

When A Mother's Prayer Ignites Revival

In the past, God has used women in unique ways to spearhead a move of His Spirit. It's time to ask Him to do it again.

WHEN THE LORD CREATED HUMANKIND, He placed unique graces in man and in woman. Although I want to encourage women to move freely within the order established in their local churches, my main goal is to exalt and release a primary grace that I believe God has placed specifically within them—a grace which the Lord Himself has used in past times to ignite revival.

In the garden, God told Adam to name the species of life upon Earth “and whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name” (Gen. 2:19, NKJV). This “naming” was much more than calling the dog “Spot.” Adam was created with an organizational, administrative capacity that enabled him to identify and define the world around him.

By naming the living things, Adam not only brought them into his consciousness, but he also introduced order and structure to the human experience. In effect, he defined reality.

THE GENESIS DISTINCTIONS Within the genetics of this original man, there also existed the powerful, but dormant qualities of the woman. While Adam slept, the Spirit took from the man a rib. Fashioning it into a woman, the Lord created for Adam a companion who was not only suitable for him, but also one who powerfully expanded man's creative capacities. Indeed, the woman brought many new graces into Adam's world that did not formerly exist: the foremost of which was the power to conceive and give birth.

It is important to remember: God created male and female in His image, according to His likeness (see Gen. 1:26). Of course, in certain ways, both Adam and Eve as individuals

possessed reflections of the divine nature. They each could think, speak, dream and create. However, it was in the union of Adam and Eve, in their mutual respect of one another's strengths and graces, that mankind would possess a more perfect expression of the fuller nature of God.

As Adam beheld this first female, he said, "'This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man'" (Gen. 2:23). The term "woman" was a delineation used by Adam, identifying her as a unique variation in the species of man. My wife says, "Think of her as the upgrade." In some ways, she is right, for the nature of the woman was twice refined.

Adam was created of the earth; the woman, emerged not from the earth, but from the man. She is both more complex and emotionally sophisticated.

Soon Adam began to understand the greatest power of his counterpart: her ability to conceive and bring life into the world. Recognizing this quality, Adam named her Eve, which means "life." Eve would play an integral part in the unfolding of life's new beginnings. "She was the mother of all [the] living" (Gen. 3:20).

REFLECTIONS OF THE DIVINE The Lord gave Adam a primary ability to name and establish reality; He gave to woman the unique capacity to conceive and then birth reality. The primary strength of each gender is that man establishes, woman births.

Remember, these qualities were not merely "human"; they were reflections of the divine. Man's ability to bring order to the world, to take what was random and give it definition and structure is a divine facility. Woman's ability to conceive and incubate life, and then deliver life through birth is also an aspect of the divine nature.

One translation says that Eve means to "enliven." Yet Adam named the woman Eve before they had children. God gave the

woman an ability not just to have babies, but also to release life in a variety of its expressions. Alone, Adam had been downcast; it was not good that he was alone. Eve enlivened Adam in ways no other creature on Earth could.

Adam could build a house; Eve made it a home. When Adam named Eve “Life,” he was not only speaking prophetically of the first mother, but he spoke out of his own experience: Eve brought life into the structure of Adam’s world.

When it comes to the spiritual realm, I see this same divine encoding replicated in the ministries of men and women. Jesus laid the foundation of the church with 12 men, whom He called to be apostles. This didn’t mean there would never be women in leadership, but that one of the skills given man from God was, as stated, the ability to bring order and structure.

On the other hand, prior to Christ’s birth we find Anna, a prophetess, engaged in much prayer and fasting. In my opinion, it is quite possible that this woman was not alone in her intercession, but the leader of a prophetic prayer ministry that lived in anticipation of her times.

Women excel in intercession, in spiritual sensitivity and the release of new beginnings. Again, this doesn’t excuse men from prayer. For some of the Bible’s best examples of intercessors are, indeed, men.

I am speaking in generalities in reference to the spiritual tendencies of both genders. Neither distinction is more important than the other. Both are absolutely vital for the unfolding of God’s will upon the earth.

WE NEED A NATIONAL AWAKENING Today, we are fighting the advance of Satan in many arenas—whether in wars and terrorist attacks or with the ever-increasing expansion of iniquity in our world. We need revival. To possess a national awakening, the power God has placed in women must be released.

All the efforts of man to establish laws and govern righteously will not truly transform our culture. We need the presence of God poured out.

I am talking about something that is greater than government and righteous laws. I am saying that God is raising up and anointing a prayer army of women who are about to be given even greater power as they intercede before God for their nations.

I personally know the power of this prayer. In the late '60s, I was a very lost young man living in sin and rebellion. Judging from my appearance, I looked hopeless. Yet, in spite of my outward condition, my dear Catholic mother stood before God for me.

Resist as I did, divine power, uniquely born of her prayers, began to hunt me down. Her cries were relentless and unceasing; often she would pray through the night for me. She was pregnant with prayer for her son. In 1970 God finally answered and during the Jesus movement revival, I came to Christ.

Years later I asked the Lord about this revival. As you may know, it has been part of my assignment to help engender citywide unity and establish prayer—things which precede revival. Yet, to my knowledge, no citywide unity or organized prayer initiative fueled the Jesus movement.

I asked the Lord, how could a revival occur without a prayer movement at its source? The Lord quickly corrected me by saying that there was a great prayer movement: He had heard the prayers of a million praying mothers, each crying to Him for their children.

From all denominations, in a “unity of desperation,” God heard the cries of believing mothers. His heart was touched and, as a result, multitudes of sinful kids found repentance and salvation in Jesus Christ. This is the army God desires to

release again, but now with more vision, more power from the Holy Spirit and with the support of men as well.

Women of God, the fact is, heaven needs you! You have been created by the Almighty to birth breakthroughs on planet Earth. God has uniquely designed you with a latent ability to release life through your intercession.

You have a special grace to release new spiritual beginnings. Whether your prayer focus is for your husband or church leadership, whether you are interceding for your children, city or nation, you possess in your spirit the seed-realities that, through prayer, can release God's life into the world.

Indeed, there is a battle; there still exists "enmity between [the serpent] and the woman" (Gen. 3:15). Satan especially hates you because it was your seed that bruised the serpent's head.

It is amazing to me that God chose to bring His Son into the world, not through the heavens or even through a woman impregnated by man, but through a woman made pregnant by God. God Himself came to Earth through the woman's power to give birth.

Today the Lord is giving women a new grace, a new confidence against the powers of hell. Through their intercession, these godly women will prayer-birth powerful ministries on Earth, both male and female. They will release new beginnings to the body of Christ.

Revelation 12:1 speaks of "a woman clothed with the sun." This word is not only talking about Israel or the church. It also reveals how God sees spiritual women: they are honored and crowned with distinction; pure and clothed with the glory of God. With confidence, they tread upon the powers of night.

Dear army of praying women, awake! It is your inherent destiny to birth that which shall rule the nations.

We need the prayer army to arise. And may God help us to pray until His heavenly purpose is birthed on Earth as it is in heaven!

Read a companion devotional.

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