Transforming Grace 081909 The House of Prayer

- I. The House of Prayer
- A. Isaiah 56:4-7- For thus says the Lord: "To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths, And choose what pleases Me, And hold fast My covenant, Even to them I will give in My house And within My walls a place and a name Better than that of sons and daughters; I will give them an everlasting name That shall not be cut off. "Also the sons of the foreigner Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him, And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants-- Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, And holds fast My covenant-- Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, And make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices Will be accepted on My altar; For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."
 - 1. Isaiah prophesies a time to come in which eunuchs and foreigners will be allowed in the temple of God to pray and worship. This will happen in the Millennium.
 - 2. The Millennium is a type of the church age now. Today spiritual eunuchs and foreigners have come out of the world and have gotten saved and have come into God's house and offer prayer and worship to Him
 - a. A eunuch is someone who is barren and cannot produce. Sinners are barren, but Christians are also barren without prayer
 - b. A foreigner is someone who has no inherent right to the blessings of the kingdom. We were foreigners to God but now have been admitted to God's house and can offer prayer to Him and receive the blessings of the Kingdom
 - 3. God temple will be called the **House of Prayer** in the Millennium.
 - a. Today the church is God's temple and is the House of Prayer
 - b. God's temple in the OT and during the Millennium is a physical building.
 - c. Today we each believer is the temple of God. (1 Cor. 3:16) Each one of us should be the **House of Prayer**!

- 4. If you went to eat at a restaurant called "**The House of Fish**" and looked through the menu and only saw one item of fish on the menu you would be confused. If you are a house of something then that is what should predominate and be most prevalent! Sadly in many churches and individual believers prayer is very lacking or is missing all together. The **House of Prayer** is not praying like it should! What is hindering it?
- B. Matthew 21:12-16- Then Jesus went into the temple of God and drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. And He said to them, "It is written, 'MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER,' but you have made it a 'DEN OF THIEVES.'" Then the blind and the lame came to Him in the temple, and He healed them. But when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that He did, and the children crying out in the temple and saying, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" they were indignant and said to Him, "Do You hear what these are saying?" And Jesus said to them, "Yes. Have you never read, 'OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES AND NURSING INFANTS YOU HAVE PERFECTED PRAISE'?"
 - 1. Jesus came to the House of Prayer in Jerusalem and did not find much praying. Instead He found sin, corruption, and the activity of man!
 - 2. Jesus beheld the scene and righteous anger rose up and He cleansed His temple of everything that was stopping it from becoming a house of prayer. He drove out of the temple what was not of His Father and what was hindering it from being the **House of Prayer.**
 - 3. Before Jesus could establish the temple as the house of prayer he first had to make it the **House of Purity**!
 - 4. We are the **House of Prayer**, but before we can live that out we must first repent of and receive cleansing from the defilements of our life and heart and be the **House of Purity**. We must be willing to part with the idols and filth from our temple. If we will renounce the sins in our life, then Jesus will surely drive them out!
 - a. Prayer will keep sin out of our life, but sin will keep prayer out of your life.
 - b. Someone who embraces sin in their heart will not pray much. Christians who do not pray much will end up being a den of

thieves! Satan and demons are thieves who love to steal from Christians who are not praying. When we allow prayerlessness in our lives we become blinded and the enemy comes into our lives and steals from us. He has no authority to do it, but we allow him to because of our prayerlessness and blindness.

- c. We must begin with repentance and turn to God in prayer who will empower us to live holy.
- 5. Once the defilement was dealt with Jesus started healing the blind and the lame. Power started to flow in the temple and the blind and the lame were healed. When we repent of our sin of prayerlessness then God will to heal our blindness. The thieves will not be able to steal from us any longer! God also wants to heal the brokenness in our life, but power can only flow in the house of prayer. Once we become the **house of prayer** we will become the **House of Power**! If we are not spending significant time in prayer then the power of God will not be released. Prayer draws upon the power of God.
- 6. After Jesus healed, the children started worshipping and praising God. The Temple now had become a House of Praise!
 7. We must first be the House of Purity to be the House of Prayer. Then we can become the House of Power and become the House of Praise

II. Righteous prayer

- A. All the forms of prayer we have in the New Testament we find in the Old Testament except one. It is praying the Spirit.
- B. This form of prayer is Spirit inspired, Spirit led, and Spirit empowered.
- C. This form of prayer comes out of our re-born righteous spirit. When we pray in the Spirit our spirit prays. (1 Cor. 14:14) I call this righteous prayer.
- D. Praying the Spirit releases God out of the Holy of Holies of your spirit into your soul, body, and natural life.
- E. Many things happen when you pray in the Spirit but I want to discuss just a few tonight.
 - 1. You give thanks well when you start praying in tongues- (1 Cor. 14:17)- Thanksgiving is divine protocol in coming into God's presence. (Ps. 100:4) When you start praying in the Spirit you will

start thanking and praising God. This accesses the anointing of God.

- 2. By praying in the Spirit, the Holy Spirit helps your weaknesses. (**Romans 8:26**) Whatever your particular weakness is God will start helping you with it.
- 3. Praying in the Spirit provides you illumination to hidden and secret things that you cannot see or know without divine revelation. (1 Cor. 14:2)
- 4. Praying in tongues builds you up. (1 Cor. 14:4) It causes you to become stronger and stronger until that which holds you is broken off of you! When you pray in the Spirit you release the anointing that destroys the yoke off your life if you stay with it and make it a lifestyle. (Is. 10:27)
- 4. Many Christians who speak in tongues do not experience help with their weaknesses and do not receive illumination from their spirit because they do not spend enough time praying in the Spirit. They just spend a few moments or minutes and never get past thanking and praising God and get into the deeper realms of praying in the Spirit.
- 5. There would be a lot less need for counseling if Christians would avail themselves of a lot more of righteous prayer. The Spirit is in you to help you with your weaknesses and to reveal things to you that will cause you to walk free from sin, bondage, and past hang ups. The Spirit can do more in a few minutes than you can do in trying to free yourself from the junk of your past in years.

F. Prayer

- 1. Prayer of repentance and to have Jesus drive out evil
- 2. Prayer of commitment to be the House of Prayer
- 3. Prayer for the power of God to heal
- 4. Prayer of praise to God