

THE ROAD TO JERUSALEM INTERCESSORS - FEBRUARY 2006

[Announcing Facedown 40](#) - Lou Engle, Mike Bickle, Dutch Sheets, and Francis Frangipane call for 40 Days of Fasting and Prayer from March 1 to April 9 for Revival, Reformation, Muslim Nations, and Israel.

REVOLUTION

The Crisis

The earth stands in a pivotal, but precarious, moment in history. All around the globe, the earth seems to be convulsing with natural disasters, lawlessness, wars and rumors of wars.

As you read this, Islam-dominated nations are violently reacting and baring their fangs over a simple cartoon depiction of their prophet, Mohammed. The ugly and violent nature of Islam has begun to rear its head and **the Church must respond with fasting and prayer** to contend with the menacing threat of Islamic global domination.

The Ongoing Conflict in the Middle East: Iraq, Iran and Israel

One of the greatest crises that the Church must confront is the hectoring and bullying of Israel, America and the nations by the insidious Islamic jihadists. In the recent Palestinian election, the anti-Israel terrorist group, Hamas, gained a majority in the government of the Palestinian people. Hamas is a group that not only refuses peaceful coexistence with Israel, but also a terrorist organization that literally is calling for the destruction of the nation of Israel in their original charter documents. The threat to Israel, America, and the world, does not stop there. With the recent election of President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran and his pursuit of nuclear reactors, there is a growing, frightening sense that the world, especially nations of a Judeo-Christian background, are hurtling toward a massive confrontation with the Muslim-dominated nations of the Middle East on the same scale as World War I and World War II.

Yet there is an answer to this crisis: *the praying and fasting Body of Christ.* When the principalities that dominated the airwaves of the Middle East exposed itself against the people of God thousands of years ago, God raised up a single man, the prophet Daniel, in the midst of Babylon and Persia, to contend with the weapons of fasting and prayer against the demonic Prince of Persia. The Bride of Christ must understand that if it is to pierce the darkness that broods over the Middle East and break the vice grip of Islam over the world, **it will take the same resolve that Daniel had in fasting and prayer** to contend with the Prince of Persia. The Church has entered into a season of Daniel 10 again and how we respond in prayer and fasting during this time will determine our future course and destiny. "We must be clear that our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness,

against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places" (Ephesians 6:12). If the Church will throw themselves into prayer and fasting during this critical season, the spoils of victory, including the souls of millions of Muslims, the restraining of the spirit of jihad, the shifting of the Iraq war, and the security and salvation of Israel, will **belong to Christ** and Christ alone.

REVIVAL

The Hope

Despite the raging of the world that surrounds us, the Church ought to and must hold onto outrageous hope. Everyday there are new reports being sent out and new books being published that speak of the dismal nature of the Western Church. For sure, droves of youth are leaving our churches and not returning. The statistics are certainly shocking, but *we must not let our eyes dwell on statistics*. We must not look with our natural eyes; instead, **we must have eyes to see the victory of the Lord** even in the midst of seeming darkness. Our report should be nothing less than the cry of Joshua and Caleb, "We should by all means go up and take possession of it, for we will surely overcome it" (Numbers 13:30). The Scriptures promise that "though darkness will cover the earth and deep darkness the peoples, the Lord will rise upon you and his glory will appear upon you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising" (Isaiah 60:2-3).

Global Awakening Among the Youth

While the natural world seems to be thrown into violent upheaval, there is a growing sense among prophetic voices in America that 2006 will be a glorious year for the Body of Christ. In 2003, Kenneth Hagin, an early father of the Charismatic movement, prophetically declared that **2006 would be a glorious year** of "heaven on earth". Early this year, Dutch Sheets had a profound encounter with the Lord where the Lord made the statement that "This is the year that the lid comes off of the youth movement." Another major leader in the body of Christ also made clear that this year would not simply be a celebration of the Azusa Street centennial, but that this would be the year where He is coming!

A casual approach to these prophetic words could be the undoing of a generation. A generation that has grown up only reading and hearing stories of national revival, but never experiencing the in-break of the Holy Spirit for themselves must learn to **labor in prayer and fasting for their Great Awakening**. The 40 years of wandering in the desert are up and the sound of rain can again be heard in the very-near distance. Even now, we are hearing reports about the rumblings of revival at universities around the nation. Could another Jesus Movement be on the horizon? Could God break out at universities and among the youth of our nation? Our days of rehearsal are finished; God is ready to come back onto the main stage!

REFORMATION

Righteousness and Justice

Everything that can be shaken will be shaken. For 33 years, America has lived under the dark cloud of legalized abortion. Yet God has begun a great shakedown in our legal system. In this past year, God has removed two Supreme Court Justices and raised up two new Supreme Court Justices who, if the Church will continue to pray for them, may be the generation that sees the scourge of the death culture and the blight of national sin of abortion removed from our nation. However, **the shift of our legal system is not finished**. We must pray that God removes a third pro-abortion Justice and replaces the vacancy with a godly Justice who loves mercy, executes justice and walks humbly with his God.

THE CALL

Thus, for Revival, for the shifting of the Supreme Court and the ending of abortion, for the Middle East crisis and the freedom of a billion souls from the vice grip of Islam, and for the security and salvation of Israel, Dutch Sheets, Mike Bickle, Francis Frangipane, and I are **calling for one million intercessors to 40 days of fasting beginning on MARCH 1 (Ash Wednesday) to APRIL 9** (Passover Sunday and the 100-year anniversary of the Azusa Street Outpouring that began at Bonnie Brae Street). For more information about praying and fasting, specific prayer targets, and daily articles from Mike, Francis, Dutch and I, visit www.facedown40.com. Could we be on the verge of the great worldwide outpouring?

With our faces down,

Lou Engle, Mike Bickle, Dutch Sheets, and Francis Frangipane.

Visit www.facedown40.com to receive more information concerning the 40-day fast and also to sign up for daily devotionals from Mike Bickle, Lou Engle, Francis Frangipane and Dutch Sheets.

PRAYER, INTERCESSION AND BRIDAL IDENTITY

INTERCESSION is another word used for prayer. "He is able to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make INTERCESSION for them." Hebrews 7:25

To intercede means to plead with someone in authority on behalf of somebody else, especially somebody who is to be punished for something. Jesus is the GREAT INTERCESSOR. He lives to intercede for us! What an awesome thought - we have a Savior who is praying and interceding for us continually. He is standing in our place

before the Father as the righteous sacrifice for our sins. Our high and priestly calling as partakers of the divine nature is to pray, ask and intercede on behalf of others that they too may come to Jesus and be made whole.

In the midst of our daily activity, we do well to surround ourselves with reminders of developing inner communion with the Father. My personal favorite is breath itself. "In Him we live and move and exist." Acts 17:28. Oxygen becomes life giving when we inhale and this element mixes with the cardio-pulmonary system of the body. "God, in whose hand is the life of every living thing, and the breath of all mankind." Job 12:10.

Adam became a living soul when the Creator breathed life into his nostrils. He was the first-Adam but now Yeshua the last Adam "became a life-giving spirit." I Corinthians 15:45.

"Yeshua the Messiah (Jesus) is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, and who is at the right hand of God, who also INTERCEDES for us." Romans 8:34

We are in a season right now when the cultivation of prayer in the secret place and communion with God is being offered to the Bride in a fresh and powerful way. He is seeking to anoint this time with two profound Biblical truths. Let us observe how they work together.

In Revelation 2:17, the Lord has promised the churches and the overcomers hidden manna, a white stone and a new name. In Hosea 2:17, He reminds the Bride of a cleansing power that will be marked by having her old confessions of wounding, resentments and slavery removed from her mouth. These confessions come from the experiences we have had in our own personal Egypt. The promise of Hosea coincides with the promise of a new name. Our identity is "hidden with Yeshua the Messiah in God" according to Colossians 3:3. Our new name is directly tied to our confession of who we are. "For as he thinks within himself, so he is." Proverbs 23:7. We are called to live from the vertical reality of being "in Messiah". The Heavenly Father is praying for us so that we may hear our new name and be set free to know our true identity so that we can cross over into the Promised Land with new bread and new wine.