

INHERITING THE NATIONS SERIES

THE SECRET PLACE OF THE MOST HIGH

Lets look at the book of Ps. 91 *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty, will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust." For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence; he will cover you with his pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrows that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your habitation, no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent. For he shall give his angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways. On their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone. You will tread on the lion and the adder, the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot. Because he cleaves to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name. When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will rescue him and honor him. With long life I will satisfy him, and show him my salvation.*

This is a very powerful Psalm. If we take it that it was a continuation from Ps. 90 then it would have been Moses who wrote it. If we take it that it was a separate Psalm by itself, it could have been David who wrote it. It was definitely written by one who has a tremendous experience with God. Tonight I want to talk about the

secret place of the Most High. There is a place in God that we could reach that very few have come into. Sometimes some people have a glimpse of that place. Other people have a temporary experience of that place. But it is in God and the call of God that we would come and live and constantly be in that place - the secret place of the Most High. It's a powerful place to be in.

Being in the secret place of the Most High gives you power with God that is not possible for the normal people. Being in the secret place of the Most High puts you in a position where you could reason with God. There have been people in the old covenant who have done that. People like Abraham who has in a sense interceded and come to God and say God if there be 50 righteous in Sodom and Gomorrah will you spare it. And God said yes. And he started coming down 40, and then he goes down finally to 10. And God listened to Abraham. God hearkened to his request. It was as if Abraham was invited to a board meeting with God. It is as if that here is a program of action and the board can still make a decision and change it.

Imagine a big factory. You could either be a factory worker who has to see that the parts under your section are properly placed the way they should be. Or you may be the supervisor who has more authority and is overseeing all the factory workers. Or you may be the manager who makes decision about how much to produce and stock. Or you could go further and be a director or one of the board members. And you make bigger decisions. The greater the degree of position and authority, the greater the decision-making affects the people down the line. When a factory worker makes a decision, he may affect just the product he is handling. When a supervisor makes a decision it may affect several people and how they are going make their shift work. When a manager makes a decision everybody under him get affected. When a board member makes a decision the whole factory gets affected. There are different degrees of natural authority.

And there are different degrees of spiritual authority. We have always understood that all Christians are kings and priests. But one of the things we begin to learn in Christian life is that there are different callings. And based on different callings God gives different assignments and different authority to carry out that calling. There is also different zeal. Some have a greater zeal to seek God but some are half hearted. And that different amount of zeal produces a different amount of closeness with

God. It takes zeal to come to know God intimately. There is a place in God call the secret place of the Most High where it's like entering the boardroom of God. Obviously by the time you enter the boardroom a lot of things would have happened to your life. A lot of the sharp edges have been polished so that we cannot see any more sharp edges. A lot of the character flaws that make you carnal would have been chopped off. Such that when you are in that position and God gives you an offer like He offered Moses, saying, "Moses I will destroy all the Israelites and make of you a great nation." What an offer. Moses says, "No, Lord. What about the honor of Your name? What will people say of You?" And God relented. What authority he had with God.

Now there are a lot of people who would like to have that kind of authority. And every time somebody displeases them, they would say, "O God zap that fellow, zap this fellow." If God were to give them an offer like He gave Moses, asking, "Would you like me to zap them?" they would have said yes. For that very reason they are not God's board members. It is strange those who want that power with God they can't get it. Those who don't want it they have it. They don't misuse their authority. Many people would wish that they had the same power of Jesus. When Satan came and said to Jesus to turn the stones into bread, Jesus had the power to do so. But when you reached that point that He reached, you don't want to use that power to fulfill your own needs. But when Satan comes to many people and tell them to turn the stones into bread, they would instead turn the stones into gold.

It is important for us to know that there must be something in that authority that people can reach with God. But in the process of reaching it you become like God your nature has to be transformed. Obviously it has something very closely linked to a nature transformation in our being in order to reach that level of authority. None of the qualification of leadership specifies gifting of power. They specify areas that have to do with our life style, with our attitude, with our heart, with our character. And Paul was talking about bishops and deacons and elders and these are places of spiritual authority. Obviously character development has a lot to do with spiritual authority.

Spiritual authority is not necessarily the same with spiritual power. Spiritual power

comes through an endowment by the Holy Spirit upon. It comes through the gifting of the Holy Spirit and the call of God. Spiritual authority comes as a result of your inner character development. Spiritual power comes from the outside and spiritual authority comes from the inside although the two are related and they function very closely together. When authority works power flows. When power flows it seems that the person has authority. But there is a difference. One is a life the other is a gift.

When somebody gets an anointing upon and they begin to exercise dominion, they begin to take authority over the nations. It's through an anointing upon that they are doing it. It's through a gift that is not based on works that are doing it. And the moment the anointing leaves there is no more authority. They are functioning based on power and not based on authority. Under the anointing as they function in that power it produces authority. And they really move the hand of God. So when spiritual power works it produce spiritual authority. When spiritual authority works it produces spiritual power. There is one difference: spiritual authority is permanent. It's part of our development and life. Spiritual power is temporal based on an anointing upon. That is why sometimes you can have a young Christian whose life is not very developed and who can be very carnal and yet who can flow in the anointing. Lets say a minister who is young in the Lord and who has a tremendous gifts of God. Then under the anointing he began to take authority and power and do many signs and wonders. When the devil flees, he is responding to the gift of God. But the moment that anointing leaves the minister sometimes you are shocked at his character. And yet that person has so much authority. It is the gift of God.

The secret place of the Most High has to do with authority. Notice in the book of Matt. 28:18 *And Jesus came and said to them. "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.* Some of us have read that scripture so many times that you could read it again and don't get anything. Let me put it in a different way. All authority has been given to me in heaven and in the United States of America, in Malaysia, in Asia, in Africa, can you see what I am talking about now. It says on the earth. The bible is very descriptive. Sometimes the bible speaks about under the earth where there are demonic powers. But here He is saying all authority, whether natural and spiritual, is in Jesus' hand. Let that sink in a bit. It's a very powerful word. All the authority that controls all the nations of the world, all the government is on His

shoulder. How did He get it? Did He get elected? How did Jesus get authority? Understand it in this way: all kings, all presidents and all world leaders received permission from God to rule and reign. In a sense I am saying nobody is actually democratically elected. If it is not God's will for anyone to rise up, it's impossible to get elected. God holds the reigns of influence of the heart and mind of people in His hands.

I must trace certain things so that you can see further. Our 20th century in terms of man's history in comparison to every other century is like a century of democracy. We forget that on this planet earth all authority is given to Jesus. Even in the Old Testament it was in the hand of God. No one could rise whether it is a monarchy, a democracy, a socialism or whatever, no one could have authority unless the highest court of the universe where the real board meeting takes place and where heaven decides and said so. God has planned every human government from the ages. But He doesn't reveal everything. But He brings forth another part of His planning and says Gabriel it is now time for Persia to have authority. It's my plan so go forth. And Gabriel comes to this planet earth. And there was one of the mightiest kingdoms that was ever established, the Babylonian Empire. And Gabriel comes and sees the might and the power that was there. He comes and says authority is taken away from you. And then he goes to the middle Persian Empire and comes to Darius the Mede and says Darius authority is now yours. And he strengthens his hand. And Darius may or may not know it. Darius may or may not have met Gabriel. Understand this Gabriel may not have manifested himself to Darius. Darius may not even know what was going on. He doesn't know that Gabriel is helping him. If Gabriel is not helping him he can tell ten thousand people to join him, the ten thousand people will say no way. But with Gabriel helping him its different. When authority came on Darius the Mede suddenly he became prominent. Suddenly their fame went forth.

Now it looks like it is by the might of the human army. We rule God out of the picture. When somebody wins we look for natural reasons. We never look for whether God is there. All these things I am talking about are in the bible. In the book of Dan.11: 1 the angel Gabriel said, *And as for me, in the first year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to confirm and strengthen him.* Notice the two things angel brought to Darius: I confirm him and strengthen him. How did he confirm him? He brought that authority and put it on him. Something happened to Darius' life, and as a

result he rises up as a king. The angel also strengthens him. But there is something Gabriel said in Dan.10: 20 *Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? But now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I am through with him, lo, the prince of Greece will come.* Notice something here, when Gabriel goes the prince of Greece will come. How do we see the whole picture? It was God who gave power and authority to Darius the Mede and the middle Persian Empire. At the same time God also allowed Cyrus to rise up as king. It was a twin kingdom that came forth. The Middle Persian Empire we call it in history rose up through God's help.

After they have rose up in power, as usual the people forgot God. And they began to depend on their own strength and on their own might. And after receiving the position they began to use that position to do the wrong thing. You know people can start in the spirit and end up in the flesh. And they began to yield to the wrong thing. And the devil that is all the time deceiving, stealing, killing, destroying, when he saw the power the Persian had, he crept in and slowly influenced the Persians. When he succeeded in doing that, he places his princes over Persia. And slowly Persia came to the point where it was no more doing what God wanted it to do. But who gave that authority - God. And who stole that authority - Satan. Now isn't this a familiar story.

And if you think that this is only one story I could account many others in the bible. Who gave the Israelites the land of Canaan - God? Now in the end after they became mighty, after they are rich and they are prosperous they forgot the Lord. They yielded to Baal worship. They yielded to idolatry. And God has to take away the authority and give it to somebody else. Can you see that same pattern? God gave and the devil stole. This has been the same story in the history of the nations of the world. When Gabriel was coming in by that time the Persian Empire had already reached a point where demonic powers were now influencing it. And Satan has set one of his key guys called the prince of Persia to rule and reign over something that was God. This is true in the book of Daniel, in the history of nation and is also true in our own life. Who gave Adam the authority? Who stole it from him, same story?

In Dan.11: 1 Gabriel gave Darius the Mede he confirm and strengthen him. And it also happened to Cyrus. Remember whatever God gives has the power to

reproduce. All you need to do is to learn to yield to that gift. But there is always a human choice to use it wrongly. Don't forget that somebody is longing for that authority. Who is that guy - the devil? He steals that authority by dominating and influencing the Persians until Persia became evil. God then removes the Persians' power and God commanded power to be given to the Greeks. Gabriel goes and sends the authority now to the Greeks. And Gabriel goes and began to strengthen the Greeks. Notice here when he came to Daniel at that time he was seeking to remove the prince of Persia. Michael the Archangel helped Gabriel because the latter was being opposed. Now notice in verse 20 again. *Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight the prince of Persia.* He must return to fight the prince of Persia to take back what God has given. When God take it from you no one can help you.

God took his glory out of Israel and that was the end of Israel. As long as the glory was on Israel they were never defeated. But every time they sinned the glory was affected and Israel became subjugated. Then you find a man who knows God and he brings Israel to greatness. Then you find a man who doesn't know God and he brings Israel back into sin. And the story of kings went that way, back and forth. Finally God says there is too much sin and idolatry I am taking my glory back.

In the book of Ezekiel it records how God called His glory back. And the day the glory left judgment began to fall. So Gabriel came to take off all the authority and gave it to the prince of Greece. We know from history how Greece became a mighty empire. If you look at it, it is quite amazing. In a short time up it comes. What was behind the Greeks' military, economy and government was a gift of God. The incidences that I mentioned are only samples. Every prince, power, emperor, king, prime minister, can only come and rise up because God declares it.

Daniel says in his little prayer here. Dan.2: 20-21 *"Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; he removes kings, can you see that, and he sets up kings.* And that has been all the way through even in places where it is not mentioned. Pontius Pilate must have got the shock of his life when he basked in the glory of his authority and he said with pride to Jesus, "Don't you know that I have power to crucify you or to set you free?" And Jesus

said to him, "You have no power over me except what have been given to you by God." It shook his very being. Jesus made a statement of what we are teaching today that God determined all authority whether you know it or not. I read the history of Pontius Pilate and how he came up to be the governor. And history records how he manipulated, bribed, twisted, pulled strings, influenced and did every dirty trick he could to be the governor. Let me remind you. It was not because of anything he did. When we look at the story of Jacob, we ask this question. Could Jacob have got his blessings in a different manner with having to resort to trickery? Yes. When his father Isaac was about to bless Esau, did Jacob have to dress in Esau's garment so that when his father touched him, he would mistake Jacob for Esau? His father Isaac was blind. By the way I studied why he went blind. It was because of sorrow. And the father smelt him and said the smell is the smell of Esau but the voice is the voice of Jacob. And the father started blessing him. Jacob need not have done it that way. He could have come to his father and said the blessing belongs to me.

Saul and Jonathan need not have died. Saul could have recognized that God is now anointing David. The authority now goes to David. And who would have been a natural heir? Jonathan. But Jonathan was willing to abdicate his throne for David following God's plan. You have Saul who recognizes that his successor would be David. Jonathan said to David that when David is king he will be next to him. And you would have a happy story. But no, Saul was insecure and he tried to protect his position. He scolded his son Jonathan and said don't you know that if David live you cannot be king. He was trying to protect. You cannot keep what doesn't belong to you. You cannot keep a position that doesn't belong to you. You cannot keep anything that doesn't belong to you. When we try to get something by compromise, first of all you will be never happy. Secondly you can never keep what you get by compromise.

All these bible examples show how authority flows from God. And He determines all our boundaries. The authority of Adam has been so divided. When Jesus came one of His mission was to take back all authority and power. Remember what Gabriel did when he came. Gabriel in the Old Testament in Daniel's time went to fight the prince of Persia to defeat him. He said after he has defeated him the prince of Greece will come. Authority has been taken from Persia and released to the Greeks. When Jesus came He took the devil and He put him under His feet. He took all his authority and He walked away with that authority. Jesus rose up and

took captivity captive. In Matt. 28 and He told His disciples "*All authority have been given in heaven and on earth to me.*" That's not the end of the story. Then He goes on "*go into the world*" You see the picture now. The authority He had He now gives to the church. And the church of His is to go into the world and declare that Jesus is Lord. The essence of the message is that we are going out with the flag of Jesus that is victory and Jesus is Lord.

Do you know what happened in heaven when Jesus went up there? The Father declare now let every creature in heaven bow to the name of Jesus, let every knee bow and says let all in heaven declare that Jesus is Lord. And Jesus came down and tells His disciples all authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. Go and tell the world about that. And we are supposed to go and tell people that Jesus is Lord and any one who believes in the heart and confess with their mouth that Jesus has risen from the dead and that Jesus is Lord will be saved. And any place that you go to and declare that Jesus is Lord all the demons will run.

Now you know what our job is. Has He asked anything difficult of you? No, but He is asking us to take that authority and go out and declare that Jesus is Lord. Remember this: who gave us the authority? Jesus. Who is trying to steal it? Satan. And for some time in church history he has stolen it. Let me tell you he is going to steal it from your life. We need to rise up to the authority God has given us to partake of. We need to know that secret place of the Most High. Please understand if you catch a hold of this truth you won't be the same type of Christian. The devil can steal and he has stolen a lot of the rights that belong to the believers.

Ps. 91:1 *He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High, who abides in the shadow of the Almighty.* The proper rendering is actually *he who dwells in the secret place of Elyon shall abide under the shadow of the El Shaddai.* There is a progression here. The same progression was the progression that Abraham took. When he began to walk with God he came to a place in his life. That is why you need teaching before you go into prayer. Sometimes you don't have enough of the word of God and you try to move into the realm of the Spirit you get a funny view. Sometimes I hear people talk about such-and-such a thing is going to happen to the church. I ask where did you hear that. If you hear something from the devil and you repeat what the devil said you will get what the devil said. That's how the devil steals. I have heard people prophesy wrong things. When we first started this church they said that it would

never go past 200 people. Church growth has different phases with its different crises and difficulties. Remember all difficulties are just a new wisdom tooth. The only difference is the joy gets bigger.

I remember when the church was 3 years old, it had different things that were interesting to me. Some of them say we are losing people to other churches. We knew we were in the perfect will of God and we just kept growing. There was this particular intercessor that prophesied this and that thing that would happen to the church. I asked him who is the Red Indian chief here. You forgot principle No. 1. You are telling me how to run the church. You are warning me. I said thanks for the warning but I can hear God too. I said everything you heard is from the devil. The Lord told me that 1995 would be a tremendous year. And we have this intercessor that came and prophesied all the bad news. My God didn't tell me that. Do you know where the problem lies? The intercessor didn't know the word of God. He was not established in the secret place of the Most High.

Why did Israel as a nation stop as they left God? If a particular nation in the world were to continue to walk with God and to be faithful to the authority that God has given them, that nation would be around when Jesus comes back. God doesn't give in order to take away. God gives for us to keep it. But when we surrender it to the devil He has to take it back from the enemy because it was in the wrong hand. If Israel had continued faithful to God, God would never have destroyed them. Or permitted them to be destroyed. He didn't directly destroy them; He just took away the glory and the other nations destroyed them. They don't know the secret place of the Most High. In the secret place of the Most High you have passed the stage of success or failure. You are just in the glory. There is no such thing as failure any more.

Many people haven't even come to know all the seven names of God. You know one of the names of God means victory - Jehovah Nissi the Lord is my banner. That means in Hebrew that God is your victory. Let me tell you that there are Christians who don't even know that there is no such thing as failure. And I am surprised when one of the intercessors who are supposed to know God and even worse ministers who were supposed to know God didn't even know one of the 7 names of God. By the way they talk I ask where is your Jehovah Nissi? They don't even have the basic revelation of God. Those are kindergarten 7 names of God. Those are the A, B, and C of God. What's the problem here? Christians who do not dwell in the secret place of the Most High. They have moved out of that position. And when you move out of that position you cannot see God for whom He is. There is only one place you can really see God for who He is.

When you take a photograph, you will try to get the best shot of the person or scenery. Would you just take the picture of, say, the person's ear? No, you would always try for the best shot, the best angle. There is always one best angle of God and it's in the secret place of the Most High. Look at Gen. 14:19 *And he blessed him and said, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High.* What did Abraham taste? Abraham tasted victory. He experienced a place of authority. Remember Abraham was fighting against kings. He was without a country; he was a pilgrim in a sense. But when his nephew Lot was taken captive he armed his 318 servants who had never fought before. 318 framers, herdsmen and they went off with Abraham to fight against kings. This is a battle for kings not a battle for farmers. He won any way because he knew Jehovah Nissi. Let me quote some verses that relate to Jehovah Nissi. Every thing that you do shall prosper. Isn't that the absence of failure? That's in the bible Ps. Chapter 1, Joshua chapter 1, every thing that you do shall prosper. He didn't say just one thing; he said two things. Even though you mind your own business and somebody touches your nephew, nine kings fell. It's important to understand Jehovah Nissi. Abraham had that revelation. For him there is no second thought of defeat.

When you have a revelation there is no such thing as defeat. When I do something for God failure is not in my mind at all. A lot of Christians haven't even met Jehovah Nissi. I am talking about the authority over nations. You must come to the revelation of Jehovah Nissi. We always teach about Jehovah Rapha, Jehovah Shalom. Why is there so little teaching about Jehovah Nissi? You know why. Very few have come to understand that. The revelation of Jehovah Nissi is not there in God's people. They got the 7 names of God but they don't develop it equally. When you understand Jehovah Nissi imagine a people who knows no failure. Don't you think it's a powerful group of people? That is the secret of the Most High we are talking about. When you enter into that realm El Elyon he that dwells in the secret place of El Elyon. Now notice the first part of verse one is initiated by us. We must seek to dwell there. Then he says in Ps. 91 part 2 of first verse, *Who abide in the shadow of the Almighty (El Shaddai).*

Abraham met El Shaddai only in Gen. 17:1 *When Abram was ninety-nine years old the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I am God Almighty (El Shaddai)." Now the word El Shaddai is a very intimate revelation of God because the word Shaddai is a Hebrew word for a woman's breast. Abraham was coming to be nursed in God's bosom. First he had a complete revelation to understand and seek God to a certain extend. Now he didn't have all the 7 names. The 7 names were revealed throughout the bible right through the prophets. But he had a glimpse of some names. We have*

the advantage of all the 7 revelations names. And El Shaddai was something Abraham had come into. This is the secret place of the Most High. God has drawn him into His bosom.

The best view from God among the four gospel writers Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John is John. How different the gospel of John is from all the other gospels. John's gospel was from a different perspective. Matthew's gospel was from the Jewish perspective. Luke's gospel was from the gentile's perspective. Mark's gospel was from a Son of Man perspective. And John's gospel was from the bosom. There is an intimate place in God that you move into. And in that position you see God in ways you never seen before. You enter into the boardroom with God. And there are some things here Ps.91: 2-9 *My refuge and my fortress. Verse 3 he delivers me from the snare of the fowler. Verse 4 he will cover you with its pinions, and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness is a shield and buckler. You will not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in darkness nor the destruction that wastes at noonday. A thousand may fall at your side, ten thousand at your right hand; but it will not come near you. You will only look with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your habitation, no scourge comes near your tent.*

Do you notice the El Elyon is mentioned 2 times in Ps. 9? This is to emphasize again that the secret place of the Most High is a revelation of El Elyon through which you reach to Jehovah Nissi. You understand that there is a place in God which you have such authority that no demon dares even to confront you. And no evil dares to come near you. No weapon of the enemy can come near you. There is no such thing as fear. It doesn't exist. There is a reverence for God but there is no ungodly, demonic, terrorizing, fearful, anxious. It's a glorious place to be in. I love the secret place of the Most High. I would love to always abide there. And you could walk in that shadow of the Most High.

Some times when you fellowship with people they begin to put fear in your life. They are not in the secret place of the Most High. In the secret place of the Most High there is no fear. That means that every one who has fears is not in the secret place of the Most High. That excludes a whole lot of Christians. There are many Christians who are dominated by fear. They don't know the secret place of the Most High. In the secret place of the Most High there is no consciousness of failure. Success and failure has passed that stage; it is immaterial. You are doing God's will. You will be surprised if it is not a success. You know that it will be successful. Your consciousness of victory is so permanent. And I know Christians who are not conscious of victory. In the secret place of the Most High there is no consciousness

of failure. Therefore anyone who has consciousness of failure is not in the secret place of the Most High. And that excludes many people.

I encourage you to dwell, to enter, and to abide in that secret place of the Most High. It's a place where when you walk out the world is literally at your feet. There is no higher place in the universe, no more powerful place in the universe, no greater authority than in the secret place of the Most High. When you walk in that realm it's a different realm. Literally the world shakes when you walk. Lets look at Ps. 91:13 *You will tread on the lion and the adder, this young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.* I want you to know that the word lion in the bible does not only symbolize the Lion of Judah. Lions in the bible are symbols of nations. When Judah was to lead and bring Israel to be a great nation, he was symbolized as Judah the Lion. Ezekiel talks about the young lion. He is talking about rising powerful authority. Young lion and serpent you shall trample under foot. Ps. 91 is a very authoritative Psalm. The secret place of the Most High is the most powerful place. If you understand this truth in your secular call, in your spiritual call the world is at your feet literally.