

School of the Supernatural Session 3
House of Prayer
Lesson 13

Main Text: Isaiah 56:7

Key Concepts

- I. Introduction
- II. God's Original Intention for the Church
 - a. A House of Prayer.
 - b. A House of Offerings.
 - c. A House of Sacrifice.
 - d. A House with a functioning Altar.
 - e. A House of all nations.
- III. Conclusion.

Quote:

Prayer is the direct line to the Father. A church who does not have a prayer time, is a church that has no power, but is being built upon man and not God.
Pastor Randy Winkles

- I. Introduction: Jesus was passionate about prayer. When He came into Jerusalem and went into the temple, He found that it was a place of corruption by those seeking to make a profit by buying and selling.
 - A. Matthew 21:12-13 (NKJV)
 - B. Jesus confronted them in verse 13 by telling them that you have made it a den of thieves. (God's House)
 - C. After Jesus rose from the dead, He sent the Holy Spirit to live within all who believed in Him. This made the corporate church as well as individual believers, into a living temple of God. (John 14:15-18, 23)
 - 1. 2 Corinthians 6:16 (NKJV)

2. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NKJV)
- D. As the living temple of God, the church is to be “a house of prayer.”
- E. The early church had a passion for prayer.
 1. Acts 2:1-4
- F. The early church continually asked God for direction.
 1. Acts 1:24-26 (NKJV)
 2. Acts 4:29-31 (NKJV)
 3. Acts 2:46-47 (NKJV)
 4. Acts 3:1 (NKJV)
 5. Acts 6:4 (NKJV)
- G. Prayer was a fundamental part of the early churches ministry. As a result there was much spiritual life and activity in the church with healings and miracles and deliverances.
- H. The church is meant to be a place of prayer; many believers are willing to attend the Sunday Morning Service, but not the Prayer Services.
- I. When we don't have a consistent and continual prayer life, we become spiritually weak and lazy, until we finally dry up.

II. God's Original Intention for the Church.

- A. A house of Prayer. To be able to carry the presence and blessings of God in our lives.
- B. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NKJV)
- C. When prayer begins to weaken in a church, the power of God is absent, and everything starts to crumble; then, the presence of God and the word of God becomes scarce.

III. A house of Offerings.

- A. As a priesthood, we are to draw near to God to offer sacrifices like prayer, worship, praise, intercession and offerings. Making spiritual sacrifices often involves dying to ourselves.
- B. After a sacrifice, there is always a blessing.
- C. Luke 3:21-22

- D. The Law of sacrifice establishes that something must die in order for something else to live.
- E. When people in the Bible made sacrifices, there were open portals from heaven for them to receive something unusual from God.
 - 1. John 1:49-51 (NKJV)
 - 2. Acts 7:54-56 (NKJV)
- F. If there is a sacrifice, there will always be open heavens (Blood of Jesus)

IV. A house with a Functioning Altar

- A. From the beginning of time, the altar has always been a place where God and humanity could meet.
- B. Hebrews 9:22 (NKJV)
- C. Matthew 10:32 (NKJV)
- D. In the church as a whole, the altar has been ruined, and the fire of God is no longer burning, because sacrifices haven't been offered in a long time. We need to urgently repair God's altar by bringing our offerings there; sacrifices of praise, worship and giving of our tithes and offerings.

V. A House of all nations.

- A. A church that is not open to all nations and peoples is not a true house of God! If in a congregation, prejudice and racism permeate, that is not a church, regardless of its size.
- B. In the state of our world today, the house of God must return to its original, primary activity of prayer. (2 Timothy 3:1-9)
- C. Church prayer services should have the purposes of crying out to the Lord for His quick return:
 - 1. Revelation 22:17 (NKJV)
 - 2. Hebrews 10:25 (NKJV)
- D. For a church to be genuine body of Christ: 1) needs to be a house of prayer; 2) Joining with other Christians to become a house of prayer; 3) Always have the attitude and spirit/mind of prayer. It's

not about if I feel like praying, but about praying continually.

VI. Conclusion: All Christians must be a house of prayer, because Christianity is about being like Christ, and He always prayed. Even today, He intercedes for us before the Father, therefore when you are a house of Prayer, you are like Christ. (Hebrews 7:25)(NKJV)