Why We Do 24/7 Combining Prayer with Worship [Harp and Bowl]

I. WHAT IS HARP AND BOWL? [THE APOSTLE JOHN'S VISION OF THE HEAVENLY PRAYER ROOM.]

- A. <u>*What exactly is harp and bowl?*</u> Today's seminar we will discuss the **WHAT** and **WHY** behind the "Harp and Bowl Model". The short answer is that it is (*combining prayer with worship*)
- B. <u>*What did John see and hear*</u>? God escorted John up to *see* and *hear "what*" was going on realtime in the Heavens. It takes *revelation* to see and hear, which only comes through prayer.

<u>I was in the spirit</u> on the Lord's Day, <u>and I heard behind me a loud voice</u> like the sound of a trumpet...<u>then I turned to see the voice</u> that was speaking (Rev 1:10,12)

1. John's vision gave stunning support to the blueprint that David had received, in that Jesus would rule His kingdom in the context of night and day worship that included prophetic singers and musicians combing their worship with prayers.

After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "<u>Come up here, and I</u> will show you things which must take place after this. <u>Immediately I was in the spirit</u> (Rev 4:1,2)

2. <u>*Rev 5:8-9*</u> is gives clarity to "*what*" the term harp and bowl actually is and what it means.

8 Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each <u>having a harp</u>, and <u>golden bowls</u> full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. (Rev 5:8)

9 And they sang a new song, saying... (Rev 5:9)

3. So you have twenty-four elders all described as having <u>harps</u>, <u>bowls of prayers</u> and <u>new</u> <u>songs</u>. So there were twenty-four elders who were <u>musicians</u>, <u>intercessors</u> and <u>singers</u>.

C. <u>Differences between the Tabernacle of Moses and the Tabernacle of David</u>

- 1. <u>*The tabernacle of Moses*</u> operated out of the old law paradigm, still having courts, and utensils and furnishings within it.
 - a. Moses's order consisted of one man entering into the holy place, offering the blood sacrifices of bulls and goats, while
- 2. <u>*The Tabernacle of David*</u> in and of itself was simply a "tent" and inside of the tent was an open veil where the "ark of the presence of God" rested and looked at offerings of the human heart.

- a. David's order provided access for everyone to access and partake of the presence of God in offering up sacrifices of worship through praise, singing and dancing etc.
- D. <u>*The Davidic Order*</u>-David's revelation of heavenly worship (as seen in Psalms) is foundational to David's throne, which is "political government in the spirit of the Tabernacle of David" or government based of 24/7 worship and intercession. David's government flowed forth from prophetic worship (1 Chr.23-25). David had revelation of the spiritual impact of prophetic intercessory worship (Ps. 22:3).

<u>Prophesied on instruments</u> - Moreover David and the captains of the army separated for the service some of the sons of Asaph, of Heman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with harps, stringed instruments, and cymbals. (1Chronicles 25)

- *E.* <u>Seven kings reinstituted the Davidic Order</u> Although a temple replaced the tabernacle, the Davidic order of worship was embraced and reinstituted by seven subsequent leaders in the history of Israel and Judah. Each time this order of worship was reintroduced, spiritual breakthrough, deliverance and military victory followed.
 - 1. *Solomon* instructed that worship in the temple should be in accordance with the Davidic order (2 Chr. 8:14–15).
 - 2. *Jehoshaphat* defeated Moab and Ammon by setting singers up in accordance with the Davidic order: singers at the front of the army singing the Great Hallel. Jehoshaphat reinstituted Davidic worship in the temple (2 Chr. 20:20–22, 28).
 - 3. Joash (2 Chr. 23:1–24:27).
 - 4. *Hezekiah* cleansed and reconsecrated the temple, and reinstituted the Davidic order of worship (2 Chr. 29:1–36; 30:21).
 - 5. *Josiah* reinstituted Davidic worship (2 Chr. 35:1–27).
 - 6. *Ezra* and *Nehemiah*, returning from Babylon, reinstituted Davidic worship (Ezra 3:10; Neh. 12:28–47). (Two Choirs)

F. Old Testament References of Night and Day Prayer

1. ⁷ 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. (Isa 56:6,7)

- 2. <u>God's word through the prophet Isaiah</u>⁶ I have set watchmen on your walls, O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent, ⁷ And give Him no rest till He establishes And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.
- 3. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. (Psalm 1:2)
- 4. I will allow no sleep to my eyes, no slumber to my eyelids, until I establish a resting place for the Lord (Psalm 132:4)
- 5. ¹¹ "On that day I will raise up The tabernacle of David, which has fallen down, And repair its damages; I will raise up its ruins, And rebuild it as in the days of old; ¹²That they may possess the remnant of Edom, And all the Gentiles who are called by My name," Says the Lord who does this thing. (Amos 9:11,12)
- G. <u>New Testament References of Night and Day Prayer</u>
 - 1. (Anna in the temple) and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. (Luke 2:37)
 - 2. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? (Luke 18:7)
 - 3. Now she who is really a widow, and left alone, trusts in God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day. (1 Timothy 5:5)
 - 4. ⁶ 'After this I will return And will rebuild the tabernacle of David, which has fallen down; I will rebuild its ruins, And I will set it up; ¹⁷ So that the rest of mankind may seek the Lord, Even all the Gentiles who are called by My name, Says the Lord who does all these things.' (Acts 15:16-17)

II. WHY HARP AND BOWL?

- A. <u>Our eternal occupation and function</u>: The redeemed will function as a "house of prayer" in worship and prayer forever. This implies <u>that God speaks and moves our heart</u> and <u>then we</u> <u>speak His Word back to Him (intercession</u>) so that He releases His resources to the earth. <u>God shows Himself to us and moves our heart</u> and <u>then we speak what we see back to Him (worship)</u> so that His supremacy is delighted in thus, maintaining God's order in His kingdom forever.
- B. <u>The supremacy of worship</u>: Jesus is simply worthy of our adoration and worship

- 1. The Lord is worthy of the unceasing worship He receives in heaven (Rev. 4:8).
- **2.** Jesus will lead His people in praising the Father forever (Heb. 2:12).

⁸The living creatures...<u>do not rest day or night</u>, saying: "Holy, holy..." (Rev. 4:8)

¹²In the midst of the assembly I [Jesus] will sing praise to You [the Father]. (Heb. 2:12)

C. <u>*Majesty of intercession:*</u> Jesus created the earth by speaking God's Word (a form of intercession) and forever sustains and governs the universe in this way (Heb. 1:3; 7:25). Simply we

25...since He always [forever] lives to make intercession for them. (Heb. 7:25)

3Who [Jesus]...upholding all things by the word of His power... (Heb. 1:3)

D. God has chosen worship and intercession as the highest occupation of the redeemed and the primary means by which He releases His power through them to the earth. They will reign on the earth forever as kings. This reign will flow from worshiping God as priests. *Worship and intercession are among the few things that we do both now and forever*.

10Made us kings and priests to our God; and we shall reign on the earth. (Rev. 5:10)

E. Worship and intercession are set forth as supremely important to God's kingdom throughout all history. The "house of prayer" reality is a central part of God's plan to advance His kingdom. For example, human history began with daily prayer meetings in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:8). Israel began as a nation in a prayer meeting at Mt. Sinai (Ex. 19:6-20). Israel's first building project was to build a worship sanctuary (Ex. 25:2). God set apart an entire tribe (Levites) in Israel to maintain day and night worship. David established night-and-day worship in Jerusalem providing full-time financing for over 4,000 musicians and singers in "the tabernacle of David" (1 Chr. 15-16; 23:5; 25:7). The early church began and operated in prayer meetings (Acts 1:14; 2:42; 6:4). Natural history will end in the context of a powerful global prayer movement.

They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship...and prayers. (Acts 2:42)

We will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. (Acts 6:4)

F. <u>**To labor in intercession:**</u> Jesus requires night-and-day prayer for the full release of justice in the Church and society. Worship and prayer change the spiritual atmosphere of the region being prayed for. Night-and-day prayer results in the Spirit moving in a greater measure, as angels are more active and demons are hindered (Dan. 10:13, 20-21). This causes the works of the kingdom to have a greater impact as we proclaim the Word to win the lost, revive the Church, and impact every sphere of society with works of justice. The work and cost of 24/7 prayer is a practical expression of the commandment to love one another and to love justice.

7Shall not God bring about justice for His elect, who cry to Him day and night...? 8He will bring about justice for them...When the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth? (Lk. 18:7-8; NAS)

- G. <u>*To encounter God:*</u> Prayer positions us to receive more from the Holy Spirit—to experience more of God's grace to know, love, and obey Jesus in a deeper way. In worship, we align our heart with Him and we receive more from Him. Jesus has so much to say to us. He wants a two way relationship. It is the nature of God to communicate His heart with His people.
- H. <u>**To grow in revelation of the Word:**</u> We see the majesty of God as our Father, and of Jesus as Bridegroom, King, and Judge; we gain insight into His will, ways, and plans; and we understand the unique dynamics of His end-time plan to transition the earth to the age to come.

29 The friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled. (Jn. 3:29)

I. <u>To participate in the Spirit's emphasis:</u> One of the most emphasized themes in end-time prophecy is related to the Holy Spirit raising up prayer with worship across the nations. Before Jesus returns, the Spirit will raise up the greatest prayer movement in history. There are many indicators of this in the Scripture (Ps. 68:32; 96:1, 9, 13; 98:1-9; 102:15-22; 149:6-9; Isa. 12:4-6; 19:20-22; 24:14-16, 23; 25:9; 26:1, 8-9; 27:2-5, 13; 30:18-19, 29, 32; 35:2, 10; 42:10-15; 43:26; 51:11; 52:8; 54:1; 62:6-7; Jer. 31:7; 51:8; Joel 2:12-17, 32; Zeph. 2:1-3; Zech. 8:20-23; 10:1; 12:10; 13:9; Lk. 18:7-8; Mt. 21:13; Rev. 5:8; 6:9-11; 8:3-5; 18:6; 22:17). It is wise to find out what God is doing in your generation and then to throw yourself into it with all your strength.

10Sing to the LORD a new song, and His praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea...11Let the wilderness and its cities lift up their voice, the villages...let them shout from the mountains...13The LORD shall go forth like a mighty man [second coming] He shall stir up His zeal like a man of war. He shall cry out...He shall prevail... (Isa. 42:10-13)

- J. <u>Every tribe and tongue:</u> We are committed to work with others to see 24/7 worship with prayer in every tribe and tongue across the earth (Rev. 7:9-14, 19:6). The conflict at the end of the age will be between two "houses of prayer"—two global worship movements (Rev. 13:4, 8-15).
- K. Isaiah prophesied about prayer ministries that would continue 24/7 until Jesus returns (this is the time Jesus will restore Jerusalem as a praise in the earth). They will not keep silent day or night. God promised to set intercessors in place by stirring them to this and providing for them.

6I have set watchmen on your walls...they shall never hold their peace [be silent, NAS] day or night...7give Him no rest till He establishes...Jerusalem a praise in the earth. (Isa. 62:6-7)