list, for what? To burn the bodies. This is your citizenship on earth. Christ comes and offers you a citizenship of heaven: no death, no sorrow, no sickness, no grief. And God says, "What did you exchange that for?" like I said, "Who changed the price tags? Who changed it?" You know the story about the supermarket? A few naughty boys got into the supermarket at night and they changed all the price tags. They took the tag of \$5000 and put it over a \$50 thing and put \$50 tag for \$5000 thing. Next day after half an hour there is pandemonium. They had to close down, call the cops. God is saying, "Who changed the labels?" The things that were precious in the Kingdom of God has been made cheap, and the things that are so cheap in the Kingdom of God has been made precious, and we are wondering why are our souls are so lean?! Because we swallowed that gospel. That is *Psalms 106:15*.

Psalms 106:15

¹⁵ ***"And He gave them their request, But sent leanness into their soul."***

Lord, give me! Give me! Until your name became Jimmie. What did He send? ***“leanness into their soul.”***

Yet, the time of testing has come, the day of evil has come. Only your soul has the power to withstand evil; not your body. You know what we did? We gained weight in the body so we are dying of obesity and corona virus while our soul was lean. We should have gained weight in our soul and our body should have been lean, we would have withstood this day of evil. That’s the key—I mean, if you are little obese, don’t worry, just run. Actually, better than that is fast, faster way of losing weight. Please understand, get it right!

So, first thing: we will be very serious about this, we will do a heart check, our soul check; wherever you are, it’s one-on-one, anywhere in the world. If you are a child of God, God says, “Love the God with all your heart, all your mind, all your soul, all your strength,” and remember, we do not have the strength to do it and that’s why the Holy Spirit is given, we need to ask Spirit of God, “Help me in my weakness!” We don’t even know how to pray, *Romans 8* says, but in our weakness, in our infirmities, He helps us. Know your infirmity. What is your infirmity? “I like watching Telegu movies,” say it, these are confessions—I am not joking because some people are addicted to different things and some of those addictions are not as harmful as other, but in the long run if anything takes you away from God, it is harmful. People will say, “Don’t drink,” because it is harmful for the body, another fellow watches the movie, it is harmful for his soul. The alcoholic may come back to God but the other fellow is gone, never to return, though he may have a name called Chiranjivi (Meaning: they live forever), he is not living at all.

So, young people, the older people sitting over here, what is that takes you away from God, what is that dilutes you—may be a good thing or a bad thing, or neutral thing, say, “Lord, this is it, I don’t have the strength, Spirit of God, help me.” That’s why the Holy Spirit is given to help us in our infirmities. What causes you depression? What causes you discouragement? Even if everything around is going wrong, child of God should not be depressed. I have been talking to people on the phone, “Why are you so discouraged?” Yes, it is a deadly disease but why are you discouraged? Where is your faith? Doesn’t it say “In life or death, both is gain,” why do you see it as loss? What are you so worried about? Okay, you may have a family, but do you think God doesn’t know? God doesn’t care for your family more than you do? You are worried about your career, is not God more concerned about you? Think about it! We have to come to the real thing, we need to have the peace of God.

Stunning example is Peter: when James was persecuted, the Jews were very happy. So, the Herod said, “I shall execute him too.” That night before the day of his execution, he is so fast asleep, you know why? Because God gives His beloved rest. In the midst of the storm, he is able to sleep to the point—it is not man—an angel had to smack him to wake him up, he slept so soundly. He didn’t take Prozac, nor was he drunk, this is the rest God gives His beloved, when technically looking at, he has no clue angel is coming, he has no idea God is going to bring him out, he doesn’t probably even know the church is awake and praying, but he knows that he has handed his soul to His hands and it is absolutely safe there as Paul said, “I am persuaded, I am convinced that into whose hands I am committed, He is able to keep it until that day,” whether that day is today before this day ends, or 10 years from now, it is safe in His hands. So, we will examine and we will pray.

Prayer

Wherever you are, let it be one-on-one with God, nobody has to know, this is the time to confess for the Word of God says, “If we confess, He is faithful.” It could be anything, anything that has taken you away from God, anything, love of anything, the Holy Spirit will show it to you. Say, “Spirit of God, search my heart, show me Lord, what is the barrier between You and me, where has the hedge been broken that the enemy has come and stolen my affection for You.” Whatever it is: a person, movies, songs, studies, family; these are not bad things. Alcohol, drugs, porn, fornication, adultery, video games – whatever it is, it doesn’t matter; everywhere, addictions in the world, whatever form of addiction that takes you away from God, just speak to Jesus. It is He who is on the right hand of God forever making intercessions for the saints, just talk it out, speak it out. The Spirit of God is there to help us in our infirmity, be honest: “Lord, I struggle.”

Break the spirit of phoniness in us, break it today, false image. Help us today, Father, please help us! We come back to the Cross. As we confess our sins one-on-one with You, I pray that You are cleansing us, Oh Lord. For there is therefore no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Father, we have grieved Your Spirit, we have resisted Your Spirit, some of us have quenched Your Spirit, that's why we are not free. Father, we just come to You Lord, church needs a breakthrough, church in the world, nations need breakthrough, it can only come through Your Spirit and we stand before Thee, Lord, we are guilty. If I am the problem, Lord I pray bypass me and breakthrough somebody else because the breakthrough needs to come, Lord. We cannot be stumbling blocks to the flow of the Holy Spirit. This cannot be pumped in the flesh, this can only come through the Spirit and we have grieved Your Spirit, we have resisted Your Spirit. Unless the Spirit flows, nothing happens, Lord.

Holy Spirit, we just come to You. As David prayed, we too pray Lord – Do not take Your Holy Spirit from us, the anointing that is over our lives. It is written, the Spirit of the Lord left Saul, it is written Samson did not know the Spirit of God had left him – maybe we cannot lose our salvation but we can lose the presence of the Holy Spirit. We do not want to be a stumbling block to the salvation of others, for the healing of others, for the deliverance of others, and we pray before Thee, Lord, if I am the stumbling block, bypass me and find somebody else through whom the Spirit can flow unhindered because the body of Christ is more important than any individual. The river has to flow, we cannot just wade in shallow waters, there is so much of the Spirit that lies ahead and I pray for everyone, Lord, listening online – the wind blows where it pleases, we don't bend with the wind; the wind will find somebody who will bend with it, if we don't flow with the river; the river will find somebody who will flow with it. Nobody has told the Holy Spirit what to do; the Holy Spirit tells us what to do!

Let not one more day pass by, Lord, without a surrendering to the leading of the Holy Spirit. We confess and we repent for the times we have grieved Your Holy Spirit, for the times we resisted the Holy Spirit. We took it lightly, even though You were so merciful that even in the midst of this terrible pandemic, Your hand was over us; Your hand of health, Your hand of healing. In the midst of that one year of famine and shortage, Your hand was over us, we lacked nothing, yet Lord, we resisted Your Holy Spirit in so many ways. In the time of Noah, You said, "My Spirit shall not contend with man forever," and You said that the last days will be like that of the Noah – people so busy with life, and after a time, the Holy Spirit leaves them alone. Don't leave us alone, Lord! Please don't! Don't leave us alone! We will be like Samson, unaware that You have left and we will be only aware when the Philistines jump on us and take our vision away and bind us to serve the rulers of this world.

Spirit of God, have mercy! Mercy! Mercy on us! Mercy on our families, our spouses, our children, our church, our spiritual children, our pastors, have mercy, mercy, mercy, Lord! We confess! You said, "Do not love the world, do not love the things of the world, then the love of the Father is not in you," we confess, we have loved the world, we have loved the things of the world, that is why we felt unloved, when we came to church, we felt that vacuum in us, when we went to the prayer closet, it felt empty because we could not feel the love of God because our hearts were taken away by love of other things while the Spirit of God contends for our heart. Oh Lord, touch! Restoration begins with us, revival begins with me. Your Word says in Psalms 80 that it was Your right hand that planted that vine – we have sinned against the right hand of God, we have resisted the right hand of God. Revive us Lord! Revive us! Restore us, Oh Lord! Light that fire again, Oh God! Let not the world put away the flames that was lit from the Heaven itself.

I take authority in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, I bind every lying spirit, I bind every unclean spirit, I bind every deceiving spirit and I command you to leave the body of Christ in the name of Jesus of Nazareth! I speak release into the body of Christ, I speak release into the minds of God's people, I pull down strongholds planted by the enemy, we pull it down in the name of Jesus! Every thought, every imagination that rises itself above the knowledge of God, we cast it down in the name of Jesus. I come against the spirit of leviathan, the spirit of pride that has come in, I come against the spirit of Python—the python doesn't bite, it just slowly squeezes the life of God out of you; it is subtle, it is deceiving. The python doesn't bite, he has no poison in his fangs, he squeezes the life of God out of you, the love of God out of you, the zeal of God out of you, I take the axe and cut the head of the python, release God's people spirit of python, in the name of Jesus that they will return back to their first love, that they will go back to the zeal they had in the beginning, that the fire would be kindled once again that they would be truly, truly be able to say, "I Love God! I Love Him More Than Anything or Anybody!" Touch, touch, O Lord.

Your Word says a double minded man receives nothing, Oh Father, only You can make us whole. Ten lepers cried out, all ten received healing but only one was made whole and I pray like that one who came back, today, those who are

hearing, many will come back to You, they will not run away with their blessings, they will not run away with their healing but they will come back to You to be made whole, one mind, a single eye focused on God then they will be able to see life differently and clearly, their situation differently. Oh Father, I come against that deceiving spirit that divides the mind which tells, "You can love God and love world; you can serve God and serve mammon," I break that lie that is from the pits of hell in the name of Jesus Nazareth and I release the singleness that the Spirit of God brings. O Father, touch our spiritual eyes, restore our vision, let us not go to our deathbed like Samson, blind, O Lord, went to death blinded, he never got his vision back. But I pray, restore the vision, Lord! Help us to see, Lord, how do You see, help us to see what is valuable in Your sight, what is important in Your Kingdom, first, O Lord. For You told us, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness," help us to see correctly again, to put first thing first, O Lord.

I pray for the pastors, Your servants, the Christians, O Lord, who are in the ICU, who are in the sickbed, I pray, restore them back, O Lord, restore them back to health, restore them back to their vision, O Lord, all Your children, Lord! Yes, they strayed away, many strayed away, they lost their first love but they are in that position now, Father, they are looking up to You; look down with mercy, stretch forth Your right hand, the hand of grace, the hand of power upon them, O Lord.

O Father, all our pastors, let Your hand be upon them; hand of strength, hand protection, hand of power. O Father, when the spirit of intimidation rises against a man or a woman, prophet Elijah's mantle is resting upon the because jezebel doesn't go after everyone, she goes after the one upon whom the mantle of Elijah rises. O Father, Your church is being intimidated, Your people are being intimidated, Your servants are being intimidated, because the mantle of Elijah rests upon them. We come against the spirit of jezebel in the name of Jesus, we come against the spirit of Ahab in the name of Jesus, we bind you in the name of Jesus, we crush you under our feet in the name of Jesus, we crush the head of the serpent under our feet because You have said in Your Word, "Behold, I have given you power over all the power of the enemy, you shall trample upon snakes and scorpions and they shall by no means harm you." O Father, we just thank You, we declare the victory of Jesus, we declare the victory of Jesus on the Cross, You triumphed over the enemy on the Cross, You made a public spectacle of the enemy, You emptied him on the Cross, in heavens every demons know that they are defeated and they will be thrown into the lake of fire and the Church that stands strong is proclaiming the victory of Jesus. O Father, we fear neither disease, nor death, we fear God and God alone.

We stand strong and we shall stand strong in Your strength, O Lord, and we will defy the enemy in the name of Jesus, we defy the powers of darkness in the name of Jesus, we bind Baphomet in the name of Jesus, we crush your head in the name of Jesus and we call down fire to the God of Elijah, we call fire upon every coven where witches have gathered, where wizards have gathered, where warlords have gathered, where the wicked ones have gathered to destroy Your inheritance, O Lord. O Father, Israel is Your inheritance, the church is Your inheritance and You have said in Your Word, "He who touches you, touches the apple of My eye." Arise, O God, in Your splendor, arise O God, in Your glory, let Your enemies be scatter, for it is written that when You come, You will destroy the enemy by the splendor of Your coming. Arise, Oh God! Let Your enemies be scattered. Anoint Your servants, anoint Your children, only the anointing can break the yoke, nothing can break the yoke but the anointing, let the anointing flow, O Father, by faith, for everyone who are watching and those who are here, I speak an impartation of faith, an impartation of Your Spirit. O Father, let Your Spirit flow into the lives of Your people, let faith flow, Father. There is a gift called the gift of faith and I speak that gift into the lives of Your people who are struggling, they will stand in faith unshakable, immovable, let that impartation take place, O Father, in the name of Jesus. Rebuild the hedge, O Father, You planted the hedge, You break the hedge, now Lord, rebuild the hedge, rebuild the hedge around homes, rebuild the hedge around the individual, rebuild the hedge around the churches, rebuild the hedge around the nations, O Lord. Have mercy, have mercy, have mercy, O Lord. In Jesus' name. Amen.