

WHAT IS A PRAYER ROOM?

Simply put, a prayer room is a space dedicated to encounter with God. We prioritize time to encounter God through the ministries of worship, intercession and engagement with the scriptures. In worship, we engage in the exaltation of the God-head and in intercession we partner with God's desires by asking Him to release His power and purposes in our midst. The combination of worship and intercession allow for the building of an enjoyable atmosphere where the beauty of God is welcomed, revered and released. The scriptures are the transcript of God's heart. They are a doorway into the knowledge of God by way of inspired revelation. This three-stranded cord of worship, intercession and scripture forms the building blocks for how we function in relationship to God in the place of prayer.

Man was made to commune with God in a sanctuary set apart by His presence. As we are awaiting the return of Jesus, who will ultimately restore all things, we long for the day when we will see Him face to face. Because of the wonderful work of the cross and the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out, we His people, have become the dwelling place of God, the sanctuary where He takes residence by His Spirit. The new Testament church is both the temple of God and its priesthood. In the sacred place of prayer, we dwell together in His presence and minister together to His heart. The scripture promises the filling of the Holy Spirit to a holy, singing people and assures that God will help us to pray as we make intercession for those in need of His power and saving grace. A prayer room, where intercession is released to God, and music accompanies the ministry of worship, seeks to facilitate these high priorities in harmony with God Himself. The call to prayer is released as a divine invitation so that Jesus would become our glorious preoccupation!

The New Testament teaches us that we have been given access to God's Spirit, first to behold and then to reflect His glory. This has become for us a ministry.¹ We are called to behold Him and become like Him. To behold God is to see and observe Him -to gaze upon Him. Though we cannot see Him directly we see Him and interact with Him according to the Spirit within us and the word of God opened before us. King David eagerly yearned for this same privilege when he said, *"One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in His temple."*² David so desired this reality in His life that, by the command of the Lord, he personally funded and established a day and night worship movement in the city of Jerusalem. Trained Levitical singers and musicians

¹ 2 Cor.3:17-4:1

² Ps.27:4

ministered openly in the presence of the Ark of the Covenant, singing and prophesying on their instruments of the majesty of the person and works of God.³ This reality so transformed the nation of Israel that, through David, God commanded day and night worship in His presence to be a perpetual service unto the Lord.⁴ In each season where the kings of Israel obeyed this command and prioritized ministry to the Lord according to the Davidic order, the nation of Israel experienced spiritual breakthrough, deliverance and military victory.

This Davidic order of worship is not just an historical testimony of spiritual and national revival -it has great future application for our day as well. The prophet Amos declared that the tabernacle of David would be restored at the end of the age bringing a perfect order to the Earth and an end to the division of humanity when Jesus reigns as King in Jerusalem.⁵ Later, at the Jerusalem Council in 48 AD the apostle James quoted from Amos and applied it to his day as gentiles were being brought into the family of God by the Spirit. In each case the Kingdom of David is mentioned. When we understand that in his kingship, David was a representation of the great Messianic King to come, we begin to see the significance of both His reign as king over Israel and His spiritual leadership in reordering priestly worship. The Bible declares that Jesus will be a priest upon His throne. He will be both King and High Priest. He will bring together in one man the offices of both governmental and spiritual leadership, but He will do so over the entire Earth.⁶ All of these things prefigure the ultimate fulfillment of the rebuilding of David's tabernacle.

In our day God is already beginning to restore the ancient foundations of day and night worship in His presence all over the Earth. This glorious reality will serve as a spiritual highway for the message of the soon-coming King and His Kingdom which is already breaking forth. This highway will penetrate the hearts of His people and prepare the way for Him to be received in the nations. A prayer room is a practical expression of these truths and Biblical values. We pray because it releases God's power. We worship because Jesus is worthy of it and it transforms us. We engage with the written word of God because it informs and establishes us in eternal truths. We anticipate the day when all things are made new and His glory covers the entire earth -and as we wait, we press in, press through and prepare the way before Him in bold proclamation, fervent prayer and persistent good works.

Visit riversoffire.net and see our Prayer Room Resources page for more information

³ 1 Chron.15:1-17:27

⁴ 2 Chron.8:14-15

⁵ Amos 9:11-12

⁶ Zech.6:12-13

