

# The Prince

## Jim Smith

(This material has been written with Ghana in mind. The principles apply as much to the UK as they do to Ghana.)

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## Introduction

**And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (Colossians 2:15)**

My understanding of this issue began as I rested in the heavenly places.

*I saw a figure of a very old man. He has been around for a very long time. His very presence was depressive and his every action brought more and more depression. Gloom and despair hung like a mist around him. His name was **The Ancient One**. His purpose was, and still is, to bring Ghana down.*

## Chapter 1: Character of the Prince

If this vision is from God, then what is the aim of the Ancient one – this Prince?

*He weakens the will, suppresses hope, undermines anything that is good, deceives and destroys everything that is good by deception, trickery or threat. He wants to humiliate Ghana, so that he can mock the Lord and show that he has broken the Lord's precious child. He wants to reign over Ghana.*

The Bible reveals its character -

### \* Worship

**Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." (Matthew 4:8-9)**

The Prince wants to be worshipped. If the fallen angels once had a place in heaven, then the Prince wants it back, and he wants to rule over Ghana/UK. He wants the human spirit to be bowed down to worship in defeat.

**The Prince will damage the worship of God's people in these ways -**

- \* **Corrupt** worship, drawing it to himself.
- \* **Fill worship** with counterfeit signs, gifts and wonders which do not come from the Spirit.
- \* **Exalt personal ministries** - putting pride and personal satisfaction at the heart when the heart should be a free offering to the Lord without any desire for reward.
- \* **Dazzle with big events.** Big Preachers, big feelings and emotions - worship which does not have the heart, yet Ghana does not see it.

If the Prince can achieve this, then access to Father's throne will be blocked. It will be said of Ghana/UK -

**"These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me."** (Matthew 15:8)

## **\* To reign and rule**

The Prince wants to rule over humanity. Revelation shows this -

**Then I saw a second beast, coming out of the earth. It had two horns like a lamb, but it spoke like a dragon. It exercised all the authority of the first beast on its behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. And it performed great signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to the earth in full view of the people.**

**Because of the signs it was given power to perform on behalf of the first beast, it deceived the inhabitants of the earth. It ordered them to set up an image in honour of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. (Revelation 13:11-15)**

The Prince does everything to get onto the throne of Ghana/UK. He does not do it from love and sacrifice, but from arrogance, aggression and a desire to dominate. He will show himself as the voice of reason, of tolerance, of any and every Faith, of a mature "Everyone can have his own idea" approach. Or he will blind God's people to his working, while in secret he builds his strength. He will use deception. He will enter the heart of the church, weakening and enslaving. He will use every avenue open to him and he will persist, especially as he is mostly unopposed.

## **\* Obstruct**

**Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified. (1 Sam.17: 10-11)**

The Prince will obstruct the work of the Lord, just as Goliath tried to obstruct the people of God. He will raise up mighty strongholds and taunt God's people.

## **What are the strongholds he has erected in Ghana/UK?**

### **The Strong man**

**“In fact, no one can enter a strong man’s house without first tying him up.” (Mark 4:27)**

The Prince is strong, and he builds his own place, where he can settle in comfort and challenge the Lord. He believes he cannot be broken. He is, he believes, strong. He always shows himself as strong.

### **Roots reach into the darkness**

**“Some lived in darkness and in the shadow of death.” (Ps 107:10)**

The Prince has many smaller strongholds reaching down into the darkness. For example - Fetish, witches, spiritists, Voodoo, natural religions, superstition and fear. To this might be added corruption in the Nation and in the high places of power. All this gives the Prince strength. Then he can bind, deceive damage, and control.

### **Destruction of the heritage**

**“The people of Samaria must bear their guilt, because they have rebelled against their God. They will fall by the sword; their little ones will be dashed to the ground, their pregnant women ripped open.” (Hosea 13:16)**

The Prince would gladly “rip open” our heritage, stealing the young and corrupting them as he has corrupted the current generation.

### **Innocent blood**

**Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. (Genesis 4:10-11)**

Innocent blood cries out for justice and revenge. The Prince draws strength from this uncovered and unredeemed blood. Most in Ghana seem unaware of this – just what the Prince wants.

## **Pride**

**"I thank you Father that I am not like other men." (Luke 18:11)**

This stronghold is so dangerous because it stands against the Lord's authority. He himself said "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." (Exodus 20:2) The Virgin Mary underlined this – "He has performed mighty deeds with his arm. He has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts." (Luke 1:51)

## **Spiritual blindness**

**Now the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread were only two days away, and the chief priests and the teachers of the law were scheming to arrest Jesus secretly and kill him. (Mark 14:1)**

This is one of the hardest strongholds to break down. When Jesus challenged the Jewish leaders, they shut their minds by saying "We have Abraham as our father!" (John 8:39) In other words, "There is nothing you can tell us that we do not already know." I have found this stronghold everywhere in Ghana/UK. Here it is - "Whatever you say, God will never judge Ghana or leave us." This stronghold kills. It crushes ministries and blocks prayer. It has to be brought down.

## **Hidden sin**

**If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened. (Psalm 66:18)**

This is another dangerous stronghold as Joshua discovered with Achan.

**But the Israelites were unfaithful in regard to the devoted things; Achan son of Karmi, the son of Zimri, the son of Zerah, of the tribe of Judah, took some of them. So the Lord's anger burned against Israel. (See full story in Joshua 7:1-12)**

Hidden sin is ground on which Satan can build this stronghold. Often good things fail and no one knows why. The Lord will reveal, but if God's people are unaware of this stronghold, how can he reveal anything to them?

Hidden sin is everywhere - in Politics, in business and in the Church. It has to be rooted out or it will hold back the spirit of repentance. The Lord will not overlook hidden and unconfessed sin - a truth which the stronghold of spiritual blindness will take hold of and it's worth ituse.

## **Satanic activity**

**Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)**

Satanic activity in the land gives him ground on which to oppose. And his activity is ugly and violent. He is looking to cause trouble.

## **Pull down**

**One evening David got up from his bed and walked around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very beautiful, and David sent someone to find out about her. The man said, "She is Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam and the wife of Uriah the Hittite." Then David sent messengers to get her. She came to him, and he slept with her. Then she went back home. The woman conceived and sent word to David, saying, "I am pregnant." (2 Samuel 10:2-5)**

David's sin pulled him down from the integrity which should be in the heart of a leader. David recovered - but at a great cost. The Prince is not a force which builds up but one which pulls down. He will pull down leaders - political and spiritual. He will pull them down by corruption, by pride, or by deceit. But as he pulls down integrity, so falsehood and deceit advance. Leaders who are false will get promoted. He will take decades to undermine in this way. Once he has pulled down, the way is open for him to increase.

## **Spiritual powers**

**"A people has come out of Egypt; they cover the face of the land and have settled next to me. Now come and put a curse on these people, because they are too powerful for me. Perhaps then I will be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land. For I know that whoever you bless is blessed, and whoever you curse is cursed." (Numbers 22:5-6)**

**Goliath said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. (1 Samuel 17:41-43)**

The Prince will never hesitate to use spiritual powers against a nation. Balaam used curses and so did Goliath. The fight is against the dark powers in the heavenly places and they will invoke spiritual powers against the nation.

**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. (Ephesians 6:12)**

This is war, and the enemy will set the demons against God's people. He is evil, and if all else fails he will manifest himself in other evil forces. It can be vile -

**When the king of Moab saw that the battle had gone against him, he took with him seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but they failed. Then he took his firstborn son, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a sacrifice on the city wall. (2 Kings 3:26-7)**

## **Chains**

**This man lived in the tombs, and no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain. For he had often been chained hand and foot, but he tore the chains apart and broke the irons on his feet. No one was strong enough to subdue him. Night and day among the tombs and in the hills he would cry out and cut himself with stones.**

**(Mark 5:3-5)**

It is so important to get to the heart of the Prince, and with the story of Legion a number of characteristics all come together. There is no good there, even if he tries to deceive with a good face. His nature is violent -

**Goliath** - As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. (1 Samuel 17:48)

**Golden Statue** - "Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace." (Daniel 3:6)

**The beast** - The second beast was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that the image could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed. (Revelation 13:16)

The Prince will chain and break. This is his nature as we see in Revelation -

**They had as king over them the angel of the Abyss, whose name in Hebrew is Abaddon and in Greek is Apollyon (that is, Destroyer). (Revelation 9:11)**

## **\* Deceiver**

**Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?" (Genesis 3:1)**

**And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. (2 Corinthians 11:14)**

The Prince remains a dangerous threat to Ghana/UK. Why hasn't he been pulled down before? Because he deceives God's people. He uses intellect and philosophy to convince the wise that he is not there. Or he comes to an agreement - "Leave me alone and I will leave you alone." He lulls the people into a false sense of security. He shows himself as not really a big threat.

Or he shows himself in success, wealth, prosperity and achievement. God's people then come to believe that these things are marks of the Spirit of God - not the deceptions which they are. Anyone who points out the deceptions is accused of being a Deceiver! This is how far the Prince has built this stronghold, and how hard it will be to bring it down.

The Prince is a liar and a deceiver - the Father of Lies. (John 8:44) In this disguise he is really at his most dangerous. For unopposed he will gain access to the Kingdom and destroy the church. Once he has weakened or destroyed God's people, he can march across the nation, crying "They are mine." But by then it will be too late to oppose him and bring him down. Time is short.

## **\* His heart**

This is his essence, the heart of his nature -

### **Angry**

**Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to wage war against the rest of her offspring—those who keep God's commands and hold fast their testimony about Jesus. (Rev 12:17)**

This Prince is *always* angry. This is his nature. He is angry that he is subservient to the Lord, angry against any godly work in Ghana/UK, even angry within the dark kingdom that he is not the supreme one. He is especially angry about the Church which represents everything he wants and everything he hates.

### **Restless**

**Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8)**

The Prince has no home, no throne, no permanent place. It prowls around, looking to disturb and destroy. It brings this unsettledness into situations.

### **Afraid**

**Then the Philistine said, "This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other." On hearing the Philistine's words, Saul and all the Israelites were dismayed and terrified. (1 Samuel 17:10-11)**

Goliath brought fear into God's people. This is because fear is part of his nature. The Prince brings it on people because he himself is afraid. The Princes are always afraid. It is the mark of their kingdom, just as joy and freedom are a mark of God's kingdom.



This fear has its root in the Lord's teaching on the Stronger One. (Mark 3:23-29) The Prince is afraid that another stronger One will destroy him

## **\* Negatives**

There are some negatives in the character of the Prince – and this might be the way of breaking it. Here are some of them. -

### **\* Inflexible. Balak.** (Numbers 22)

Balak could not change his strategy, even though he saw it was not working. In the same way, the Prince is not flexible. God's people are, because it is part of the character of the Spirit -

**The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.**" (John 3:8)

The Prince does not have this flexibility. He doesn't have the "Wind blows where he wishes" in his heart. He is pedantic - he has feet of clay. He cannot easily flex. He has "method" -

**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.** (Ephesians 6:11)

But his method is his weakness. He cannot read the signs.

**Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest.** (John 4:35)

God's people move within the wind of the Spirit and can change direction quickly. This is a character weakness in the Prince prayer warriors might exploit if they get used to moving quickly in response to the Spirit's prompting.

### **\* Glory.**

At the birth of Jesus angels filled the heavens -

**Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests."** (Luke 2:14-15)

The Prince cannot keep this glory out, and nor can he keep God's people out. He may be a strong Jericho, but Jericho is a prison not a safe place. His attempt to appear unbeatable is a lie. Sadly, many believe it.

But he doesn't. He knows that when the glory fills the heaven, it will pour into the satanic strongholds and break them. The glory is a powerful weapon, if only we can work out how to use it.

# Chapter 2: Breaking him

Here are some of the things which must be there from the start.

## 1. Much prayer

**It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them. He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword. When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.**

**So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. (Acts 12:1-5)**

It was prayer and prayer alone which saved Peter. It is prayer and prayer alone which changes things. If the Prince is going to be broken, the Intercessors have to increase their prayer. This is where they have to begin -

### **Pouring out hearts before the Lord**

Hannah was a very sad woman. She could have no children, while her rival could have many. One day, Hannah went to the Temple to share her sorrow with God. She was praying so hard that Eli the Priest thought she had been drinking, but she replied -

**Not so, my lord," Hannah replied, "I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer; I was pouring out my soul to the Lord. Do not take your servant for a wicked woman; I have been praying here out of my great anguish and grief." (1 Samuel 1:15)**

She poured out her heart. Intercessors must also be pouring out their hearts before the Lord to break the Prince

### **Mourning before the Lord**

To "pouring out" has to be added mourning. The loss of national promise and the state of Ghana/UK has to be, to God's people, like grief – like a death. "Mourning" must go very deep into the intercessory hearts.

Israel mourned for the loss of Israel as the people settled into Babylon -

**Beside the rivers of Babylon, we sat and wept as we thought of Jerusalem. We put away our harps, hanging them on the branches of poplar trees. For our captors demanded a song from us. Our tormentors insisted on a joyful hymn: "Sing us one of those songs of Jerusalem!" But how can we sing the songs of the Lord while in a pagan land? (Ps 137:1-4) (New Living Translation)**

Jesus encouraged mourning. He said this to the women of Jerusalem as they watched his progress to Calvary -

**"Daughters of Jerusalem, don't weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children." (Luke 23:28)**

God's people mourn when they see things from the Lord's point of view -

*I saw the Lord staggering up to Calvary. His cross was so heavy. "I am bearing the weight of sorrow, disappointment, failure, sin, grief and death" he said. "These burdens I bear. The heaviest of all I my wasted child Ghana. This is the weight of the cross."*

## **2. Repentance has to begin. (1 Samuel 7)**

This is the pattern of repentance at Mizpah. This process will lay the groundwork for breaking the Prince.

**1. Then Samuel said to all the people of Israel, "If you want to return to the Lord with all your hearts, get rid of your foreign gods and your images of Ashtoreth. Turn your hearts to the Lord and obey him alone; then he will rescue you from the Philistines."**  
(1 Samuel 7:3)

There's a lot of challenge in this first step -

**Must want to return.** Without this desire, the spirit of repentance cannot flow. Do the people of Ghana/UK long for a return? Or long enough for a life changing experience of repentance?

**With all your hearts.** Repentance has to come from the heart, not the head. Longing and yearning flow from the emotions and the spirit, not from the head.

**Get rid of your foreign gods and your images of Ashtoreth.** Plenty of false gods in Ghana/U.K. – "My personal blessing;" "My year of abundance;" "My year of overcoming." My! My! My! All this has to go, along with the prosperity message which is the foundation for all this self-promotion and self-building up. This all has to go.

The image of the suffering servant, of the obedient servant, of the sacrificial servant which has been the backbone of Faith for 2000 years has been abandoned in Ghana/U.K. for one of prosperity and wealth and comfort. This false image has to go.

The Ghanaian attitude that “God will never judge us, whatever we do” has to be abandoned for a humility and a trust in a loving God who has standards of justice which we have to keep.

Even at the beginning, repentance is looking like a radical change of attitude and behaviour. Few people will want to abandon their comfort for this rugged pathway. But, like it not, it is the only pathway left to us.

**\* Turn your hearts to the Lord.** This is a powerful challenge. The people of Israel had not just got into a mess by accident. They had turned away from the Lord. Now, they have to do another very hard thing - turn their hearts back to him.

This means not only getting rid of the wrong but beginning to walk in the ancient paths again – serving, being humble, trusting in him and not on themselves, hoping for his mercy, depending on his love. Ghana is in the same position. Turning hearts back to the Lord is a whole new way of living.

This is a work of the Holy Spirit - releasing the spirit of repentance and bringing hearts back into line with the Lord. It is a work of grace, but it requires positive co-operation.

**\* Obey him alone.** People have been obeying their heart’s desire - taking and keeping, trusting in themselves, looking for comfort and blessing. Changing this is not easy.

Ghana/UK has forgotten what the voice of the Lord sounds like, so obeying that voice is not going to come back easily.

And as for “Alone?” There is already a very strong voice of another god calling in both lands, and many are obeying that voice. Hearing the true voice is getting increasingly difficult.

Disobedience has not only wrecked personal lives, it has wrecked the spiritual life of Ghana. The repairs needed are massive. Are enough of us prepared for it?

**\* Then he will rescue you from the Philistines.** God does want to call his people back. But there is the word “Then.” Only if there is repentance can there be a return. He loves his people and needs them to change from what they have become so that they can become what he longs for them to become. Samuel might well have agreed with this verse -

**Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.** (2 Chronicles 7:14)

**2. So the Israelites put away their Baals and Ashtoreths and served the Lord only.**

The spirit of repentance made a big impact. It did the same at Ephesus -

**When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honour. Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed what they had done. A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power. (Acts 19:17-20)**

Repentance has to show. But such signs will emerge slowly. Men and women will put their lives in order. Families will begin to come together to serve the Lord. People begin to return to church. Services begin to sense a new power. Ministers and ministries begin to sense a new power.

Ministers and ministries which have been ungodly read away. There will be changes in national life, with godly things beginning to happen more and more. In Ephesus this resulted in a huge public demonstration. Such things are good but in the end it is the hearts of men and women that have to be changed. The Lord sees the hearts and the changes in them and repentance begins to change things.

### **3. Assemble all Israel at Mizpah, and I will intercede with the Lord for you.” (v 5)**

Central to repentance is moving the heart of God. The Intercessors have started to do this already. But the intercession has to change at this point.

From urging the Lord to release the longing for repentance, now intercessors plead for Nation itself, that the people - the whole body of Christ will be open to the Lord moving in repentance.

This word needs to fill the body of Christ -

**Come, let us return to the Lord. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. (Hosea 6:1)**

### **4. When they had assembled at Mizpah, they drew water and poured it out before the Lord. On that day they fasted and there they confessed, “We have sinned against the Lord.” (v 6)**

Israel is admitting their sin - the true path of repentance.

**Nehemiah did this** - “I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father’s family, have committed against you.” (Nehemiah 1:6)

**David did this** - “For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.” (Psalm 51:3-4)

It is the key turning moment in repentance. It is reversing Adam and Eve. They just tried to blame others –

**The man replied, "It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it." Then the Lord God asked the woman, "What have you done?" "The serpent deceived me," she replied. "That's why I ate it." (Gen 3:13-14)**

These days have to end. "We have sinned." How will this work? First, it has to work at the personal level. "I have sinned." This will lead to changed lives. This is how the Lord would have saved Sodom. With ten repentant people living in the city, living repentant lives, a ripple effect would have started to change others.

Think about this verse-

**If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness. If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us. (1 John 1:8-10)**

At the wider level it is not so easy. But Joel expected it, so way has to be worked out -

**Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children, those nursing at the breast. Let the bridegroom leave his room and the bride her chamber. Let the priests, who minister before the Lord, weep between the portico and the altar. Let them say, "Spare your people, Lord. (Joel 2:15-17)**

It can work nationally as well. The Chronicler taught -

**If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. (2 Chronicles 7:14)**

**5 When the Philistines heard that Israel had assembled at Mizpah, the rulers of the Philistines came up to attack them.**

The enemy always attacks repentant people He knows and fears repentance. He knows that God is forgiving and that a repentant and re-vitalised people will be a much harder opponent.

**6. Do not stop crying out to the Lord our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines." Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and sacrificed it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. He cried out to the Lord on Israel's behalf, and the Lord answered him.**

Here is the key to releasing the spirit of repentance - the sacrifice of the lamb. Here are some key verses -

**He was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. (Isaiah 53:7)**

**When John saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!” (John 1:36)**  
**For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.**  
(1 Peter 1:18-19)

The sacrifice of Jesus is the key to all new beginnings. A new stream begins to flow from the cross. Here is how I saw it while I was in the spirit -

*I was on the cross. Looking down, I saw a river of love. The river was deep, vast and eternal and it was flowing from his body. I saw broken people coming to the river. There they found healing and the strength to bear their sorrows. An angel came to the cross and proclaimed, “Perfect love drives out all fear.”*

## **7. He cried out to the Lord on Israel’s behalf, and the Lord answered him.**

It is hard to believe that the Lord can save a nation. It seems such a huge task, and God’s people feel so small. Maybe, but God is not small. If God’s people follow the path of repentance, personally and for the Nation, God can do it.

## **Come to Calvary**

The way to repent and see that the path is through Calvary is going to be tough. The Lord opened the Passion to me once and I was shocked at the powerful emotions there -

- \* The despair was indescribable.*
- \* The darkness so aggressive.*
- \* Helplessness was everywhere.*

I experienced this only on the fringe of the Passion. What must it be like nearer the cross? This is the path which must be walked - deeper and deeper into the cross.

How do we walk it to break the Prince?

## **1. Gethsemane to the crucifixion**

From the Garden of Gethsemane, the arrest, the betrayal, the trial, the scourging, the walk to Calvary the execution and the agony - in all of this the Princes were in control. They became ever more violent and triumphant. They mocked, ridiculed and exalted in destruction.

God’s people have to walk this path, absorbing all this pain and hurt. It is the only way to the moment of victory. This is the way -

**Just as there were many who were appalled at him—his appearance was so disfigured beyond that of any human being and his form marred beyond human likeness. (Isaiah 52:14)**

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer, by night, but I find no rest Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One; you are the one Israel praises. In you our ancestors put their trust; they trusted and you delivered them. (Psalm 22:1-15)**

## **2. “My God, my God why have you forsaken me.”**

All prayer finally arrives here. This was the moment of total destruction and sacrifice. At this point the Prince was broken. This they could not copy, counterfeit or mimic. Intercessors have to get here and from Here must plead the blood. Then the Prince can be broken. He knows this and he fears it.



# Chapter 3. Breaking the Stronghold

**No weapon forged against you will prevail, and you will refute every tongue that accuses you. (Isaiah 54:17)**

The Prince wants God's people to think that he cannot be broken, and that he is free to roam the Land. But as Jericho shows, he is very afraid that God's people will see through his lie -

**Before the spies lay down for the night, Rahab went up on the roof and said to them, "I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. (Joshua 2:8-11)**

Fear filled the Satanic stronghold of Jericho. As I thought about this, I had this vision -

*In the spirit, I found myself inside the stronghold of the Prince. A voice whispered to me - "You had better get out of here." "Not at all" I replied and called down thousands of angels to form a stronghold of glory and praise within the Prince's stronghold. I poured the blood of Jesus all around them, so that they can never be moved.*

The angels are within the stronghold of the Prince, and they are worshipping the Lord within the blood. This gives great strength and a foundation on which to move against the Prince. Prayer warriors must join with those angels regularly, so that heaven and earth are establishing a Sanctuary within the Stronghold.

## Our weapons

**For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. (2 Corinthians 10:3-4)**

Many of God's people either do not want to fight, or do not know how to fight. The weapons of a spiritual battle are very different from anything else which prayer warriors have met in their lives as Christians.. What are these weapons?

### Prayer

**So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him. (Acts 12:5)**

Peter was only saved by an angel, but it was the tough unyielding prayer of the church which moved God to send the angel.

This tough unyielding prayer - prayer which will never give in, no matter what comes against it – is the prayer which will break the stronghold. It puts pressure on the Prince, and never yields until he breaks, even if it takes a hundred years.

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This is very risky prayer. The Prince is a killer and he will push back. He will disturb families, finances, work, health, marriage and anything else he can get at. This is a price Which gods people have to be prepared to pay. Prayer is warfare until the last breath.

## **Sacrifice of repentance**

**When the Philistines heard that Israel had assembled at Mizpah, the rulers of the Philistines came up to attack them. When the Israelites heard of it, they were afraid because of the Philistines. They said to Samuel, “Do not stop crying out to the Lord our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines.” Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and sacrificed it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. He cried out to the Lord on Israel’s behalf, and the Lord answered him.**

(1 Samuel 7:7-9)

Israel was coming back to the Lord in repentance. The Philistines saw this and attacked. The Prince will do the same. What can we do when, nation, the Prince, like the Philistines, attacks?

Samuel offered the sacrifice, and there is no better weapon -

**First he said, “Sacrifices and offerings, burnt offerings and sin offerings you did not desire, nor were you pleased with them”—though they were offered in accordance with the law. Then he said, “Here I am, I have come to do your will.” He sets aside the first to establish the second. And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. (Hebrews 10:8-10)**

**For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.**

(1 Peter 1:18-19)

Those who pray have to become that sacrifice as they fight the Prince. He has to see not those who fight but the sacrifice of Christ within them. They must become living crucifixions. The sacrifice has to consume them and set them on fire. This has to be real for those who fight -

**He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth. By oppression and judgment he was taken away. Yet who of his generation protested? For he was cut off from the land of the living; for the transgression of my people he was punished.**

**He was assigned a grave with the wicked, and with the rich in his death, though he had done no violence, nor was any deceit in his mouth. (Isaiah 53:7-9)**

Samuel set the pattern. He did not run away or save his own life. He stood against the enemy with the people and released the power of the sacrifice. There is no other way.

## **Release the blood**

**Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:24)**

### **\* The better blood -**

It is the blood which will break the Prince. This is his strength -

**The Lord said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground. (Genesis 4:12)**

This is the strength of God's people -

**Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. (Hebrews 12:24)**

### **\* Blood on the gates**

**Then they are to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and tops of the doorframes of the houses where they eat the lambs. (Exodus 12:7)**

Those who pray have to put the blood on the gates of the Nation, so that the Prince will know that he has invaded a land protected by the blood of Jesus.

### **\* Healing blood**

**But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin. (1 John 1:7)**

The blood for healing, forgiveness and new beginnings Has to be released.

## **Bind the strong man**

**In fact, no one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house. (Mark 3:27)**

The Prince is a complex spirituality. Like Legion, he is made up of many. One of the ways of restricting him is to begin to bind some of the more obvious ones. This may look a very small action, but all military engagements begin by destroying little things.

This begins to trouble our enemy and puts fear into him. - How do we know which things to bind? Intercessors know that such binding has to be God-centred -

**Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. (Romans 8:26)**

The binding begins by getting into the flow of the Holy Spirit, as he intercedes with Father. If God's people listen carefully, the Spirit will begin to intercede about what things need binding. Then God's people do what they hear the spirit doing. The Prince will be terrified of this - he remembers Mizpah.

## **Protect the gates of the Nation**

Babylon dedicated its gate to the false gods. The dedication effectively cursed the city of Babylon, and from it flowed so much violence and evil. The character of the city was marked as demonic and standing against God. It did not last.

The spiritual gates of a nation are part of its spiritual heritage. These gates are inscribed with words which will affect the spiritual life of the nation. It is vital that God's people know them and the name they carry. What about the spiritual gates of Ghana? The U.K? I had this vision some years ago -

*The Lord lifted me up into the heavens, and I saw Ghana. I felt the heart of the Lord, yearning and aching for this land, which he loves. His eyes looked over the North, the South, the East and the West, and as I followed his gaze, I saw mighty angels at the gates of the land.*

*I asked, "What are these Lord?"*

*The Lord replied "I placed these Watchers at the gates of the land before the foundation of the world. They were a sign in the heavenly places that this land was under my protection, under my care. Day after day I watched over Ghana, to see that the purity of the land was protected. Then when my people were called, I trusted the land to them.*

*The watchers can only watch. But my blood can protect and sanctify this land. So I waited – waited to see if my people would take the blood of the sacrifice and place it on the bars of the gates of the land, so that they would be safe, and the heritage would be safe.*

*I asked, "What is the heritage Lord?" He replied "The heritage is that this land has been created to be a blessing to all of Africa. Here I have placed my seal, and from here I will move." I asked "Lord, have your people obeyed you? Is the blood on the gates? Is the heritage safe.".*

If the blood is not on the spiritual gates, then the Prince will find easy access – and he has found easy access. If the blood is not there Ghana/U.K. is not named as belonging to the Lord. This will lead to terrible consequences. The nation is not protected. If gates are not marked with the blood, the nation is easily exposed to being marked by the beast

It looks, if this vision is true, as if a terrible mistake was made by our forefathers, and Ghana/U.K. is now living in a spiritual environment where another is rising up, and the blood does not cry out from the gates- "These are mine." Is it time to rededicate the gates, remove the mark of the Prince and anoint them with the blood?

## **Reclaim**

**And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." (Matthew 28:20)**

The Prince owns nothing. Whatever he has, he has stolen and this is a weapon we can use against him as the Lord did -

**Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me. (Matthew 4:8-9)**

But also -

**"You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies." (John 8:44)**

Everything belongs to Jesus. It's time to take back what has been stolen - especially our heritage. How? We worship. We worship the Lord in any and every place, raising his authority over places and people. A tidal wave of worship washes the enemy away and brings the nation back to a true foundation.