

ONE PASSION  
HIS PRESENCE  
HIS PRESENCE  
PSALM 27:4

2020  
SOLEMN  
ASSEMBLY  
First Assembly of God



january - february

**THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE**

*psalm 63:1*

march - april

**THE GLORY OF HIS PRESENCE**

*psalm 63:2*

may - june

**LIVING IN HIS PRESENCE**

*psalm 27:4*

july-august

**FOLLOWING HIS PRESENCE**

*exodus 33:14-16*

september - october

**RESTING IN HIS PRESENCE**

*exodus 33:14-16*

november - december

**REFLECTING HIS PRESENCE**

*exodus 34:29*

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** This Solemn Assembly booklet is given a week early so that you can start using it to prepare yourself for the week of prayer and fasting. Read, study and start praying through the book. The Holy Spirit will begin to speak and work in you.

### FOREWORD — ONE PASSION, HIS PRESENCE

#### What Is To Have One Passion, His Presence

Jesus taught in Matthew 13:45–46 (NKJV) “the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it.” **This is true passion. It is willing to sell all in order to obtain the object of his desire.** It does not concentrate on the costs of loving God, but rather on the delight of loving and pleasing Him. It stops at nothing just as God stopped at nothing to save us. When God’s presence is our one passion, we will be willing to sell all to obtain Him.

Leonard Ravenhill, a revivalist, declared, **“MY GOAL IS GOD HIMSELF.** Not joy, not peace, not even blessing but Himself...my God.” In his book “Why Revival Tarries,” he reiterated, “Oh! my ministering brethren! Much of our praying ... is discolored with ambition, either for ourselves or for our denomination. **Perish the thought. Our goal must be God alone. . . THIS IS WHAT PASSION FOR GOD’S PRESENCE IS – “OUR GOAL MUST BE GOD ALONE!”**

A passion for God’s presence is more than just a strong emotion, an intense thought or an earnest desire. True passion as ignited and fueled by the Holy Spirit is a powerful, formidable spiritual force and a fiery zeal that cannot be put out. **It becomes a flame rooted deep in the core of the soul, with a power and fervor that is all-consuming, relentless and unyielding.** It leaves no room for other desires. It seeks to spend all in order to apprehend Him. It is radical and seems unreasonable to the mind because it demands the yielding and giving up of all in order to obtain; but what we do obtain is priceless – His presence!

Song of Solomon 8:6-7 (NASB) speaks of the passion of love, **“For love is as strong as death, jealousy (zeal, passion or ardor) is as severe as Sheol; its flashes are flashes of fire, THE VERY FLAME OF THE LORD.** Many waters cannot quench love, nor will rivers overflow it; if a man were to give all the riches of his house for love, it would be utterly despised.” Therefore, *One Passion, His Presence!* to the carnal mind, it is to be rejected, but to the spiritual it is the only acceptable way to love and serve God. Ferdinand Foch, commander of Allied forces during World War I, considered the leader most responsible for the Allied victory said, **“THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON ON EARTH IS THE HUMAN SOUL ON FIRE.”**

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### Jesus Christ's One Passion: His Father's Presence

One of Jesus' most powerful statements of truth concerning His Father's presence is in John 10:30 (NKJV) when He said, **"I and My Father are one."** In John 8:16 (NKJV), He also said, "... for I am not alone, but I am with the Father who sent Me." Jesus, the only begotten Son of God, not for one moment did He cease to be without His Father's presence in intimacy and oneness. His Father was all He needed and lived for. In truth, He would not say a word, think a thought, go to a place or do a miracle outside of abiding in His Father's presence. **Jesus had one truth, one need and one passion – His Father's presence!**

When He said in John 16:28 (NKJV), "I came forth from the Father and have come into the world. Again, I leave the world and go to the Father," **He was saying that He had no existence as a man outside of His Father.** When He finished His Father's assignment, He would return to His Father. On many other occasions He repeated this indelible truth:

- "... I tell you the truth, the Son can do nothing by Himself. **He does only what He sees the Father doing.** ..." John 5:19 (NLT)
- "... I do not speak on My own authority; but **the Father who dwells in Me does the works.**" John 14:10-11 (NKJV)
- "... My judgment is true; for I am not alone, but **I am with the Father who sent Me.**" John 8:16 (NKJV)
- "... **As My Father taught Me, I speak these things.**" John 8:28 (NKJV)
- **"As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father. . ."**  
John 10:15 (NKJV)

His Father and He were so absolutely abiding in each other's presence that when Phillip asked to be shown the Father, He replied in John 14:9 (NKJV), "... **He who has seen Me has seen the Father;** how can you say, 'Show us the Father?' **JESUS WAS THE EXACT DUPLICATE OF HIS FATHER IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH** that any one seeing, hearing and touching Him would have seen, heard and touched the Father. We, who believe in Him, are His redeemed brothers and sisters and joint-heirs with Him in our Father's house; how then should we live? **Live as Christ lived so that we be Christ's duplicates!** Live with one passion for the Father's presence! Let this not be just a noble aspiration, but the indelible truth we live in.

### The Necessary Preeminence And Priority Of God's Presence

It is necessary that passion for God's presence be the preeminent and foremost priority in our lives. More than the air we breathe, is our need for God's presence because:

- **Without God's presence, we cannot have a relationship with**

**Him, let alone intimacy.** It is impossible to have a relationship with someone who is not present in our lives, so it is with God. We may have awareness and knowledge of His existence and deeds, but there is no knowing, touching, seeing and hearing Him in intimacy.

- **Without God's presence, we are not set apart or distinguished from others in the world as His special treasure** (Exodus 33:15-16). Nothing distinguishes us as His children - not works, programs, size of congregations, popularity or wealth – but His presence. When we lay down our lives and die to all other passions to live in Him in such a manner that Christ is formed in us, the world will see and know we are His. We have become His duplicates.
- **God is seeking for those whose one passion in life is His presence (Psalm 27:4).** He is seeking for seekers of His presence; those who yearn to dwell in Him and behold His fullness. He is seeking for those who will ascribe preeminence and priority to Him always, and to these He will entrust His presence.
- **God will reward those who seek Him diligently with His manifest presence** (Hebrews 11:6). God is omnipresent, meaning that His presence is everywhere filling the whole universe. Like the air, we cannot see or feel it, yet it fills everything. The whole world lives in the omnipresence of God, but not His manifest presence. **God's manifest presence is when He pulls back the veil on His omnipresence and shows us a glimpse of Himself in His glory and power allowing us to encounter Him in a tangible way.**

His manifest presence is personal, powerful, glorious, and it changes everything. It is in His manifest presence that we have intimacy with Him. **Without His presence, Christianity is nothing more than another dead religion; and the church another dead religious institution.**

Moses sought God's face diligently but Israel sought His blessings. Moses had the manifest presence of God, but Israel did not. Therefore to Moses, He spoke face to face and revealed His ways; but to Israel, He revealed His deeds. He will not show Himself to the casual, calloused or uninterested, but only to the hungry and passionate pursuers of Him. Knowing this, how then will we choose to pursue Him? The more we pursue, the more we live in His manifest presence.

### **The Core Essence Of Passion For God Is "First Love"—How Do We Obtain It?**

The natural understanding of passion has absolutely no relevance to God's definition of passion. The natural understanding is about having strong emotions, feelings, thoughts or even persuasions, but they are products of the human soul or mind. **God's definition of passion at its core is about loving Him first and foremost.** Mark 12:30 (NKJV) says, "And

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you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.' This is the first commandment." Passion for His presence is a fruit of having "first love" for God (Revelation 2:4). When love for God is our foremost priority, then passion for His presence will also be our foremost priority.

In Revelation 2:4 (NKJV) God rebuked the church of Ephesus, "... **I have this against you, that you have left your first love.**" The word "first" in Greek is *prōtos* meaning first in place, time or rank; principal or chief. God was no longer their "first love" or their "one passion." Having "first love" for God is not optional, but it is commanded and required of us by God. This is parallel with the Holy Spirit's rebuke to the church of Laodicea in Revelation 3:16 (NKJV) saying, "... because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth." Lukewarmness is the antithesis of passion; it means being neither hot nor cold, wavering between apathy and fervor. God hates it and has absolutely no tolerance for it. We are to be "hot" for Him. In the original Greek, the word hot (*zestos*) refers to a boiling, energetic heat. **GOD WANTS OUR DESIRE FOR HIS PRESENCE TO BE BOILING OVER WITH FERVOR AND ZEAL.** We must not be lukewarm, or as one definition puts it, "serving God in such a way as to not offend the devil."

**Passion, like faith, is a spiritual substance produced by the workings of the Holy Spirit.** It is like placing a pot of water over a hot fire. The heat from the fire will permeate the water and over time the water changes because of the increasing temperature. If heated long enough, the water will catch so much heat that it will first simmer and eventually boil over. Now that boiling water has such power of heat that whatever touches it will be changed, melted, scalded or scorched. When we, like the pot of water, place our whole self in the presence of the Holy Spirit, our spirit will begin to catch His fire, His power and His anointing! The longer we soak, the hotter we become, the more we are transformed. This is how we get the fire, the first love, the passion and the zeal. **Any confession of passion for God without thirst and pursuit of Him in action is nothing more than mere words.**

When we set our hearts to live in the discipline of pursuing God first, the Holy Spirit will begin a work in us that only He can do. As we yield and avail our hearts to the Holy Spirit, He will replace apathy with a fire; He will remove the flesh and give us His Spirit, and He will exchange spiritual dryness for passion and life. He will see to it that we have a *zestos* passion for His presence.

### **Do We Have God's Presence Or Do We Have A Substitute?**

During the time of Jeremiah, Israel had traded the presence of God for the worship of idols. In Jeremiah 2:11 (NLT) God spoke, "Has any nation

ever traded its gods for new ones, even though they are not gods at all? **Yet my people have exchanged their glorious God for worthless idols!**" Do not trade or substitute the presence of God with "worthless idols" – be it success, achievement, fame, wealth, programs, newest ideas, latest innovations or richest bank account. We see this in Solomon's life where he traded the presence of God for idols. As he forsook God's presence, he also forsook God's wisdom, life, love, grace, power and even salvation.

It is the presence of God that sets the church apart from the world – not just by what we say, do or act. It is His indwelling presence that causes His glory to radiate through us – impacting, healing, delivering, saving and transforming. **Therefore, the church that will impact the world most is the one who lives in His manifest presence most.** Where the presence of God is absent, the manifestation of God is absent. **In other words, without God's manifest presence, churches would be "PRESENCE-LESS", "GOD-LESS" AND POWERLESS.**

We have to understand that not everything that seems effective or efficient is aligned with the ways of God. As His people, we must seek Him most passionately. Skills, technology and church growth strategies are good, but His presence must be our priority. **WE MUST SEEK GOD MORE ON OUR KNEES** than through seminars and conferences; we need the latter, but they are no substitute for personally pursuing God. **We need a firsthand encounter with God more than secondhand information.** It will be tragic for a church to be skilled, gifted, celebrated, appreciated and much sought after but lacks God's presence because without His presence, there is no revelation, no vision, no truth, no divine knowledge, and people cast off restraint (Proverbs 29:18).

Whenever there is such a void of God's presence, something else will always try to occupy that space. That void will be filled up with vain imagination, instead of vision; human arguments instead of truth; fleshly agendas instead of God's will; carnality instead of spirituality. People become open to anything that appears good to the eyes and appeals to their ears; and like King Saul, Samson and Judas—men who lost the presence of God—they were filled with jealousy, lust and greed. Another "presence" (other than God's) is able to come in and fill the vacuum; Saul had a tormenting spirit, Samson went into captivity, and "satan entered Judas" (Luke 22:3).

### **The "Golden Calf" Ministry Of A "Presence-less" Church**

In Exodus 32, Moses went up Mount Sinai to speak with God face-to-face. When the children of Israel thought that Moses was dead, they began to build a golden calf to represent the presence of God. Instead of seeking God's manifest presence for themselves, **they settled for a false substitute; a dead thing that could neither speak nor see** (Psalm 115:5).

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When we examine our lives, what do we have: the presence of God or a golden calf ministry?

**THE GREATEST BLINDNESS THAT A CHURCH CAN FALL INTO IS TO BE “SUCCESSFUL” WITHOUT GOD’S PRESENCE.** This is a deceptive substitution of the presence of God with other things. Such a church through natural resources, human talents and some spiritual gifts can accomplish many things – preach, do good deeds, write books, hold seminars – but without His presence. The dangerous substitution of natural ability for the presence of God has resulted in churches that cannot withstand the test of storms, and crumble under the pressure of demonic attacks; even some well-known ministers have had their faith shattered because of this deception. **THIS IS WHERE THE DEVIL WANTS THE CHURCH TO BE: “PRESENCE-LESS,” “GOD-LESS” AND POWERLESS; FUTILELY ATTEMPTING TO SERVE AND WORSHIP GOD WITHOUT HIS PRESENCE.** In their ignorance, the children of Israel substituted God’s presence with a powerless golden calf. If we don’t want our lives and ministries to fall victim to the same deception, then we must live with *One Passion, His Presence!*

### **David, A Man After God’s Own Heart, Lived A Disciplined Life In Pursuit Of God**

Any confession of passion for God’s presence that lacks the cost of a relentless and disciplined pursuit of Him, is nothing but mere words.

Passion for His presence not only has a thirst, **BUT A DISCIPLINE OF PURSUING GOD, PAYING THE COST FOR IT, AND WILL NOT CEASE UNTIL ONE OBTAINS.** Thomas Adams, an English clergyman and reputed preacher said, **“Passion costs me too much to bestow it on every trifle.”**

David understood this and purposed to live in a disciplined pursuit of God’s presence above all else. In Psalm 27:4 (NLT), he declared, **“The one thing I ask of the Lord— the thing I seek most—is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,** delighting in the LORD’s perfections and meditating in his Temple.” Regardless of the seasons of his life – whether a shepherd, soldier or king – pursuing God’s presence was always David’s first priority and unwavering passion. Therefore, God called him a man after His own heart. In Psalm 63:1-2 (NKJV), David’s passion-filled prayer was, **“O God, You are my God; early will I seek You; my soul thirsts for You; my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory.”**

Leonard Ravenhill, challenging his readers concerning the discipline of pursuing God, wrote, **“Let any man shut himself up for a week with only bread and water, with no books except the Bible, with no visitor EXCEPT THE HOLY GHOST, and I guarantee, my preacher brethren, THAT MAN WILL EITHER BREAK UP OR BREAK THROUGH AND OUT, THAT, LIKE PAUL, HE WILL BE KNOWN IN HELL.”**



**We Must Commit To Having One Passion, His Presence!**

May the church have this all-consuming, profound cry from the heart: *One Passion, His Presence!* May a passion for His presence ignite our spirit, burning to ashes any other competing affection. May this passion be non-negotiable. **May we determine not to live any other way but with One Passion, His Presence!**

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## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

# CALLED TO SOLEMN ASSEMBLY: JANUARY 5–12, 2020

**Week 1 - Personal Preparation:** December 29, 2019 – January 4, 2020

**Week 2 - Corporate Prayer And Fasting:** January 5–12, 2020

**REGIONAL AND CORPORATE PRAYER SCHEDULE:** January 6–12, 2020

<b>Morning Prayer</b>	6:00 – 7:00 AM	Mon – Fri	Red Hill Central Oahu Metro Windward
	6:00 – 7:00 AM	Mon, Wed, Fri	Leeward, East Honolulu
<b>Corporate Noontime Prayer</b>	12 NOON – 1:00 PM	Mon – Fri	Red Hill, Sanctuary
<b>Corporate Evening Prayer</b>	6:00 – 8:00 PM	Mon – Fri	Red Hill, Sanctuary
<b>Saturday</b>	Personal and Family Prayer		No Corporate Assembly
<b>Sunday Evening</b>	6:00 – 8:00 PM	January 12	Red Hill, Thanksgiving and Exhortation
<b>**Saturday</b>	9:00am – 1:00 PM	January 18	Leader's Seminar with John Harke Red Hill

### Instructions For All Concerning Prayer Time

During times of prayer, **the Sanctuary is dedicated to prayer. No one is to fellowship in the Sanctuary.** Let us honor the presence of God and also the privacy of those seeking God. **THIS IS SOLEMN ASSEMBLY, SO LET US GUARD THE SPIRITUAL SOBRIETY AND SANCTITY OF THE OCCASION.**

### Evening Prayer Schedule

- Evening prayer:** 6:00 – 6:30 PM personal prayer  
6:30 – 7:30 PM corporate prayer  
7:30 – 8:00 PM personal prayer
- During personal time of prayer, be encouraged to wait on God and hear Him. Take notes of what you hear.

**DAILY PRAYER FOCUS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 5–12, 2020**

Day 1 (Sunday)	<b>Ministry Of The Word</b> (AM and PM services)
Day 2 (Monday)	<b>Consecrated For His Holy Presence</b>
Day 3 (Tuesday)	<b>Living In His Presence</b>
Day 4 (Wednesday)	<b>The Power Of His Presence</b>
Day 5 (Thursday)	<b>The Glory Of His Presence</b>
Day 6 (Friday)	<b>Anointed For His Presence and Glory</b>
Day 7 (Saturday)	<b>Personal And Family Prayer</b> (No Corporate Assembly)
Day 8 (Sunday)	<b>Thanksgiving And Exhortation</b>

**SOLEMN ASSEMBLY PART I**

**PART I — WEEK OF PERSONAL PREPARATION**

**DECEMBER 29, 2019 – JANUARY 4, 2020 (Sunday to Saturday)**

**Six Steps To Preparation For Solemn Assembly**

December 29, 2019 to January 4, 2020 is a week of personal preparation before the Solemn Assembly. Like the Levitical priests who carefully prepared themselves before they entered the Tabernacle to minister to God, it is important that we take time to prayerfully prepare ourselves to enter Solemn Assembly in the spirit and posture of heart that is pleasing to God. *(Record all that God will be speaking to you throughout this season of prayer and fasting on the pages provided in this booklet.)*

**STEP 1: Plan Your Week’s Schedule To Include Corporate And Personal Prayer**

1. Plan and schedule in both corporate and personal prayer times for the week.
2. Note all the corporate prayer times (morning, noon and evening) and plan to be there with your family.
3. **All ministries for the week of January 6–12, 2020 are canceled to release the Church to participate in Solemn Assembly in the noontime and evening prayers.**

**NOTE:** *Care/Net and ministry leaders are to inform their helpers and exhort them to be present for prayer.*

**STEP 2: Personal Preparation (Psalm 51:1–19 NKJV)**

**“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence, and do not take Your Holy Spirit from me” (vv. 10-11).**

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1. **Prepare your heart** to come before God in humility and contrition.
2. **Prayerfully allow the Holy Spirit** to do a **deep searching** of your heart and life. Bring everything to light and let nothing be hidden.
3. **Pray through Psalm 51**; repent and ask God to forgive you, create in you a clean heart and renew a right spirit within you.
4. **Ask God to open the eyes of your understanding**; remove all unbelief, hardness, pride and resistance to His Holy Spirit. Ask God to put truth and wisdom in your inward parts.
5. **Make relationships right with God and with others.**

### STEP 3: Prepare As A Family (Joshua 24:14–15; Psalm 133 NKJV)

*“Now, therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD! . . . **But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**”*

1. **Heads of families: help prepare your family.** Share the personal application of Solemn Assembly to each person in your family.
2. **Minister unity and oneness in family.** Bring healing and reconciliation in all relationships. Repent of sins committed against each other. Minister love and forgiveness to each other.
  - a. marriage (1 Peter 3:1–7; Colossians 3:18–19)
  - b. parents and children (Colossians 3:20–21)
3. **Have a family communion time** to seal the oneness of spirit, love and peace. Pray Psalm 133 and Colossians 3 into your family.

### STEP 4: Spiritual House-Cleansing (2 Chronicles 34:3–27 NKJV)

*“For in the eighth year of his (Josiah’s) reign, while he was still young, he began to seek the God of his father David; and in the twelfth year **he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images . . . in the eighteenth year of his reign, . . . he sent Shaphan . . . to repair the house of the LORD . . . because your heart was tender . . . and you humbled yourself before Me . . . I also have heard you,** says the LORD.”*

1. **Do spiritual house-cleaning** (2 Chronicles 34:1–33) If there is any item in your possession that contains spiritually defiling material and is not pleasing to God, get rid of it.

2. These things defile us and our homes. They also become gateways for the enemy to infiltrate.
3. **Repair your personal and family altar**  
(daily devotions—prayer and Word)

### STEP 5 - Prepare All Ministries (Colossians 3:12–15 NKJV)

*“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, **put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another; and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.**”*

1. **Heads of ministries: prepare all helpers and others** under their care. Ensure that everyone is informed concerning the purpose and times of prayer.
2. **Exhort all to participate** in the blessing of the Solemn Assembly.
3. **Minister unity, reconciliation and oneness.** If there is any rift in ministerial relationships, prayerfully bring reconciliation and oneness.
4. **Pray Psalm 133 and Colossians 3** into the ministry. **Renew commitment to God and each other.**

### STEP 6 - Ask God To Infuse Great Faith In Us (Hebrews 11:6 NKJV)

*“But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that **He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.**”*

1. **Seek God diligently** and believe in Him for great things.
2. Step into the week of Solemn Assembly with a contrite heart and great faith.

## WHAT IS SOLEMN ASSEMBLY?

### The Call To Humbly Seek God In Prayer And Fasting

*Joel 1:14 (NKJV)—“**Consecrate a fast, call a sacred assembly; gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the LORD your God and cry out to the LORD.**”*

Solemn Assembly is a **corporate** and **personal call** to humbly separate ourselves unto God for a time of **Consecration, Prayer and Fasting to seek His face for a specific purpose. It is humbling ourselves before God in repentance and consecration.**

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

- It is a time of “breaking up the fallow ground” of our hearts before God.
- It is a time of repenting of all sins and returning to God wholeheartedly.
- It is a time of total consecration to God as His redeemed people.
- It is a time of waiting on God to hear from Him and take heed.
- It is a time to resolve to obey and please Him alone.

## HOW DO WE DO SOLEMN ASSEMBLY?

### *We Consecrate A Fast, Call A Sacred Assembly*

Corporately and individually, we set aside time to seek God in prayer and fasting.

### **What is fasting and prayer?**

Fasting and prayer are **very powerful spiritual ministries that God responds to**. In fasting, the abstinence from food (and other things) is an outward demonstration of an **inward heart of contrition and repentance toward God. It is also a spiritual act of humbling and emptying ourselves before God in submission to His Lordship. Fasting is crucifying our flesh and self and enthroning God**. It brings us into total submission to Him. We deny all that is of ourselves - our will, needs, appetites, desires, priorities, motives and embrace all that is His. There are different ways of fasting. Let the Lord lead you at all times. We fast on:

- **Food** – abstinence from food (*depending on how God will direct you*)
- **Time** – setting aside time to pray and wait on God
- **Priorities** – denying personal priorities; make seeking Him first priority
- **Pleasures** – abstinence from things or activities we enjoy (*hobbies, TV, internet, entertainment, recreation, social media, etc.*) and devote that time and energy to God

### **How do we fast?**

We are to fast as **the Holy Spirit leads us**. Let Him show us what He is dealing with us in our life. **Fasting must be accompanied with prayer:**

- **Total fast** – Abstaining from solid foods for all meals. Taking only liquids (*water*). If you have a health need, consult your doctor before fasting.
- **Partial fast** – Abstaining from certain meals or reducing the normal portions of intake. (*No snacking to make up for fasted meals. Take much water.*)
- **Daniel fast** – Abstaining from specific (*favorite*) types of food, beverages and also from certain activities. (*TV, golf, shopping, video games, internet, social media, etc.*)

**How do we wait on God?**

**Plan and set aside a specific time and place** *(remove all distractions)*

to wait on God each day of the Solemn Assembly.

- Waiting is an act of submission that crucifies the flesh and lets God be God.
- Allow Him to search us thoroughly that nothing is hidden.
- Consciously tune our heart and spirit to hear Him and be sensitive to His voice.
- God will draw near to us and reveal Himself to us.
- Praying brings revelations of things that we need to take care of. It allows the Holy Spirit to illuminate our hearts.
- Take note of all that He speaks to us.

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**SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

**DAY 1 — SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2020**

**PRAYER FOCUS— MINISTRY OF THE WORD  
(AM AND PM SERVICES)**

**Psalm 27:4 (AMPC)**

**ONE THING HAVE I ASKED OF THE LORD**, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: **THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD [in His presence] ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE**, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] OF THE LORD and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.

**Exodus 25:8 (NKJV)**

**“AND LET THEM MAKE ME A SANCTUARY, THAT I MAY DWELL AMONG THEM.”**

**John 14:23 (NKJV)**

Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **WE WILL COME TO HIM AND MAKE OUR HOME WITH HIM.**

**Psalm 51:11 (NKJV)**

**Do not cast me away from Your presence**, and do not take your Holy Spirit from me.

**Psalm 63:1 (NKJV)**

**O GOD, YOU ARE MY GOD; EARLY WILL I SEEK YOU; MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU;** my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water.

**Psalm 84:1-2 (NLT)**

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of Heaven’s Armies. **I LONG, YES, I FAINT WITH LONGING TO ENTER THE COURTS OF THE LORD. With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to the living God.**

**Psalm 84:10 (NLT)**

**A SINGLE DAY IN YOUR COURTS IS BETTER THAN A THOUSAND ANYWHERE ELSE!** I would rather be a gatekeeper in the house of my God than live the good life in the homes of the wicked.

**Ephesians 2:20–21 (NLT)**

**TOGETHER, WE ARE HIS HOUSE**, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus Himself. **We are carefully joined together in Him, BECOMING A HOLY TEMPLE FOR THE LORD.**

**Read Also: Exodus 33:8- 11 (NKJV) Exodus 24:15-18, Exodus 33:15-16**



**DAY 2 — MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020**

**PRAYER FOCUS — CONSECRATED FOR HIS HOLY PRESENCE**

**Leviticus 22:31-33 (NKJV)**

*"Therefore you shall keep My commandments, and perform them: I am the LORD. You shall not profane My holy name, BUT I WILL BE HALLOWED AMONG THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL. I AM THE LORD WHO SANCTIFIES YOU, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: I AM THE LORD."*

**Leviticus 20:26 (NKJV)**

*. . . YOU SHALL BE HOLY TO ME, FOR I THE LORD AM HOLY, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine.*

**1 Corinthians 3:16-17 (NKJV)**

**DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT YOU ARE THE TEMPLE OF GOD AND THAT THE SPIRIT OF GOD DWELLS IN YOU?** *If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. FOR THE TEMPLE OF GOD IS HOLY, WHICH TEMPLE YOU ARE.*

**2 Corinthians 6:14-18 and 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT)**

*Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? **WHAT HARMONY CAN THERE BE BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE DEVIL?** How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? **AND WHAT UNION CAN THERE BE BETWEEN GOD'S TEMPLE AND IDOLS?** For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: "I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be My people. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. **DON'T TOUCH THEIR FILTHY THINGS, AND I WILL WELCOME YOU.** And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the LORD Almighty." (2 Corinthians 7:1) Because we have these promises, dear friends, **let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us WORK TOWARD COMPLETE HOLINESS BECAUSE WE FEAR GOD.***

**Isaiah 6:1- 8 (NLT)**

*It was in the year King Uzziah died that I SAW THE LORD. HE WAS SITTING ON A LOFTY THRONE, AND THE TRAIN OF HIS ROBE FILLED THE TEMPLE. Attending Him were mighty seraphim, each having six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. **They were calling out to each other, "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY IS THE LORD OF HEAVEN'S ARMIES! THE WHOLE EARTH IS FILLED WITH HIS GLORY!"** Their voices shook the Temple to its foundations, and the entire building was filled with smoke. **Then I said, "IT'S ALL OVER! I AM DOOMED, FOR I AM A SINFUL MAN. I HAVE FILTHY LIPS, AND I LIVE AMONG A PEOPLE WITH***

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

**FILTHY LIPS. YET I HAVE SEEN THE KING, THE LORD OF HEAVEN'S ARMIES."**

Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal he had taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. He touched my lips with it and said, **"See, this coal has touched your lips. Now your guilt is removed, and your sins are forgiven."** Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to this people? Who will go for Us?" I said, "Here I am. Send me."

**Leviticus 10:1-11 (NKJV)**

Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and **offered profane fire before the LORD, which He had not commanded them. So fire went out from the LORD and devoured them, and they died before the LORD.** And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the LORD spoke, saying: **'BY THOSE WHO COME NEAR ME I MUST BE REGARDED AS HOLY; AND BEFORE ALL THE PEOPLE I MUST BE GLORIFIED.'**" So Aaron held his peace. Then Moses called Mishael and Elzaphan, the sons of Uzziel the uncle of Aaron, and said to them, "Come near, carry your brethren from before the sanctuary out of the camp." So they went near and carried them by their tunics out of the camp, as Moses had said. And Moses said to Aaron, and to Eleazar and Ithamar, his sons, "Do not uncover your heads nor tear your clothes, lest you die, and wrath come upon all the people. But let your brethren, the whole house of Israel, bewail the burning which the LORD has kindled. **You shall not go out from the door of the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die, for the anointing oil of the Lord is upon you.**" And they did according to the word of Moses. Then the LORD spoke to Aaron, saying: "Do not drink wine or intoxicating drink, you, nor your sons with you, when you go into the tabernacle of meeting, lest you die. **It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, that YOU MAY DISTINGUISH BETWEEN HOLY AND UNHOLY, AND BETWEEN UNCLEAN AND CLEAN, and that you may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the LORD has spoken to them by the hand of Moses.**"

**Hebrews 12:28-29 (NKJV)**

Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us have grace, by which we may **serve God acceptably with REVERENCE AND GODLY FEAR. For our GOD IS A CONSUMING FIRE.**

**Romans 11:22 (NKJV)**

**Therefore consider the GOODNESS AND SEVERITY OF GOD:** on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.

**Psalms 33:8 (NIV)**

**LET ALL THE EARTH FEAR THE LORD; let all the people of the world revere Him.**

**Psalm 86:11 (NIV)**

**Teach me Your way, O LORD, and I will walk in Your truth; GIVE ME AN UNDIVIDED HEART, THAT I MAY FEAR YOUR NAME .**

**Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NIV)**

**Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.**

**Job 23:10 (NKJV)**

**But He knows the way that I take; WHEN HE HAS TESTED ME, I SHALL COME FORTH AS GOLD.**

**1 Peter 1:6-7 (NKJV)**

**In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though IT IS TESTED BY FIRE, MAY BE FOUND TO PRAISE, HONOR, AND GLORY AT THE REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST.**

**Read also: Revelation 4:2-11 (NKJV); Psalm 105:17-22**

## **EXHORTATION — CONSECRATED FOR HIS HOLY PRESENCE**

### **Pursue Holiness, Without Which No Man Can See God**

Hebrews 12:14 (NKJV) says, **“Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see God.”** Holiness is what we must pursue and obtain, for without holiness we cannot see God. If we cannot see God, then we do not have His presence or glory.

In the original Greek language, the word “holiness” here (*hagiasmos*) refers to **consecration, purification or sanctification of heart and life**. The word “pursue” (*diōkō*) means to run swiftly after in order to catch; to press on (as one who runs swiftly in a race to reach the goal); to seek eagerly or to earnestly endeavor to acquire. To the extent we will pursue and press in to be holy before Him is the extent He will pour out His presence upon us.

**God’s holiness, presence and glory are the very essence and embodiment of who He is and He passionately wants to fill us with the fullness of His Person.** Without the presence and the glory of God, we are no better than any other religion that acknowledges the divine but had no life, no power and no anointing. **It is God’s presence alone that distinguishes us from all other religions.**

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### “Work Toward Complete Holiness Because We Fear God”

#### (2 Corinthians 7:1NLT)

One of the main reasons we lose our consecration is because we lose the fear of God. We lose the fear of God when we lose sight of Him. **Where there is no fear of God, one would easily, casually and presumptuously sin against God.** Love for God involves the fear of God. It is a love that carefully regards who He is, His ways, His Word, His will and all that concerns Him.

The word “fear”(phobos) means dread, terror; or that which strikes terror. **When we see God for who He is then our hearts are filled with such an awe and wonder of Him that it causes us to tremble in His presence and at His name.** Our hearts will begin to walk carefully, softly and holy before Him. This was the encounter Isaiah had with God in the temple when God revealed Himself to Isaiah and he trembled in holy awe and fear that he cried out in Isaiah 6:5 (NLT), **“It’s all over! I am doomed, for I am a sinful man. I have filthy lips, and I live among a people with filthy lips. Yet I have seen the King, the Lord of Heaven’s Armies.” THIS IS THE FEAR GOD. YES, GOD IS LOVE AND HE IS ALSO HOLY.**

When we lose sight of who God truly is, we also lose the awe and the fear of Him. One of David’s passionate prayer concerning his relationship with God is in Psalm 86:11, **“TEACH ME YOUR WAY, O LORD, and I will walk in Your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may FEAR YOUR NAME.”** David was a man after God’s own heart. He had lived in an uncommon intimacy with God and knew the ways of God far more than many others. His one passion in life was to always live in God’s presence. Out of his relentless pursuit of God, he encountered, experienced and knew God intimately. **In his understanding of God, he learned how essential it was for his heart to relate to God in holy awe, reverence and fear.** He understood that intimacy with God required him to never presume upon God. **It was in the fear of God that he EXPERIENCED AND UNDERSTOOD THE LOVE OF GOD. In Psalm 118:4 he says, “Let those who fear the LORD say: “His love endures forever.”** God speaks consistently in His Word concerning the fear of Him:

- **“SHOULD YOU NOT FEAR ME?”** declares the Lord. “Should you not tremble in My presence?” - Jeremiah 5:22 (NIV)
- **“The LORD delights in those who FEAR HIM,** who put their hope in His unfailing love” – Psalm 147:11 (NIV)
- **“The FEAR OF THE LORD is pure,** enduring forever” - Psalm 19:9
- “Let all the earth **FEAR THE LORD;** let all the people of the world revere Him” – Psalm 33:8 (NIV)
- “... let us have grace, by which we may **serve God acceptably**

**with reverence and GODLY FEAR.** For our God is a consuming fire” – Hebrews 12:28-29 (NIV)

- “... do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather **FEAR HIM who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell**” - Matthew 10:28 (NKJV)
- Now all has been heard; here is the conclusion of the matter: **FEAR GOD and keep His commandments**, for this is the whole duty of all mankind - Ecclesiastes 12:13 (NIV)
- **“FEAR GOD and give Him glory**, because the hour of His judgment has come ...” - Revelation 14:7 (NKJV)

### Where There Is No Fear Of God, Sin Thrives

**WHEN WE DO NOT FEAR HIM, WE WILL EASILY AND CALLOUSLY SIN FOR LACK OF RESPECT FOR HIM.** When David’s heart began to lose sight of God, he became more casual toward God and he sinned. In 1 Samuel 7, he was attempting to bring back the Ark of God (representing the presence of God) from the house of Abinadab to Jerusalem. He failed to transport the Ark of God according to God’s instructions to Moses that it should be carried with poles on the shoulders of the Levites. He knew that the Philistines had returned the captured Ark by transporting it on a cart (1 Samuel 6). David’s heart having become presumptuous towards God also placed the Ark on a new cart. When the cart stumbled, Uzzah, one of the accompanying men, reached out and touched the Ark. God’s anger was aroused and He struck Uzzah dead. This was not because God was harsh and cruel. It was because **David and his men having lost sight of God had also lost the fear of God, they failed to treat the Ark of God with deserving awe and reverence;** they presumed upon God and sinned against Him.

In the time of Moses, God gave specific instructions to him on how to construct the Tabernacle, make the holy articles and care for them so that His presence could dwell with Israel. All these were to help Israel have a clear understanding of who He was in His holiness and how they ought to dwell in His holy presence. He needed to teach them how to treat Him with awe and holy fear. Therefore, God repeatedly spoke to them, **“YOU SHALL BE HOLY TO ME, FOR I THE LORD AM HOLY.” (Leviticus 20:26 NKJV)**

### The Necessary Awakening To The Fear Of God

God’s presence is never to be treated disrespectfully or without fear. **The church of today needs an awakening of an understanding of who God truly is and learn to live in awe and fear of Him.** He wants to manifest Himself to us in an unprecedented way, but have we in holy fear cleansed and purified ourselves to receive Him? God’s call for our consecration to be holy as He is holy has not changed from the beginning

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of time. The outward ceremonial acts and ordinances of worship are no longer the same as the Old Testament, but His call for our consecration and holiness has not changed. It is still the same as in Leviticus 10:3 (NKJV), **“BY THOSE WHO COME NEAR ME I MUST BE REGARDED AS HOLY; AND BEFORE ALL THE PEOPLE I MUST BE GLORIFIED! THEREFORE, A LACK OF CONSECRATION REVEALS THE DEEPER PROBLEM OF THE LACK OF THE FEAR OF GOD.”**

The Church of Corinth was a busy church and had many gifts, but they lacked sanctification and holiness. There were carnality and sins in the Church. Therefore, Paul wrote and challenged them in 2 Corinthians 6:14 – 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NLT), “Don’t team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? **WHAT HARMONY CAN THERE BE BETWEEN CHRIST AND THE DEVIL?** How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? **AND WHAT UNION CAN THERE BE BETWEEN GOD’S TEMPLE AND IDOLS?** For we are the temple of the living God. As God said: “I will live in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they will be My people. Therefore, come out from among unbelievers, and separate yourselves from them, says the LORD. Don’t touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. and **I will be your Father, and you will be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.** Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. **AND LET US WORK TOWARD COMPLETE HOLINESS BECAUSE WE FEAR GOD.”**

### Learning To Fear Him By His Grace

It is in His goodness and mercy that God will teach and train our hearts to fear Him. By His grace, He will enable us to walk in holiness before Him. **He will teach and train us a father teaches and trains his children.** Should we fail, He will come repeatedly to speak, counsel, instruct and encourage. However, we must not take His grace for granted.

The Bible repeatedly speaks to us about God’s unfathomable and unconditional love for us that He would give up His only Son to be a sacrifice to redeem us. The Bible also speaks to us very clearly about the fear of God. However, there are many teachings, preaching, seminars and writings on the love of God (every one of them necessary) but barely any on the fear of God. Has the church become uncomfortable and reticent to teach about the fear of God? Has the church become overly concerned of being “irrelevant” and “incorrect” because of potential criticism of being judgmental, legalistic and lacking love and grace? **We must never stop preaching and teaching on God’s love, but not at the expense of leaving hearts ignorant of the fear of God.** God’s unconditional love does not accommodate disrespect of Him. When we fail to fear Him, it is because we have failed to know who He truly is. Romans 11:22 (NKJV), **“Therefore consider the GOODNESS AND**

**SEVERITY OF GOD:** on those who fell, severity; but toward you, goodness, if you continue in His goodness. Otherwise you also will be cut off.” **The goodness of God and His severity co-exist in Him side by side, so does His love and holiness.**

The mighty outpouring of His holy presence is not going to come to us until the church begins to know Him in His holiness; until we honor Him in holy fear and “cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile . . . and . . . **work toward complete holiness because we fear God.**” Then He will fulfill His word to us – **HE WILL LIVE WITH US, WALK WITH US, HE WILL BE OUR GOD AND WE HIS SONS AND DAUGHTERS; AND HE WILL WELCOME US!**

### God’s Zeal For His Own Holy Presence

**GOD UNCOMPROMISINGLY GUARDS WHO HE IS. He will not allow Himself to be dishonored, disrespected or defiled. If we presumptuously touch and offend His holy presence, we have touched and offended Him.**

After Israel completed and dedicated the Tabernacle of God (a portable structure which was a symbol of God’s presence), the presence and glory of God came down, filling the tabernacle in a mighty way. Shortly after that, in Leviticus 10, Nadab and Abihu presumptuously made offerings that God did not command, violating God’s specific instructions. As a result, “fire came out from before the Lord and consumed them, and they died before the Lord” (Leviticus 10:2 NIV). Immediately God spoke, saying, **“BY THOSE WHO COME NEAR ME I MUST BE REGARDED AS HOLY; AND BEFORE ALL THE PEOPLE I MUST BE GLORIFIED”** (Leviticus 10:3 NKJV). Nadab and Abihu failed to discern the truth concerning the holiness of God, resulting in a lack of fear and respect for His presence. In their careless and rebellious approach of God, they had failed to glorify Him before the people. **THIS WAS A GRAVE OFFENSE TO THE HOLINESS OF GOD.** We must never forget to approach Him in consecration and holiness, and give Him the glory due to His name.

Parallel to this, in Acts 5, a couple named Ananias and Sapphira in the midst of revival and a mighty outpouring of God’s presence, were dismissive of God’s zeal for His holy presence and glory. They lied for their own social gain and when confronted by the disciples for being dishonest to the Holy Spirit, they were swiftly judged, and fell dead on the spot. As a result, a holy fear of God gripped the whole Church. **May we pray that by God’s mercy, we will understand His zeal for His holy presence and walk carefully before Him.** Like Moses and Joshua, let us “remove the sandals from our feet” every time we stand on the holy ground of His presence. **If we want to live in God’s presence and glory, it is essential for us to have a holy fear of Him.** Then God will pour out His presence and glory upon us, and the fires of revival will flow into cities and nations, bringing healing, deliverance and salvation.

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

We must not be hesitant to preach and teach consecration and holiness to the people of God. Grace is not an accommodation for sin and compromise, but God's way of enabling us to love Him, honor His presence and seek His holiness. In response to God's grace and goodness, we should have a consummate zeal and passion that no sin is tolerated, no compromise is overlooked and no trespass is excused in our lives. **LET US CHOOSE TO VOLUNTARILY AND PERSONALLY DEAL WITH SINS BEFORE GOD HAS TO DEAL WITH US.**

**God loves us unconditionally, but He will never compromise on holiness and consecration.** In Revelation 2, God rebuked the Church of Pergamos for tolerating the doctrine of Balaam (eating food offered to idols and sexual immorality); and the church of Thyatira for not dealing with the false prophetess Jezebel. The Holy Spirit severely warned them that if they would not deal with their sins, God, Himself, would come and deal with them. We must not tolerate a grace in our lives that accommodates sin that God's holiness will never allow. **GOD'S GRACE IS NEVER CONTRADICTORY TO HIS CHARACTER AND HOLINESS.**

### The Church Must Share God's Zeal For His Holy Presence

**IF WE HAVE A PASSION FOR GOD'S PRESENCE AND GLORY, WE WILL HAVE ZERO TOLERANCE FOR SIN AND COMPROMISE.** We will love what God loves, hate what He hates, and share the same zeal that He has for His holy presence and glory. **We will not do anything, say anything or be engaged in anything that could jeopardize our intimacy with Him or cause Him to withdraw His presence from us. We must treasure Him far above all else and not presume upon Him.**

Adam and Eve put their relationship with God at risk when they decided to disobey Him. Instead of choosing to honor God, they chose to honor their own will. As a result, they lost God's glory, traded freedom for shame, hid in fear, and ultimately were removed from God's presence and driven out of Eden. **THEREFORE, WE MUST NEVER PRESUME UPON GOD'S HOLY PRESENCE AND GLORY.** We must treasure His presence and glory far above all else. He will not tolerate His presence and glory to be dishonored or treated as common.

### The Holy Spirit's Two-Fold Work Of Consecration In Our Lives

There is a two-fold work of consecration that the Holy Spirit does to bring forth holiness and perfect us in Christ:

- **The work of purging and sanctifying us from all sins:** The Holy Spirit convicts us of sins and draws us to repentance. In repentance there is forgiveness, cleansing and restoration (Psalm 51:7 NKJV- "Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.")



- **The work of chastening and refining us by fire:** not because of sins, but to refine our faith, perfect our character and transform us into His likeness. (Job 23:10 NKJV, - "But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold.")

**The Holy Spirit cannot dwell in the same temple with sin.** 1 Corinthians 3:16–17 (NKJV) says, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are." To the extent we want God's presence and glory in our lives is the extent to which we must purify ourselves from all sins. **IT IS SUCCINCTLY CLEAR THAT BEING GOD'S HOLY TEMPLES, WE ARE NOT TO DEFILE OURSELVES, LEST GOD DESTROY US.** We cannot ignore the reality that God's holy presence will destroy anything that defiles His temple.

### **The Extraordinary Dealings Of God For Extraordinary Manifestations Of His Presence And Glory**

Psalms 66:10 (NKJV) says, "**FOR YOU, O GOD, HAVE TESTED US; YOU HAVE REFINED US AS SILVER IS REFINED.**" If we hunger for the extraordinary manifestations of God's presence, then be prepared to submit to His extraordinary dealings. God deals with the righteous to prepare them as vessels fit to carry His presence and glory. **The greater His manifest presence, the deeper and more severe are the dealings of the Lord.** God prepares us to host His presence and glory at an extraordinary level by allowing trials, storms and sufferings to test and deepen our consecration, devotion and faith. We must choose to remain holy and faithful in the midst of these impossible situations, undue pressures and sufferings.

Psalms 105:17–19 (NKJV) says of Joseph, "[He] was sold as a slave. They hurt his feet with fetters, he was laid in irons. **Until the time that His word came to pass, THE WORD OF THE LORD TESTED HIM.**" Like Joseph, God will use the fires of life to refine in us an exceptional faith and Christ-likeness. **TO THOSE PERFECTED BY GOD'S TESTING, HE WILL ENTRUST AN EXTRAORDINARY LEVEL OF HIS PRESENCE AND GLORY.**

The book of Job is a story about righteous Job who feared God and shunned evil. God, Himself, attested to Job's outstanding character, yet He allowed Job to be buffeted, crushed and stripped of everything he had except for his life. Job's friends assumed that God was dealing with him for his sins; they could not discern that God was testing him through each severe and painful trial. When God saw that Job's faithfulness stood firm, He revealed Himself to Job in an unprecedented way and restored twice over what Job had lost. Transformed by his profound encounter with God, in Job 42:5 (NKJV) Job testified, saying, ". . . **I HAVE HEARD OF YOU BY THE HEARING OF THE EAR, BUT NOW MY EYE SEES YOU.**"

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

### The Blessings Of Total Submission To The Dealings Of The Lord

If we are not embittered and offended by God's methods of chastening, but trust and obey Him, we shall become consecrated vessels who are uncorrupted by power, not tempted to pride by glory, non-presumptuous despite influence, and unspoiled by accolades and recognition. Sometimes God would choose to withhold His presence and glory from an unconsecrated vessel rather than see that vessel destroyed by temptation, as with King Saul and Judas. We must be so humbled and consecrated in submission to God that our flesh has no hold over us anymore.

As like Joseph in Genesis 41:38-44 (NKJV), "Pharaoh said to his servants, **'CAN WE FIND SUCH A ONE AS THIS, A MAN IN WHOM IS THE SPIRIT OF GOD?'** Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, 'Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, there is no one as discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and **ALL MY PEOPLE SHALL BE RULED ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD**; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you.' And Pharaoh said to Joseph, **'SEE, I HAVE SET YOU OVER ALL THE LAND OF EGYPT'**. . . and without your consent no man may lift his hand or foot in all the land of Egypt." What moved Pharaoh and convinced him to entrust Joseph with such honor, authority and power? It was the presence and glory of God upon Joseph, "a man in whom is the Spirit of God."

**To whom much is given much is required, and the greater the call of God, the greater His dealings.** God does not deal with His vessels by endowing them with blessings or talents, but through trials, corrections and sufferings. Jesus had to endure many trials so that He could carry the fullness of the Father's Holy Spirit, presence and glory from the cross to resurrection.

**LIKE JESUS, WE ARE TO CARRY THE MOST POWERFUL PRESENCE AND THE GLORY OF GOD INTO THE DARKEST OF PLACES AND HOUR.** Just as the light produced by a single candle can be seen up to possibly 30 miles away, the darker the hour, the brighter our light will shine.

Chastened and consecrated vessels will treasure God's presence and glory even above their own lives, and faithfully administer the presence and the glory of God even to their worst enemies. In Genesis 45:5-8 (NKJV), Joseph said to his brothers, "But now, **DO NOT THEREFORE BE GRIEVED OR ANGRY WITH YOURSELVES BECAUSE YOU SOLD ME HERE; FOR GOD SENT ME BEFORE YOU TO PRESERVE LIFE** . . . and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you who sent me here, but God." **Joseph was able to see beyond his pain and discern the hand of God at work in his trials.** Rather than become offended and embittered by his situation, he realized that everything he endured was set up to fulfill the perfect will of God. What presence and glory to be able to comfort those who had hated him and sought his destruction! What victory to be able to absolve his enemies from all faults and blame! What faith to see beyond

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

injustice, bitterness and offense and know that all that had happened to him was to fulfill the will of God even for those who hated him!

Indeed, what a presence and glory when we are able to love our enemies, bless those who curse us, do good to those who hate us, and pray for those who spitefully use us and persecute us! What compelling evidence that we are indeed children of our Father in heaven! **Do we, like Joseph, have the consecrated faith and Christ-likeness to carry and administer God's presence and glory in the worst of times and situations?** May God find us to be willing vessels for His presence and usher in an unprecedented revival as we live in holy consecration with *One Passion, His Presence!*

### PRAYER FOCUS

**A. Pray For A Desperate Hunger For God's Holy Presence And Glory**

**B. Seek God To See, Know And Understand Him In His Holiness**

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**C. Seek For The Restoration Of The Fear Of God In Your Lives**

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**D. Identify, Acknowledge And Repent Of All That Is Sinful And Profane**

1. Identify and repent of all things that cause the loss of the fear of God:
  - a. dishonor and disrespect of Him
  - b. defilement and profanity of any kind
  - c. presumption, apathy and callousness
  - d. sins and trespasses against Him
2. Identify all activities and things that diminishes your hunger for holiness and His presence

**E. Identify And Repent Of Other Loves That Separate You From Him**

1. Love of self
  - a. personal agendas and pursuits
  - b. personal will and ways
  - c. personal rights and preferences
2. Love of the world and the things of the world

## **SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

3. Love of self, flesh and pleasures
4. Love of other relationships

### **F. Repentance Of Isaiah (Isaiah 9) - Humbly Seek God To Reveal All Hidden Sins**

1. Waiting on God in deep prayers until:
  - a. He reveals Himself to you
  - b. He shines His light into the innermost being of your heart
  - c. He reveals all that displeases Him but are hidden
2. Take time to identify, acknowledge and wholly repent of hidden sins:
  - a. pride, arrogance and self-righteousness
  - b. compromises and defilement
  - c. actions, attitudes and motives that dishonor God
  - d. selfish agendas and motives – insincerity, pretensions,
  - e. anger, bitterness, unforgiveness and offenses
3. Acknowledge, repent and seek His forgiveness and cleansing

### **G. Cry Out To Be Purged And Fully Consecrated To Him In Holy Fear**

1. Wait for His purifying fire to purge the inward parts
2. Be cleansed, purged and restored
3. Surrender all to Him to do His will

### **H. Pray For A Tried And Consecrated Faith, Character And Christlikeness**

### **I. Submit To The Holy Spirit's Two-Fold Work Of Consecration**

1. Being purged and purified from all sins – for holiness and purity
2. Being chastened and refined for consecration and perfecting of faith, character and Christ-likeness

### **J. Re-Commitment And Re-Dedication Of All To Him**

1. Decide to follow Jesus at all cost:
  - a. no turning back
  - b. even if none go with you
2. Saying “yes” to Him in all things

Notes:

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## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

DAY 3 — TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2020

PRAYER FOCUS — LIVING IN HIS PRESENCE

*Psalm 27:4 (AMPC)*

**ONE THING HAVE I ASKED OF THE LORD**, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: **THAT I MAY DWELL IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD [in His presence] ALL THE DAYS OF MY LIFE**, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] **OF THE LORD and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.**

*Psalm 51:11 (NKJV)*

**DO NOT CAST ME AWAY FROM YOUR PRESENCE, AND DO NOT TAKE YOUR HOLY SPIRIT FROM ME.**

*Exodus 25:8 (NKJV)*

**“AND LET THEM MAKE ME A SANCTUARY, THAT I MAY DWELL AMONG THEM.”**

*John 14:23 (NKJV)*

*Jesus answered and said to him, “If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and WE WILL COME TO HIM AND MAKE OUR HOME WITH HIM.”*

*Psalm 84:1-7 (NLT) and 10 (NKJV)*

**How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of Heaven’s Armies. I LONG, YES, I FAINT WITH LONGING TO ENTER THE COURTS OF THE LORD.** With my whole being, body and soul, I will shout joyfully to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow builds her nest and raises her young at a place near your altar, O LORD of Heaven’s Armies, my King and my God! **WHAT JOY FOR THOSE WHO CAN LIVE IN YOUR HOUSE, ALWAYS SINGING YOUR PRAISES.** What joy for those whose strength comes from the LORD, who have set their minds on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. When they walk through the Valley of Weeping, it will become a place of refreshing springs. The autumn rains will clothe it with blessings. **They will continue to grow stronger, and each of them will appear before God in Jerusalem. . . For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

*Ephesians 3:14-19 (NKJV)*

*For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ . . . that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, **that CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEARTS through faith; that you, BEING ROOTED AND GROUNDED***

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

**IN LOVE**, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the width and length and depth and height— **to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; THAT YOU MAY BE FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD.**

### **1 John 4:16 (NKJV)**

And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. **GOD IS LOVE, AND HE WHO ABIDES IN LOVE ABIDES IN GOD, AND GOD IN HIM.**

### **John 14:10 -14 (NIV)**

**Don't you believe that I AM IN THE FATHER, AND THAT THE FATHER IS IN ME?** The words I say to you I do not speak on My own authority. Rather, **IT IS THE FATHER, LIVING IN ME, who is doing His work. BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY THAT I AM IN THE FATHER AND THE FATHER IS IN ME;** or at least believe on the evidence of the works themselves. Very truly I tell you, whoever believes in Me will do the works I have been doing, and they will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. And I will do whatever you ask in My name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. You may ask Me for anything in My name, and I will do it.

**Read also: Exodus 33:7-11 (NKJV); Psalm 63:1 (NKJV) ; Psalm 84:4 (NKJV); Psalm 132:13-16 (NKJV); Ephesians 2:20–22 (NLT)**

### **Exhortation — LIVING IN HIS PRESENCE**

Theologian and pastor R.C. Sproul once said, “We do not segment our lives, giving some time to God, some to our business or schooling, while keeping parts to ourselves. **The idea is to LIVE ALL OF OUR LIVES IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD, UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF GOD, AND FOR THE HONOR AND GLORY OF GOD. THAT IS WHAT THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS ALL ABOUT.**” Christ’s presence must be everything to us, everything we need and everything we long for: *One passion, His presence!* There must not exist any equal, any rival or any other besides Him in our heart of hearts. We must love and treasure the presence of God above else, even own lives, and seek Him with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength.

### **The Core Essence Of Living In His Presence Is Love**

**To live in God’s presence is to CONTINUALLY DWELL IN HIM BECAUSE OF LOVE. The reason God pursues us must be the same reason we pursue Him, that is LOVE.** We do not pursue Him for power, blessings nor any other agenda. Any other reason will fail but love will never fail. Jesus says in John 14:23 (NKJV), “**... if anyone love Me, he will keep my Word; and My Father will love him, and we will come to Him and make our home with Him.**” Living in God’s presence is not just about experiencing the tangible power of His manifest presence during a church

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service, special meeting or sudden encounter; it is about a daily lifestyle of continuously abiding with Him in love. It is not occasional, seasonal or eventual. **It is dwelling together with God in intimacy because of a CONTINUOUS COMING TOGETHER, BEING TOGETHER AND LODGING TOGETHER IN LOVE.** Acts 17:28 (NKJV) says, “for in Him we live and move and have our being...” He wants His presence to be with us forever — always, uninterrupted and unbroken – in fact, eternal!

### God’s Passion Is To Make Us A Dwelling Place For His Presence

Since the beginning of time, God’s heart has always been to make us a dwelling place (Exodus 25:8), resting place (Psalm 132:13–14), temple (1 Corinthians 6:19) and home (John 14:23) for Him. When Moses and Israel were journeying toward the promised land, the most important instruction God gave them is in Exodus 25:8 (NKJV), which says, “**And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them.**” Israel was never to be without His presence and so it is with us.

Like a seamless thread running from Genesis to Revelation, God’s heartbeat is for His people to live in His presence. We see this in God’s relationship with Adam and Eve, in His redemption of humanity, and ultimately in His preparation of an eternal home for all who believe in Him. In John 14:1–3 (NKJV), Jesus told His disciples, “Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. **I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.**” Do we hear God’s heartbeat in these words? Are our hearts in unison with His?

### The Innermost Sanctum Of Our Heart Is The Dwelling Place For God

1 Corinthians 6:19 (NKJV) says, “do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?” **As a temple of the Holy Spirit, THE INNERMOST SANCTUM OF OUR HEART HAS BEEN CREATED FOR GOD’S PRESENCE ALONE.** In the Old Testament, the innermost sanctuary of the tabernacle was referred to as the Holy of Holies, the place where the Ark of the Covenant resided and the presence of God manifested. No one was allowed inside this holy place except for the high priest, who entered only once a year to offer sacrifice and incense on behalf of the people. It is in the Holy of Holies of our hearts where we come before God—consecrated and exclusive in our love and intimacy—to minister to Him, fellowship with Him, **COMMUNE WITH HIM AND WORSHIP HIM ONE-ON-ONE AND FACE-TO-FACE.** In this place we are to love Him above even our families or our own lives. **IT IS IN THIS PLACE THAT GOD WANTS TO MAKE HIS HOME AND LIVE.**



In our innermost sanctum, Jesus is the sole occupant and loving Him is our sole ministry. In this place we must yearn for and long after God, arising to seek Him until He manifests Himself to us then we cleave to Him and never let Him go. **IT IS HERE THAT WE MAY ABIDE, BASK, SOAK AND LIVE IN HIS PRESENCE AS HE ABIDES IN OURS.** In this place we have only one love, longing, pursuit and passion: His presence!

Song of Solomon 3:1–4 (NLT) gives us a picture of love and intimacy between the king and a Shulamite woman. The passage describes the woman's longing for the king's presence and her search for him: "One night as I lay in bed, I yearned for my lover. I yearned for him, but he did not come. So I said to myself, 'I will get up and roam the city, searching in all its streets and squares. I will search for the one I love.' So I searched everywhere but did not find him. The watchmen stopped me as they made their rounds, and I asked, 'Have you seen the one I love?' **Then scarcely had I left them when I found my love! I caught and held him tightly, then I brought him to my mother's house, into my mother's bed, where I had been conceived.**" The Hebrew word translated as *bed* (*cheder*) can also refer to an apartment, bed chamber, or innermost chamber.

### **Pursue His Presence With First Passion – Not Just Yearn**

When God does not manifest Himself, it is because He wants us to pursue Him until we find Him. We cannot just yearn; we must arise, seek and pursue God's presence at all costs, like the Shulamite woman pursued her lover. When we find Him, let us make the inner sanctum of our heart His forever-dwelling place where intimacy with Him is at its deepest, closest and most profound and His presence is the strongest, clearest and most powerful. Here, our whole being is open to His. This is the intimacy of living in His presence: **OUR HEART IS INTIMATE WITH HIS HEART, OUR THOUGHTS WITH HIS THOUGHTS, OUR EMOTIONS WITH HIS EMOTIONS, AND OUR BEING WITH HIS BEING.** When we live in the intimacy of God's presence, we are changed from glory to glory to love Him, think like Him, speak like Him, move like Him and live like Him. In this intimacy, His glory begins to fill us from inside out, making us more like Jesus. His glory does the miracle of transforming us into people of love, faith, courage, boldness, strength, and ultimately, fruitfulness. This was why Paul declared, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

In the Holy of Holies we live in God's presence in such a manner that we can testify, as in 1 John 1:1–4 (NKJV), "That which was from the beginning, which **we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life**— the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— that which we have seen and heard we declare to you,

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that you also may have fellowship with us; and **TRULY OUR FELLOWSHIP IS WITH THE FATHER AND WITH HIS SON JESUS CHRIST.** And these things we write to you that your joy may be full.”

Pursue God as Moses did: with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength. Moses loved God, and living in His presence was his first and foremost passion and pursuit. **MOSES WAS ALWAYS SEEKING TO KNOW GOD, SEE GOD, PLEASE GOD AND ENCOUNTER GOD,** whereas Israel was always seeking for whatever would meet their needs. Moses lived for God’s presence, and encountered God in His glory. Israel lived for what God could do for them, and only knew of God through His deeds. **MOSES KNEW GOD PERSONALLY—ISRAEL DID NOT.** Moses yearned for God’s presence; Israel yearned for the meat, garlic and leeks of Egypt. Moses prioritized God’s presence, love and intimacy, but Israel prioritized their needs, welfare and will. Moses worshipped God face-to-face, but Israel worshipped God from afar. Moses was zealous for God’s glory, but Israel was zealous for their personal welfare. Moses lived in the uncommon presence of God, but Israel lived in their flesh.

### Living In The Uncommon Presence Of God

God’s presence in the Holy of Holies was different from His presence in the outer courts of the tabernacle. In Exodus 33:7–10, God’s presence in the tent of meeting (where Moses met with God face-to-face) was different from His presence in the camp (where Israel stood at the door of their tents to worship Him). **To live in God’s uncommon presence we must personally arise, go out and seek for Him until we find Him.** “Watchmen” (Song of Solomon 3:1–4) whether mentors, friends, teachers, preachers and leaders are not able to help us; they too need to seek the Beloved for themselves. We can ask them to help show us where God’s presence is, but there is a pursuit that takes us beyond their help. There is a presence of God that is not going to come to us by any watchman’s preaching, teaching, writing or exhorting; **IT WILL ONLY COME IF WE ARISE, PAY THE COST OF SEEKING HIM, AND PASSIONATELY PERSIST UNTIL WE FIND HIM.**

The Shulamite woman did not just yearn, she chose to awake and went out into the night seeking her king. To our natural mind, that was inconvenient, uncomfortable and unreasonable. Some may say that is not the “right” or “good” time to seek God. **HOWEVER, A TRUE HUNGER FOR GOD’S PRESENCE WILL WAKE US UP TO GO SEEKING, BECAUSE HUNGER WILL DISTURB US UNTIL WE ARE FED.** Passionate seekers know no boundaries of time, task or cost, and are willing to lay down their lives to seek God until He is found; and when He is, they hold Him tight, bring Him into the innermost sanctum of their hearts, and make it a home and dwelling place for Him.

**THEREFORE, LET US KEEP OUR HOLY OF HOLIES CONSECRATED, PURE, AND SET APART FOR GOD'S PRESENCE ALONE.** This is where we love, worship, adore and serve Him only. Do not grieve Him by allowing any person, thing, agenda or sin to intrude in this place. God will not cohabit or coexist in the Holy of Holies with any other. Do not dishonor His holy presence, but be sensitive to His Spirit, His ways and His heart.

**When God fills our insides, He will overflow and flood all of our outsides.** When Moses sought the Lord in forty days and nights praying and fasting on Mount Sinai, God personally came down and made His home with him. Exodus 33:11 (NLT) says that God communed with Moses "face to face, as one speaks to a friend." God's presence so filled Moses that it overflowed him, and when he came down from the mountain his face glowed with the glory of God. **The wonder that must captivate our heart is not the glow on Moses' face, but the forty days and nights he spent soaking in the presence of God.** Moses was filled with an uncommon faith, strength, courage and divine enablement to do all as God commanded. In the same way, when we are intimate with God, His glory, power, anointing and fruitfulness will flow through us.

### **Spiritual Adultery Grieves God And Dishonors His Presence**

Spiritual adultery is not just the outward act of bowing to an idol, but also the inward worship of idols occupying the innermost sanctum of our heart. When we allow another to intrude into our consecrated intimacy with Jesus Christ, we defile our relationship with Him and offend His presence. **OUR CONSECRATION, LOVE AND INTIMACY MUST BE RESERVED ONLY FOR JESUS.** We must protect God's presence, not take Him for granted.

**We must not grieve God's Holy Spirit or violate His holy presence with spiritual adultery.** The children of Israel continually grieved and vexed His Holy Spirit because their rebellious hearts always yearned for the "leeks," "garlic" and "meat" of Egypt. In Isaiah 63:8-10 (NLT), God grieved over Israel, lamenting, "They are My very own people. Surely they will not betray Me again.' And He became their Savior. In all their suffering He also suffered, and He personally rescued them. In His love and mercy He redeemed them. He lifted them up and carried them through all the years. **BUT THEY REBELLED AGAINST HIM AND GRIEVED HIS HOLY SPIRIT. SO HE BECAME THEIR ENEMY AND FOUGHT AGAINST THEM."**

When the church grieves God's presence or vexes His Spirit with spiritual adultery, He cannot and will not come to us, but will withdraw His presence and oppose us. Concerning Israel, Psalm 78:40-41 (NKJV) says, **"HOW OFTEN THEY PROVOKED HIM** in the wilderness, and **GRIEVED HIM** in the desert! Yes, again and again they tempted God, and **LIMITED THE HOLY ONE OF ISRAEL."**

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Are we grieving God and limiting His presence in our lives? Are we more like Moses or the children of Israel? How much hunger is there in the church today for God's presence? Have we honored His presence in all that we do in His name? **Is God's presence our priority and passion? How have we pursued Him?**

### **What Is The Measure Of God's Presence In Our Life**

God's presence in Moses' life was extraordinary. **God manifested Himself to Moses in a way that He did not with other prophets.** Moses had such a passion for God that there was nothing he wanted more than God's presence. **THEREFORE, GOD WOULD REVEAL HIMSELF TO MOSES IN EXTRAORDINARY WAYS THAT HE WOULD NOT WITH OTHERS.** He met with Moses "face to face" and spoke to him "as a man with his friend."

In Numbers 12, when Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of offense, God heard their complaints, and angrily chastened them for speaking against Moses—a seeker of His face and a carrier of His presence. Miriam and Aaron presumptuously put themselves on par with Moses concerning their relationship with God and His confidence in them. They arrogantly assumed that as God spoke with Moses, God was also speaking with them, **"Has the Lord spoken only through Moses? Hasn't He spoken through us, too?"**

Moses being the meekest man was not offended, but God was offended with their audacity. In a severe rebuke, God spoke of His unusual and uncommon intimacy with Moses and trust in him. In Numbers 12:6–8 (NLT), God said, "Now listen to what I say: 'If there were prophets among you, I, the Lord, would reveal Myself in visions. I would speak to them in dreams. But not with my servant Moses. **OF ALL MY HOUSE, HE IS THE ONE I TRUST. I SPEAK TO HIM FACE TO FACE, CLEARLY, AND NOT IN RIDDLES! HE SEES THE LORD AS HE IS. SO WHY WERE YOU NOT AFRAID TO CRITICIZE MY SERVANT MOSES?"**

God's presence in Moses' life was matchless and unlike other prophets' because of his passionate pursuit of God. Therefore, God related to him with exceptional intimacy, affection and trust. With others God would speak in dreams and visions, but with Moses He would speak face-to-face. Therefore, Moses saw God as He was.

God is jealous for us, and He will allow no rival or competitor to His presence. He will watch how we handle His presence before He reveals more of Himself to us. If we do not treat God's presence rightly, He will remove Himself just as He did with Samson, King Saul and Judas. Therefore, may we hunger, pursue and treasure God's presence more than life, just as Moses did.

### **Increase His Presence By Nurturing And Practicing His Presence**

We must live in the increasing manifestation of God's presence in our lives by nurturing His presence. When we daily love and pursue God with all of our hearts, we are nurturing our relationship with Him and His presence will increase. This means disciplining and training our minds to stay focused on God, moment by moment and day by day. **We must diligently and continuously set our minds to behold Him always** by thinking of Him, dwelling on Him, meditating on Him, conversing with Him, hearing Him, loving Him, adoring Him and beholding Him. If we do not train our minds to practice intimacy with God's presence, something else will intrude and dwell there. **To cultivate the habit of living in His presence takes discipline and practice. AS WE PERSIST, THAT DISCIPLINE WILL BECOME A DELIGHT, A HABIT AND THEN A PASSION IN OUR LIFE.** When we choose to:

- pray in every situation, we are practicing His presence
- worship Him in all things, we are practicing His presence
- meditate on Him and His Word, we are practicing His presence
- love Him above all others, we are practicing His presence
- obey Him at all costs, we are practicing His presence
- forgive every offense, we are practicing His presence
- deny self and pick up the cross and follow Him, we are practicing His presence
- give our water to the thirsty and bread to the hungry, we are practicing His presence

**THESE WE DO BECAUSE WE LOVE HIM.**

### **God's Presence Alone Distinguishes Us As His Children**

**Moses understood that the only thing that distinguished Israel as God's chosen people and set them apart from all other nations was His presence.** Therefore, Moses' prayer was that if God's presence would not go with them, he did not want to enter the promised land. Israel needed God's presence above success, prosperity, blessings and even miracles. If God's presence would be absent, Moses did not want the promised land for himself or Israel—for without His presence, they were nothing.

Jesus' relationship with His Father and the presence of the Holy Spirit in His life set Him apart from all the other religious leaders of His day. It is time for the Church to seek first God's presence, not His power; His face, not His favor; His fellowship, not His benefits; and His pleasure, not His blessings. We must seek God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. It is time for revival and for dead churches to come alive to God. It is time for *One Passion, His Presence!* **The enemy does not fear those who merely confess faith in God, but he fears those who live in the presence of God, committed, devoted and dedicated to obeying Him.**

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### **The Church Must Live With An All-Consuming Zeal For God's Presence**

The church is impotent without the presence of God. **UNLESS WE LIVE IN HIS PRESENCE, WE ARE NOTHING AND HAVE NOTHING.** Jesus taught in John 15:5 (NKJV), "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; **FOR WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.**" We must live in Jesus' presence just as He lived in His Father's presence. **Living in His presence is living in the presence of the great "I AM":** the Almighty God, Prince of Peace, Everlasting Father, Wonderful Counselor, King of kings and Lord of lords.

When the presence of the great "I AM" fills us, there will be the fires of first love, the flames of revival and the sounds of perpetual worship. We will passionately love, trust and serve God, and will be willing to do anything for Him. In Philippians 4:13 (NKJV), Paul said that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"; this means that through His power, we can pray, we can go, and we can manifest God's presence in all the nations of the world. **BUT FIRST WE MUST HUNGER, WE MUST ARISE, AND WE MUST SEEK HIM UNTIL HE COMES AND MAKES HIS HOME WITH US.**

A church living in God's presence is able to meet needs, bring good news and act as a conduit for healing, deliverance, blessing and transformation. This is the kind of church the world needs, and the kind of church Jesus wants to send into the world to preach His Gospel and disciple nations. **A church without God's presence is merely an organization that busies itself with Christian activities; without His presence, there is no power or glory.** The devil does not fear such a church, but mocks it; non-believers have no respect for it, and belittles it; God is shut out, and His Spirit is grieved.

**How have we loved God and His presence?** Will we lay down our lives to love and seek Him? Is there something exceptional about our love, devotion and faithfulness that will cause God to testify of us as He did Job, Abraham, Moses, Daniel and David? When we draw our last breath, will Jesus stand for us as He did for Stephen? Is our walk with Him so remarkable that He wants to bring us to Himself, just as with Enoch? **IS THERE SOMETHING REMARKABLE IN THE WAY WE LOVE GOD AND HIS PRESENCE THAT MAKES HEAVEN TAKE NOTE?** Does the way we love God bring Him pleasure? Do we so thrill His heart with our love that He would lavish us with His presence? **Are we living with *One Passion, His Presence?***

## PRAYER FOCUS

- A. Cry Out To God To Remove Complacency and Apathy Towards Him and His Presence.**
- B. Cry Out For An All-Consuming Passion For God And His Presence**

**C. Die To All Things That One Thing Remains – Passion For His Presence**

**D. Examine And Purify The Temple Of The Holy Spirit Of Intrusions**

1. Other passions, priorities and pursuits
2. Other gods (idolatry) – things or people we treasure more than God
3. Other loves (spiritual adultery) – more devoted to others
4. Other distractions – cares of life, work, busyness, other agendas
5. Intrusion of apathy, compromise and callousness
6. Acknowledge, repent, purify and be restored
7. Re-consecration and re-dedication to live in His presence

**E. Repent Of Rebelling Against His Holy Spirit And Grieving Him**

1. Sins of the heart
2. Sins of the tongue
3. Sins of the thoughts
4. Sins of the conduct
5. Sins of indifference, disrespect and casualness toward the Holy Spirit – not honoring Him
6. Confess, repent and be restored into intimacy with the Holy Spirit

**F. Dedicate The Innermost Sanctum Of Your Heart To Him For His Dwelling Place**

**G. Commit To Practicing His Presence Unceasingly (Psalm 27:4)**

*Psalm 27:4 (AMPC) – One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.*

1. One thing to ask for daily – to live in His presence
2. Seek Him daily in prayer, worship and His Word
3. Converse with Him daily – inquire and hear Him
4. Incline your ears to hear Him daily and be quick to obey
5. Take time to behold Him in all His beauty and holiness, meditate on Him
6. Wait on His Holy Spirit until He comes and fills you to overflowing

**H. Value And Treasure His Presence More Than Life Itself**

**I. Live In The Increasing Manifestation Of His Presence**

**SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

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**DAY 4 — WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2020**

**PRAYER FOCUS — THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE**

**1 Chronicles 29:10-12 (NKJV)**

... "Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. **YOURS, O LORD, IS THE GREATNESS, THE POWER AND THE GLORY, THE VICTORY AND THE MAJESTY;** for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; **Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and YOU ARE EXALTED AS HEAD OVER ALL.** Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. **IN YOUR HAND IS POWER AND MIGHT; IN YOUR HAND IT IS TO MAKE GREAT AND TO GIVE STRENGTH TO ALL."**

**2 Samuel 22:33 (NKJV)**

**GOD IS MY STRENGTH AND POWER, and He makes my way perfect.**

**Ephesians 6:10 (NKJV)**

Finally, my brethren, **BE STRONG IN THE LORD AND IN THE POWER OF HIS MIGHT.**

**Psalms 68:35 (NKJV)**

O God, You are more awesome than Your holy places. **THE GOD OF ISRAEL IS HE WHO GIVES STRENGTH AND POWER TO HIS PEOPLE. Blessed be God!**

**Psalms 63:1-2 (NKJV)**

O God, You are my God; **EARLY WILL I SEEK YOU; MY SOUL THIRSTS FOR YOU;** my flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. **SO I HAVE LOOKED FOR YOU IN THE SANCTUARY, TO SEE YOUR POWER AND YOUR GLORY.**

**1 Timothy 6:13-16 (NKJV)**

I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus. . . that you keep this commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, which He will manifest in His own time, **He who is the BLESSED AND ONLY POTENTATE, THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, TO WHOM BE HONOR AND EVERLASTING POWER. Amen.**

**John 1:3 (NKJV)**

**All things were made through Him, and WITHOUT HIM NOTHING WAS MADE THAT WAS MADE.**

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### *John 15:4-8 (NKJV)*

**“ABIDE IN ME, AND I IN YOU.** As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine, you are the branches. **He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; FOR WITHOUT ME YOU CAN DO NOTHING.** If anyone does not abide in Me, he is cast out as a branch and is withered; and they gather them and throw them into the fire, and they are burned. **IF YOU ABIDE IN ME, AND MY WORDS ABIDE IN YOU, YOU WILL ASK WHAT YOU DESIRE, AND IT SHALL BE DONE FOR YOU.** By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.”

### *Isaiah 40:10-26 (NKJV)*

**Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand, and HIS ARM SHALL RULE FOR HIM.** . . . Who has . . . measured heaven with a span and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? . . . Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD . . . With whom did He take counsel? . . . **Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales . . . ALL NATIONS BEFORE HIM ARE AS NOTHING.** . . . To whom then will you liken God? . . . It is He who sits above the circle of the earth . . . Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, . . . **“TO WHOM THEN WILL YOU LIKEN ME, OR TO WHOM SHALL I BE EQUAL?” SAYS THE HOLY ONE.** Lift up your eyes on high, and see who has created these things, who brings out their host by number; He calls them all by name, **BY THE GREATNESS OF HIS MIGHT AND THE STRENGTH OF HIS POWER; NOT ONE IS MISSING.** . . .

### *Isaiah 40:28-31 (NKJV)*

Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. His understanding is unsearchable. **HE GIVES POWER TO THE WEAK, and to those who have no might He increases strength.** Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, **BUT THOSE WHO WAIT ON THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR STRENGTH; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.**

### *Deuteronomy 4:35-39 (NKJV)*

**To you it was shown, THAT YOU MIGHT KNOW THAT THE LORD HIMSELF IS GOD; THERE IS NONE OTHER BESIDES HIM.** Out of heaven He let you hear His voice, that He might instruct you; on earth He showed you His great fire, and you heard His words out of the midst of the fire. And because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them; and **HE BROUGHT YOU OUT OF EGYPT WITH HIS PRESENCE, WITH HIS MIGHTY POWER, DRIVING OUT FROM BEFORE YOU NATIONS GREATER AND MIGHTIER THAN YOU, to bring you in, to give you their land as an inheritance, as**

**it is this day.** Therefore know this day, and consider it in your heart, that the Lord Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; **THERE IS NO OTHER.**

**2 Chronicles 20:5-9 (NKJV)**

Then Jehoshaphat stood ... in the house of the LORD ... and said: "O LORD God of our fathers, are You not God in heaven, and do You not rule over all the kingdoms of the nations, **and IN YOUR HAND IS THERE NOT POWER AND MIGHT, SO THAT NO ONE IS ABLE TO WITHSTAND YOU?** Are You not our God, who drove out the inhabitants of this land ... and gave it to the descendants of Abraham ...? And they dwell in it, and have built You a sanctuary ... saying, 'If disaster comes upon us ... **WE WILL STAND before this temple and IN YOUR PRESENCE ... AND CRY OUT TO YOU ... AND YOU WILL HEAR AND SAVE.'**"

**Psalms 97:5-6 (NKJV)**

**THE MOUNTAINS MELT LIKE WAX AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD, at the presence of the Lord of the whole earth.** The heavens declare His righteousness, and all the peoples see His glory.

**Psalms 114:7-8 (NLT)**

**TREMBLE, O EARTH, AT THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD,** at the presence of the God of Jacob. He turned the rock into a pool of water; yes, a spring of water flowed from solid rock.

**Isaiah 19:1 (NKJV)**

The burden against Egypt. Behold, the Lord rides on a swift cloud, And will come into Egypt; **THE IDOLS OF EGYPT WILL TOTTER AT HIS PRESENCE,** And the heart of Egypt will melt in its midst.

**1 Chronicles 29:10-12 (NKJV)**

... David said: "Blessed are You, LORD God of Israel, our Father, forever and ever. **YOURS, O LORD, IS THE GREATNESS, THE POWER AND THE GLORY, THE VICTORY AND THE MAJESTY;** for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You reign over all. **IN YOUR HAND IS POWER AND MIGHT; in Your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all."**

**Exodus 3:10-15 (NLT)**

**Now go, for I am sending you to Pharaoh.** You must lead my people Israel out of Egypt." But Moses protested to God, "**Who am I to appear before Pharaoh? Who am I to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt?**" **GOD ANSWERED, "I WILL BE WITH YOU. And this is your sign that I AM THE ONE WHO HAS SENT YOU:** when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at

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*this very mountain." But Moses protested, "If I go to the people of Israel and tell them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they will ask me, 'What is His name?' Then what should I tell them?" God replied to Moses, "**I AM WHO I AM. SAY THIS TO THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL: I AM HAS SENT ME TO YOU.**" God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: **YAHWEH, THE GOD OF YOUR ANCESTORS—THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB—HAS SENT ME TO YOU.** This is My eternal name, - My name to remember for all generations."*

### **Exodus 4:10-17 (NLT)**

*... Then the Lord asked Moses, "Who makes a person's mouth? Who decides whether people speak or do not speak, hear or do not hear, see or do not see? Is it not I, the LORD? **NOW GO! I WILL BE WITH YOU as you speak, AND I WILL INSTRUCT YOU IN WHAT TO SAY.**" ... **I WILL BE WITH BOTH OF YOU AS YOU SPEAK, AND I WILL INSTRUCT YOU BOTH IN WHAT TO DO.** Aaron will be your spokesman to the people. He will be your mouthpiece, **and YOU WILL STAND IN THE PLACE OF GOD FOR HIM, telling him what to say.** And take your shepherd's staff with you, and use it to perform the miraculous signs I have shown you."*

### **Exhortation – THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE**

**WHEN WE LIVE IN THE PRESENCE OF THE ALMIGHTY GOD, WE ALSO LIVE IN THE POWER OF THE ALMIGHTY GOD.** God does not separate His power from His presence; the greater our intimacy with God, the greater His presence, and the greater His presence, the greater His power in us. We need to know and experience the different aspects of God's power as revealed by His innumerable and wonderful names. For example:

- the Everlasting Father – Isaiah 9:6
- the Prince of Peace – Isaiah 9:6
- the Wonderful Counselor – Isaiah 9:6
- the Author and Perfecter of our Faith – Hebrews 12:2
- Deliverer – Romans 11:26
- Physician – Matthew 9:12
- Redeemer – Isaiah 41:14

However, as with all aspects concerning God, it is impossible for the mind to fully grasp—or for the tongue to sufficiently explain—the power of God's presence. **The Bible reveals God is ALMIGHTY and the LORD MOST HIGH WITH NO EQUAL.**

One of the most powerful tributes given to God is found in 1 Timothy 6:15–16 (NKJV), where Paul ascribes to Jesus this accolade: **"HE WHO IS THE BLESSED AND ONLY POTENTATE, THE KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable**

**light, whom no man has seen or can see, TO WHOM BE HONOR AND EVERLASTING POWER.** Amen.” The NLT translation renders the text this way: “He alone can never die... He lives in light so brilliant that no human can approach Him.”

Ultimately, the power of God’s presence is more to be experienced rather than explained, but there are two things we need to know:

### 1. **The kingdom of God is a kingdom of His presence, POWER and glory.**

When Jesus taught His disciples to pray in Matthew 6:9–13, He said, “Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, **Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. . . FOR YOURS IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER AND THE GLORY FOREVER. AMEN.**”

### 2. **GOD’S POWER is found in HIS PRESENCE.**

Psalm 63:1–2 (NKJV) says, “O God, You are my God; Early will I seek You; My soul thirsts for You; My flesh longs for You in a dry and thirsty land where there is no water. **So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, TO SEE YOUR POWER AND YOUR GLORY.**”

Many things have a measure of power but there is no power like the power of His presence. This is why Jesus says in John 15:4-8 **that without Him, we can do nothing, HE IS SAYING THAT WITHOUT HIS PRESENCE WE ARE WITHOUT HIS POWER TO DO ANYTHING.** In His presence is the power to save, to heal, to deliver, to make whole, to transform, to multiply and bear much fruit. Paul attested to this in Philippians 4:13 (NKJV) when he said, **“I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME.”**

**THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE IS THE ANSWER TO ALL THINGS!** In Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV) ,“... Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, **I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS, EVEN TO THE END OF THE AGE.**” Jesus was declaring that His presence will always be with us to the end of the age, now, **THEREFORE IN THE POWER OF HIS PRESENCE WE ARE:**

- to go and make disciples of all nations
- to baptize all nations in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- to teach all nations to observe all Christ commanded

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### Moses Lived, Moved And Served In The Power Of God's Presence

**If ever there was a man who demonstrated what it meant to live in the power of God's presence, it was Moses.** In God's power he:

- was changed from a fearful shepherd into a fearless leader
- delivered ten plagues that crushed Egypt and its gods
- freed Israel from slavery, and enriched them with Egypt's wealth
- did many miracles and wonders according to God's will – crossing the Red Sea, drowning Pharaoh's army, drawing water out of rocks, feeding Israel with manna from heaven, and winning battles against Israel's many enemies

Moses' true power did not come from his identity as an adopted son to Pharaoh's daughter, nor from his palace education, military training or princely position in Pharaoh's court. In fact, his first attempt to employ his earthly influence and power to deliver God's people ended in abject failure.

Early in Moses' life, he witnessed an Egyptian beating a fellow Hebrew. Intending to use his earthly influence and power to rescue his people, he killed the Egyptian and hid the body in the sand. Later, coming across two quarrelling Hebrews, Moses attempted to mediate, but they turned against him because of his violent ways. Suddenly exposed for his crimes, Moses was confronted with the limits of his earthly power and its inability to affect anything. **All his identity, position and power would never be enough to save his people, least of all himself!** Fearing for his life, he fled Egypt and spent the next forty years living in the wilderness as a humble shepherd.

**The forty years Moses spent in the wilderness were a time of purifying, sanctifying and purging under the hands of God.** Moses had to be stripped of every misconception he had about his own ability and strength to deliver the Israelites. This transformation—from a man of the flesh to a man of God—culminated in a personal encounter with God. It was only after God had totally emptied Moses of himself, that God was able to fill him with the power of His presence – **THE ONLY THING THAT COULD CONFRONT ALL THE DEMON GODS OF EGYPT, crushing them and delivering God's people out of 400 years of slavery, also enriching them and bringing them to the promised land.**

The first thing God did when He appeared to Moses was command him to go back to Egypt to deliver the Israelites. **In all these, over and over again God gave Moses one singular assurance – I WILL BE WITH YOU! THE POWER AND PRESENCE OF THE GREAT "I AM" was all that Moses—a defeated, deflated, insecure and dispirited runaway—NEEDED TO STAND before Pharaoh AND DEMAND ISRAEL'S COMPLETE DELIVERANCE FROM SLAVERY. With God's great power, Moses demonstrated that Israel was God's chosen people, slaves to neither Pharaoh nor Egypt's worthless gods.** The power of God's presence forced Pharaoh to

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

acknowledge Moses and fear the God of Israel. One man, filled with the power of the presence of the great “I AM,” totally crushed Pharaoh, brought Egypt to its knees, and defeated all the powers and principalities of Egypt, thus delivering God’s people from 400 years of slavery and demonstrating the glory of God.

In the same power of God’s presence, Moses led Israel through incredible testings, trials, sufferings and warfare. **By God’s power he provided for Israel’s needs and protected, led, governed, judged and ministered to them.** By this same power he obtained faith, strength, might, courage, endurance and wisdom to do what God had assigned him to do. **THIS HE DID BY PERPETUALLY SEEKING AND DWELLING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD.** Moses learned to love the presence of God and would not do one thing—move a foot, lift a hand or give a command—outside of God’s presence. **HE KNEW THAT ABOVE ALL THINGS IN HIS LIFE, NOTHING COULD BE COMPARED TO HAVING THE POWER OF GOD’S PRESENCE.** He could lose anything—family, comfort, reputation and even his own life—but he could not lose the power of God’s presence. In Exodus 33:15–16 (NKJV), Moses prayed, **“IF YOUR PRESENCE DOES NOT GO WITH US, DO NOT BRING US UP FROM HERE.** For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth.” As one of God’s greatest prophets and one of His most powerful and successful leaders, Moses had this testimony concerning his life, call and ministry: ***One Passion, His Presence.***

### **The End-Time Church Needs The Power Of God’s Presence**

We are called to deliver captives and prisoners out of darkness and lead them into the kingdom of light, life and salvation, but we cannot do this with human power and man-made strategies; we can only accomplish this in the power of God’s presence. The end-times are vicious, dangerous, treacherous, evil, brutal and violent. No other power, wisdom, intelligence or influence, from any source, is able to enable the Church to fulfill our call, do our ministry and finish the work of God except the power of His presence. Therefore, it is time **WE AWAKE TO THIS TRUTH AND PUT ALL OF OUR EFFORT, HEART, STRENGTH AND MIND INTO SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND LIVING IN THE POWER OF HIS HOLY SPIRIT.**

If Moses was violently, viciously and brutally opposed while he was doing the will of God, so will the end-time Church be opposed, if not even more so. Daniel, Jesus, Paul, the apostles and the early Church were severely attacked, opposed and targeted for destruction by hell’s principalities and powers, but they were all able to overcome the enemy and finish their assignments through the power of God’s presence.

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What about us, the end-time Church? Is it possible that we are the generation that will usher in the second coming of Jesus Christ? And if so, are we not called and required to preach the gospel to the ends of the world, make disciples of all nations and teach them to obey all of God's commandments? How are we to accomplish this in such times when the forces of darkness seem to cover the whole earth? When the mention of Christ's name provokes vilification? When the preaching of Christ stirs up threats of violence? When standing up for righteousness and truth guarantees persecution? There is only one power that can strengthen, embolden and enable us to stand, arise, advance and go forth and overcome: the presence of God! **WE MUST LIVE IN THE FULLNESS OF GOD'S PRESENCE AND BE CLOTHED IN THE FULLNESS OF HIS POWER. In this manner we live: *One Passion, His Presence!***

### **A "Presence-less" Church Is A Powerless Church**

A **"PRESENCE-LESS" CHURCH IS POWERLESS**, and hell will pay no attention to such a church. Satan fears God; not an organization, religion or gathering of people who profess God's name but do not have His presence or power. The effectiveness and power of a church to invade and plunder hell—rescuing souls and translating them into God's kingdom—is not in the size of its congregation, the enormity of its pocket book, or the ingenuity of its leadership, but in their passion to pursue God's presence through unceasing prayer, and hence have God's power residing in them.

The Bible reveals the difference between the apostles and the religious leaders of their day. The Pharisees, Scribes and Sadducees had many years of religious study, were recognized as spiritual leaders and teachers, and were deemed to know God, but Jesus called them "hypocrites," "white-washed tombs" and "vipers." These religious leaders never had a personal relationship with God, and their passion was not for God's presence but their own position, power and prosperity. When they prayed they were not seeking God or pursuing Him, but rather speaking for others to hear and applaud their piety. They loved to be revered by others, yet oppressed them. Unlike Jesus Christ, they were not about God's business, will and purpose, but were about their own agenda, gains and privileges. **THEY NEVER KNEW THE GOD THEY PROFESSED TO SERVE, BECAUSE THEY NEVER HAD A PASSION FOR HIM AND HAD NEVER PURSUED HIM.** Their lives were filled with much legalistic study and head knowledge, but they were void of the revelation, presence and power of God. They could not recognize Jesus as the Son of God, and therefore opposed and rejected Him. They did not have the presence and power of God; **THEY WERE "PRESENCE-LESS," "GOD-LESS," AND POWERLESS.**

The religious leaders considered the apostles unqualified to lead, preach or teach, but Jesus chose the apostles to be His followers. Amongst them



were the uneducated, fishermen, tax collectors, a doctor and others. Jesus Himself was the son of a carpenter. **WHAT DIFFERENTIATED THESE MEN FROM THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS WAS THAT THEY LEFT EVERYTHING TO FOLLOW JESUS AND LIVED, MOVED AND SERVED IN HIS PRESENCE.** Jesus taught them to have a passion for the Father and His kingdom, and showed them how to zealously pursue His presence (especially through prayer). The apostles learned to live in the power of God's presence, even more so after they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. **Hell paid no heed to the religious leaders of those days, except to use them to do hell's work; BUT HELL FEARED THE APOSTLES BECAUSE THEY LIVED IN THE PRESENCE AND THE POWER OF GOD.** Satan knows that his true enemies are not those who merely profess the name of Jesus, but those who live in God's presence and therefore receive the power to crush hell under their feet.

### In What Manner Should We Seek The Presence Of God

**The deeper our intimacy with God, the greater His presence will be and the stronger He will manifest His power. WE MUST SEEK GOD IN SUCH A MANNER THAT ALL OTHER DESIRES AND PASSIONS ARE OBLITERATED AND WE LIVE WITH ONLY ONE PASSION, HIS PRESENCE!** All other desires, delights and passions will die in the presence of God as we pursue Him relentlessly. An old, simple but profoundly true song says, "Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full into His wonderful face and the things of this world will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace." How true and how powerful are these words, so, live it!

**Satan does not fear a busy church, a giving church or a sacrificial church; he fears a seeking church, BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT IS A SEEKING CHURCH THAT WILL HAVE THE PRESENCE OF GOD, along with His power, strength, might and glory.** In Mark 5:1-20, Jesus, clothed in the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, was entering the country of the Gadarenes when He was met by a man possessed by a "legion" of demons. That man saw Him from afar, and the demons in him trembled in terror at the presence of Jesus, and begged Him not to torment them nor command them to go into the abyss (Luke 8:30-31). [A legion of Roman soldiers in Jesus' time comprised 4200 to 6000 strong.]

At the same time, the demon-possessed man came and worshipped at Jesus' feet. **EVEN A LEGION OF DEMONS COULD NOT STOP THIS BROKEN MAN FROM WORSHIPPING JESUS WHEN HE WAS IN THE POWER OF JESUS' PRESENCE.** Jesus cast out all the demons and set the man free. He was in his sound mind and through his witness, many later believed in Jesus. A church living in God's presence has the power of His name, His Word, His authority, His anointing and His kingdom. **NOTHING SHALL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR A CHURCH CLOTHED IN THE POWER OF GOD'S PRESENCE!**

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**There is no limit to His presence and power.** Have we been too apathetic, indifferent or ignorant concerning the power of His presence? Have we settled for the little, when so much more is in store for us? **We must weep, we must cry and we must call on Him for more of the power of His presence. We must no longer be satisfied with what we now have.** Let every believer, every church and every denomination seek God until we are endued with His power to see global revival, global evangelization and global transformation come to pass. Far more than seeking other methods for transformation, evangelization and ministries, we must seek His presence and power. **Ravenhill talked about the passion to seek God's presence and power when he wrote, "...LET ANY MAN SHUT HIMSELF UP FOR A WEEK WITH ONLY BREAD AND WATER, WITH NO BOOKS EXCEPT THE BIBLE, WITH NO VISITOR EXCEPT THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND I GUARANTEE, MY PREACHER BRETHERN THAT MAN WILL EITHER BREAK UP OR BREAK THROUGH AND OUT. AFTER THAT, LIKE PAUL, HE WILL BE KNOWN IN HELL!"**

Do we as His church have enough of His presence and power that we are known to hell? **Are we hell's deadliest, most fatal and impossible to defeat enemy that WHEN WE ADVANCE, THEY RETREAT; WHEN WE COMMAND, THEY BOW; WHEN WE DEMAND, THEY YIELD?** As we find the absence of His presence intolerable, so we must find the absence of His power intolerable. **Let us arise for this one thing: *One Passion, His Presence!***

## PRAYER FOCUS

### A. Prayerfully Examine The Condition Of Your Heart

1. Have you lost the hunger for His presence?
2. What has caused the loss of the hunger for His presence?
3. Acknowledge, repent and turn away from all things that take away hunger for God

### B. Awake To Thirst And Hunger For God's Presence And Power

1. Awake from spiritual apathy, deadness of heart and callousness toward the presence and power of God
  - a. identify and acknowledge
  - b. repent and turn away
  - c. cry out until you are set free
2. Pray until you are infused with hunger and thirst for His presence and power

### C. Pray For A Hunger For The Presence And Power Of God

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

1. **A new heart to hunger** for His presence and His power
2. **A new passion to seek** and pursue His presence and His power
3. **A new faith to trust** and believe as you ask, you will be given; as you seek you will find; and as you knock He will open the door

### D. Wait Upon God Until You Live, Move And Have Your Being In Him

### E. Live And Serve In The Power Of His Presence

### F. FAOG Missions to the ends of the earth

#### 1. Planting 20 churches by 2020

#### 2. Multiplication in all our mission churches to possess nations

- a. **Samoa**—Ps Mila, Sis Rosie, Bro James, Bro Sola, Sis Peta, leaders and congregation
- b. **Mexico**—Ps Miriam, Ps Quechol, Sis Mimi, Sis Hudid, Bro Miguel, Bro Fabia and congregation
- c. **Brazil**—Ps Celina, leaders and congregation
- d. **East Timor**—Bro Adao, leaders and congregation
- e. **Japan**—Mission pastors, leaders and congregation
  - **Okinawa**—Sis Helen and Sis Miyuki
  - **Yokohama**—Ps Koyama and Sis Sayaka
  - **Osaka**—Ps Atsuya and Sis Takako
  - **Kamaishi**—Ps Keizo and Sis Mami
- f. **Marshall Islands**—Ps Aichy, Sis Stella and congregation
- g. **Philippines**—Ps Orlando, Sis Natalie, Sis Princess, leaders and congregation
- h. **India**—Ps Prasantha and spouse, leaders and congregation
- i. **Uganda**—Ps Elijah and Sis Ruth, Ps Moses, Ps Jonathan, and Ps Paul, their spouses, leaders and congregations
- j. **Ireland**—Ps Jamie and Sis Lud, leaders and congregation
- k. **Hamakua**—Ps Lynne, Ps Luke, leaders and congregation
- l. **Korea**—wisdom for Ps Ko and Ps Ernie for new season
- m. **England**—Ps Mike McKeever, leaders and congregation

### G. Hawaii Assemblies of God to arise to bring the Gospel to the nations of the world

### H. Pray For America

1. Restoration, reformation and revival
2. Pray for President Trump and his cabinet
3. Pray for the House of Representatives and Senate
4. Pray for the Supreme Court and all judiciary system



**DAY 5 — THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2020**

**PRAYER FOCUS — THE GLORY OF HIS PRESENCE**

**Habakkuk 2:14 (NKJV)**

***For the earth will be FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE GLORY OF THE LORD, as the waters cover the sea.***

**Haggai 2:9 (NKJV)**

***“THE GLORY OF THIS LATTER TEMPLE SHALL BE GREATER THAN THE FORMER,”* says the LORD of hosts. *‘And in this place I will give peace,’* says the LORD of hosts.”**

**John 1:14 (NKJV)**

***And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and WE BEHELD HIS GLORY, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, FULL OF GRACE AND TRUTH.***

**1 Chronicles 29:11 (NKJV)**

***Yours, O LORD, is the greatness, the power and THE GLORY, the victory and the majesty; for all that is in heaven and in earth is Yours; Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and YOU ARE EXALTED AS HEAD OVER ALL.***

**Isaiah 43:7 (NKJV)**

***“EVERYONE WHO IS CALLED BY MY NAME, WHOM I HAVE CREATED FOR MY GLORY; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.”***

**Exodus 24:15-18 (NLT)**

***Then Moses climbed up the mountain, and the cloud covered it. And the GLORY OF THE LORD settled down on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. On the seventh day the LORD called to Moses from inside the cloud. To the Israelites at the foot of the mountain, THE GLORY OF THE LORD APPEARED AT THE SUMMIT LIKE A CONSUMING FIRE. Then Moses disappeared into the cloud as he climbed higher up the mountain. He remained on the mountain forty days and forty nights.***

**Exodus 33:13-23 (NKJV)**

***Now therefore, I pray, if I have found grace in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I MAY KNOW YOU and that I may find grace in Your sight. And consider that this nation is Your people.”* And He said, *“My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”* Then he said to Him, ***“IF YOUR PRESENCE DOES NOT GO WITH US, DO NOT BRING US UP FROM HERE.*** *For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people***

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

who are upon the face of the earth." So the LORD said to Moses, "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name." And he said, **"PLEASE, SHOW ME YOUR GLORY."** Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." **BUT HE SAID, "YOU CANNOT SEE MY FACE; FOR NO MAN SHALL SEE ME, AND LIVE."** And the LORD said, "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. **So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. THEN I WILL TAKE AWAY MY HAND, AND YOU SHALL SEE MY BACK; BUT MY FACE SHALL NOT BE SEEN."**

### **Psalm 24:7-10 (NKJV)**

Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, you everlasting doors! **AND THE KING OF GLORY SHALL COME IN.** Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O you gates! Lift up, you everlasting doors! **AND THE KING OF GLORY SHALL COME IN.** Who is this King of glory? **THE LORD OF HOSTS, HE IS THE KING OF GLORY.**  
**SELAH**

### **Ephesians 1:17-18 (NKJV)**

**that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, THE FATHER OF GLORY, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,** the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the **RICHES OF THE GLORY OF HIS INHERITANCE in the saint,**

### **Isaiah 60:1-3 (NLT)**

**"Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all to see. FOR THE GLORY OF THE LORD RISES TO SHINE ON YOU.** Darkness as black as night covers all the nations of the earth, but **THE GLORY OF THE LORD RISES AND APPEARS OVER YOU.** All nations will come to your light; mighty kings will come to see your radiance."

### **Isaiah 40:3-5 (NKJV)**

The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth; **THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHALL BE REVEALED, AND ALL FLESH SHALL SEE IT TOGETHER; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."**

**Isaiah 66:18 (NKJV)**

For I know their works and their thoughts. **It shall be that I WILL GATHER all nations and tongues; and THEY SHALL COME AND SEE MY GLORY.**

**Psalms 96:3 (NKJV)**

**DECLARE HIS GLORY AMONG THE NATIONS,** His wonders among all peoples.

**Psalms 102:15 (NKJV)**

So the nations shall fear the name of the LORD, and all the kings of the earth Your glory.

**Romans 6:4 (NKJV)**

Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, **that JUST AS CHRIST WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD BY THE GLORY OF THE FATHER, even so we also should walk in newness of life.**

**2 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)**

But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **TRANSFORMED INTO THE SAME IMAGE FROM GLORY TO GLORY, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

**Romans 9:23 (NKJV)**

... and that **HE MIGHT MAKE KNOWN THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY ON THE VESSELS OF MERCY, which He had PREPARED BEFOREHAND FOR GLORY,**

**1 Peter 4:11 (NKJV)**

If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that **IN ALL THINGS GOD MAY BE GLORIFIED through Jesus Christ, TO WHOM BELONG THE GLORY and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

**Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV)**

Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; **BUT LET HIM WHO GLORIES GLORY IN THIS, THAT HE UNDERSTANDS AND KNOWS ME,** That I am the LORD, exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight," says the LORD."

**Read also: Psalm 29:1-10 (NKJV); 2 Peter 1:17 (NKJV); 1 Peter 5:1 (NKJV); Psalm 57:11 (NKJV); Psalm 62:7 (NKJV); Psalm 106:19-23 (NKJV)**

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

### Exhortation – THE GLORY OF HIS PRESENCE

It is impossible to adequately define or describe the glory of God. There is no language that has the vocabulary, nor depth of mind that has the understanding to do so. Even if a zillion books were to be written by the most spiritual authors about God's glory, they would still fail to adequately define it. As it is with God, so it is with the glory of His presence; we can talk, preach, write and testify of Him, but we will never be able to fully describe or define Him. **God's glory is to be received, experienced and abided in—not just in eternity, but here and now.**

**We can only know the glory of God when He reveals Himself through our relationship, encounters and intimacy with Him.** It is God who opens the eyes of our understanding to see and know Him and His glory. **Psalm 34:8 (NKJV) says, "OH, TASTE AND SEE THAT THE LORD IS GOOD; blessed is the man who trusts in Him!"** We can never fully learn, know or encounter the glory of God through books, teaching or preaching; all these are necessary, but the glory of God must be personally experienced in our pursuit of Him. **THE GLORY THAT WE LIVE IN THROUGH INTIMACY IS THE SAME GLORY THAT WE WILL MANIFEST OPENLY.**

In Exodus 24:15–18, when Moses went up Mount Sinai to seek God, the cloud of God's presence and glory came down, settled on the mountain and covered it for six days. On the seventh day, God spoke to Moses from inside the cloud. Moses had been soaked in the glory of God for days, yet he remained hungry for more. He climbed higher up the mountain and stayed in the cloud of God's glorious presence for forty days and forty nights. He was immersed, filled and overflowing with the glory of God.

The Israelites at the foot of the mountain observed the glory of God's presence from afar. The glory was at the summit where Moses was, and it appeared to them like "a consuming fire." In the summit, Moses was swallowed up by the thickness of God's glorious presence, but at the base they observed signs of His glory only. Moses knew God's presence and glory in a way they would never know and it would be impossible for Moses to adequately describe the glory to them.

In the Bible, one of the Greek words used for "glory" is "*kabowd*" meaning - honor, glorious, abundance, riches, splendor, dignity, reputation and reverence. We know that the glory of God is far greater than these words can convey; it is exceedingly weightier, brighter, bigger and heavier in splendor, majesty, magnificence and awesomeness. Perhaps the question to ask concerning the glory of God is not what is His glory; but who is His glory? **The glory of God is God Himself. Therefore, when any aspect of God is revealed, His glory is manifested and experienced.** The word glory sometimes has been used as part of God's names:

- **EXCELLENT GLORY:** "For He received from God the Father honor and **glory** when such a voice came to Him from the **Excellent**



**Glory:** ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’”

(2 Peter 1:17 NKJV)

- **KING OF GLORY:** “Lift up your heads, O you gates! And be lifted up, - you everlasting doors! And the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. . . **The Lord of hosts, He is the King of glory.**” (Psalm 24:7–10 NKJV)
- **FATHER OF GLORY:** “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the **Father of glory**, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him. . . that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints.” (Ephesians 1:17–18, NKJV)

When Israel turned away from God to idols, God referred to Himself as “their Glory” in His rebuke of them in Jeremiah 2:11 (NKJV), “Has a nation changed its gods, which are not gods? **But My people have CHANGED THEIR GLORY FOR WHAT DOES NOT PROFIT.**” The following are some attempts at describing the glory of God:

- **“Glory isn’t a part of God; it’s all that God is.** Every aspect of who God is and every part of what God does is glorious.” – Paul Tripp, pastor and writer
- **“What is the glory of God? It is who God is.** It is the essence of His nature; the weight of His importance; the radiance of His splendor; the demonstration of His power; the atmosphere of His presence.” —Rick Warren, pastor and author
- **“The glory of God is the invisible qualities, character, or attributes of God displayed in a visible (or knowable) way.”** – Mark Ballenger, author and YouTuber

If God is glory, then wherever His presence is, there His glory will be. Everything about God—every trait, aspect and deed—is full of His glory; His name, His nature, His attributes, His words, His works and His ways.

### **Everything Has Been Created For The Glory Of God**

**EVERYTHING**—people, nature, the universe and every living creature—**HAS BEEN CREATED FOR THE GLORY OF GOD**— to carry and manifest it. If any one should fail to bring God glory, that one would fail to fulfill the reason for his or her existence. Missionary leader, pastor and writer Andrew Murray said, “The highest glory of the creature is in **BEING ONLY A VESSEL, TO RECEIVE AND ENJOY AND SHOW FORTH THE GLORY OF GOD.** It can do this only as it is willing to be nothing in itself, that God may be all. Water always fills first the lowest places. The lower, the emptier a man lies before God, the speedier and the fuller will be the inflow of the divine glory.” John 3:30–31 (NKJV) says, **“HE MUST INCREASE, BUT I MUST DECREASE.** He

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

who comes from above is above all; he who is of the earth is earthly and speaks of the earth. He who comes from heaven is above all.”

To receive, carry and show forth God’s glory, we need to live in His presence. If our life is a home for His presence, then His glory will settle and dwell with us. If we love Him, we will hunger for His presence and glory, not for selfish gains or agendas; we will desire to fulfill His will and make His glory known throughout the world that others may see and believe.

Glory can only be rightfully ascribed to God; there is nothing else that can compare to His glory, no matter how excellent, magnificent or superb. There is no true glory in man’s excellence, beauty, grandeur, wisdom or riches; no glory in its shine, brilliance or brightness. Everything man produces will fade away and nothing will remain. Only God’s glory has the power, anointing and grace to bring salvation, impact communities, heal the sick and rescue the lost. It is the glory of His presence that breaks open prison doors, sets captives free, ushers in revival and does an eternal work in the hearts and souls of people.

**The glory that Jesus manifested was the glory of His Father.** It was not a glory that came from Him because of His loveliness, abilities or talents. His glory was the Father’s glory, for the Father had given it to Him. In John 17:22 (NKJV) Jesus prayed to His Father saying, **“AND THE GLORY WHICH YOU GAVE ME I HAVE GIVEN THEM, that they may be one just as We are one...”** We have been promised the same glory of the Father which Jesus had. Human talents, wisdom and abilities in themselves are very impressive. They can create, make and perform, but they have no glory, power or anointing in themselves. They are able to stir excitement, motivation or even inspiration, but they will never bring a heart change, deliverance, peace or salvation – only the glory of God can. **THEREFORE, WITH ALL OUR HEART SEEK THE GLORY OF HIS PRESENCE.** Hunger and seek like the Psalmist did in Psalm 63:2 (NKJV), **“So I have looked for You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory.”** Let everything we say and do be through the glory of His presence.

### **God’s Will Is For The Glory Of His Presence To Be Seen By All Nations**

The glory of God’s presence is not to be confined within the walls of a building or restricted to a certain group of people; He wants to manifest His glory throughout the world and in every nation, that all may know Him, believe in Him and not perish. He repeatedly reiterates this in His Word:

- **“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”** (Habakkuk 2:14 NKJV)
- “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places

smooth; **the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together;** for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.” (Isaiah 40:3–5 NKJV)

- “For I know their works and their thoughts. It shall be that **I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come and see My glory.**” (Isaiah 66:18 NKJV)
- “**Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples.** (Psalm 96:3 NKJV).

### **The Glory Of His Presence Has Power And Anointing For The Impossible**

**GOD IS GLORY, AND HIS GLORY IS EVERYTHING THAT HE IS.** God’s glory has the power to create, save, change, transform and resurrect—**NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE IN THE PRESENCE OF HIS GLORY!** Romans 6:4 (NKJV) says, “**As Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father,** even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

In Genesis 1, the world was without form—void of life or light—when God decided to create something out of nothing. The Holy Spirit, who preceded creation, hovered over the surface of the earth and enveloped it in the presence of God, saturating it with His glory and power. It was in this atmosphere that God’s Word went forth and brought all things into being. It was this same presence and glory that parted the Red Sea, brought down the walls of Jericho, delivered the Israelites into the promised land and raised Jesus from the dead.

When the glory of God’s presence is upon us, so is His power and anointing to be and to do. Romans 9:23 (NKJV) declares, “**that He might MAKE KNOWN THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY ON THE VESSELS OF MERCY, which HE HAD PREPARED BEFOREHAND FOR GLORY.**” Very clearly, God wants to make His glory known through us. When the prophet Daniel was thrown into a den of lions, it was the glory of God’s presence that shut the lions’ mouths and kept him safe. When Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were thrown into a fiery furnace at King Nebuchadnezzar’s command, it was the glory of God’s presence that saved them from a fiery death, in fact, not one single hair was singed. **Isaiah 58:8 declares, “THE GLORY OF THE LORD SHALL BE YOUR REAR GUARD.”**

It was the glory of God’s presence upon the aged and childless couple, Abraham and Sarah, that enabled them to be the forebears of nations. And when the glory of God’s presence descended upon Egypt through Moses, the entire nation was forced to bow before the God of Israel and release the Hebrews from 400 years of slavery. **IF THE CHURCH WANTS TO EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF GOD MANIFESTED AGAIN, THEN THERE IS ONLY ONE THING WE TRULY NEED: THE GLORY OF GOD’S PRESENCE!**

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

### Do Not Exchange The Glory Of God's Presence For Counterfeit Glory

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (NKJV) says, "Thus says the Lord: 'Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, let not the mighty man glory in his might, nor let the rich man glory in his riches; but **LET HIM WHO GLORIES GLORY IN THIS, THAT HE UNDERSTANDS AND KNOWS ME, THAT I AM THE LORD,** exercising lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth. For in these I delight.'"

There is no true glory in man's wisdom, might or riches; the only thing that we can truly glory in is in knowing God and His presence. No matter how beautiful, brilliant, grand, noble or praiseworthy a thing or person is, only God can rightly be described as *Glorious*. Like the titles *Almighty, Everlasting, King of kings and Lord of lords*, glory belongs to God alone. He has no equal and He has no rival for none is like Him.

As we love and serve God, we must not be seduced to trade the glory of His presence for a counterfeit glory that comes from our own abilities, wisdom, talents, strengths or accomplishments. Such a glory would ultimately be empty, hollow and without eternal fruit. As God says in Psalm 4:2 (NKJV), "How long, O you sons of men, **WILL YOU TURN MY GLORY TO SHAME?** How long will you love worthlessness and seek falsehood?"

Early in his reign, King Solomon ruled and governed Israel with a total reliance on God. A devout seeker and worshipper, he lived in God's presence and prospered Israel through God's wisdom and power. With the glory of God upon his life, Solomon became a great and renowned king, and rulers and nobles traveled from around the world to pay him homage. Over time however, Solomon grew self-assured, prideful and wise in his own eyes. He shifted from worshipping God to being enamored with his own grandeur, brilliance and success. He began to turn away from treasuring the glory of God's presence to loving worthless idols and seeking his own vain glory. He lost the presence and the glory of God in his life. There was no longer any glory in anything he did or had; everything was false glitter and fake shine, with no permanence or power. Seduced by the grandeur of his kingdom and the works of his hands, Solomon's heart became careless and calloused toward God, and he began to believe all the accolades loaded upon him. In the end, Solomon abandoned God and exchanged the shekinah glory of God's presence for the shame and worthlessness of pride and idolatry.

In Matthew 4:8-10, Jesus was tempted by Satan to worship him in exchange for the glory of the world. However, Jesus knew this offer was a falsehood because only God had glory to give. **The world may shine with wealth, riches and grandeur, but it has no glory—GLORY CAN ONLY BE ASCRIBED TO GOD AND THE THINGS OF GOD.** Let us learn from the failures of Solomon and the victories of Jesus not to trade the glory of God's presence for what is earthly and of the flesh. Any glory other than God's glory is counterfeit; there is no glory outside of His presence.

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

The more we live in the glory of God's presence, the lower we must bow before Him, and the more we must realize that it is all about Him. Like John the Baptist, our prayer must always be, "He must increase, but I decrease." (John 3:30 NKJV) **May we live in such a way that the glory of God unceasingly and increasingly dwells with us.** Without His presence we are nothing; so let us treasure, nurture and protect it just as Moses did.

### **The Latter Glory Shall Be Greater Than The Former**

What is God's will and plan for His end-time church? **Haggai 2:9 (NKJV) says, "THE GLORY OF THIS LATTER TEMPLE SHALL BE GREATER THAN THE FORMER,"** says the LORD of hosts. 'And in this place I will give peace.'" Isaiah 60:1-3 (NLT) also says, "Arise, Jerusalem! Let your light shine for all to see. For the glory of the Lord rises to shine on you. Darkness as black as night covers all the nations of the earth, but **the glory of the Lord rises and appears over you. All nations will come to your light; mighty kings will come to see your radiance.**"

When the Holy Spirit was first poured out upon the apostles and the early church, they experienced, lived and ministered in the glory of God's presence. This was the former outpouring. In these dark days, we are in desperate need for the latter outpouring because the church of today must rise up to do greater, be more powerful and more glorious. In the book of Acts, believers were filled, empowered and emboldened, and the Gospel was preached unceasingly. The church was unstoppable; the sick were healed, the dead were raised, communities turned to Jesus Christ, thousands were saved, churches were planted, prison doors were opened, martyrdom was not feared, and miracles were common—that was the former glory of God's presence. It is time we arise, hunger, pray, pursue and believe for the latter outpouring of His presence and glory. It shall be greater, and therefore greater things we shall do! **In this dark hour, the glory of God must shine the strongest and the brightest through the church. The light has come and the glory of the Lord has arisen upon us. Arise and shine!**

## PRAYER FOCUS

**A. Pray For Greater Revelation And Understanding Of The Glory Of God's Presence**

**B. Hunger And Thirst For The Glory Of His Presence As Moses Did**

1. Cry out as never like before until the Holy Spirit comes and rains upon your heart to **cleanse, soften and make new**

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

2. Cry out for a **deep work of the Holy Spirit in your soul and spirit to:**
  - a. remove the lack of appetite for His presence
  - b. work in you a deep hunger for His presence in heart**
3. Cry out for a **deep and relentless passion to pursue Him until you are continuously in His presence**
4. Cry out for an unceasing hunger and thirst for the glory His presence

### C. Repent Of Obstacles That Prevent You From Living In His Glory

1. Identify and repent of all idols, distractions and sins that are blocking the glory of His presence from your life
2. Pray for circumcision of your heart from all hardness and callousness
3. Pray for all apathy, indifference and slothfulness to be removed
4. Repent of areas and times you have exchanged God's glory for other things

### D. Identify And Repent Of Sins Against The Glory Of His Presence

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### E. Commit To Seek, Wait And Pursue Him Until You Live In The Glory Of His Presence

### F. Pray That His Church Will Arise To Live In The Double Portion of His Glory

1. **His church to arise and be filled with the double portion of His glory**
2. **His church to arise and go to the ends of the earth showing His glory to all and bringing:**
  - a. deliverance
  - b. healing
  - c. salvation
  - d. transformation everywhere

### G. Commit To Do Everything For The Glory Of God



## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

**DAY 6 — FRIDAY, JANUARY 10, 2020**

**PRAYER FOCUS — ANOINTED FOR HIS PRESENCE AND GLORY**

**Acts 10:38 (NLT)**

**AND YOU KNOW THAT GOD ANOINTED JESUS OF NAZARETH WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH POWER.** Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

**Isaiah 61:1-7 (NLT)**

**THE SPIRIT OF THE SOVEREIGN LORD IS UPON ME, FOR THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME TO BRING GOOD NEWS TO THE POOR. He has sent Me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed.** He has sent Me to tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies. To all who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. **IN THEIR RIGHTEOUSNESS, THEY WILL BE LIKE GREAT OAKS THAT THE LORD HAS PLANTED FOR HIS OWN GLORY. They will REBUILD the ancient ruins, REPAIRING cities destroyed long ago. They will REVIVE them, though they have been deserted for many generations.** Foreigners will be your servants. They will feed your flocks and plow your fields and tend your vineyards. **YOU WILL BE CALLED PRIESTS OF THE LORD, MINISTERS OF OUR GOD.** You will feed on the treasures of the nations and boast in their riches. **Instead of shame and dishonor, you will enjoy a double share of honor. You will possess a double portion of prosperity in your land, and everlasting joy will be yours.**

**1 John 2:27 (NKJV)**

**BUT THE ANOINTING WHICH YOU HAVE RECEIVED FROM HIM ABIDES IN YOU,** and you do not need that anyone teach you; **BUT AS THE SAME ANOINTING TEACHES YOU CONCERNING ALL THINGS, and is true, and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, YOU WILL ABIDE IN HIM.**

**Luke 1:30-37 (NKJV)**

Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. **And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS.** He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." Then Mary said to the angel, "**How can this be, since I do not know a man?**" And the angel answered and said to her, "**THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL COME UPON YOU, AND THE POWER OF THE HIGHEST WILL OVERSHADOW YOU;** therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born



**will be called the Son of God.** Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. **FOR WITH GOD NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE.”**

**James 5:14 (NKJV)**

*Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, **and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.***

**Isaiah 10:27 (NKJV)**

**It shall come to pass in that day that his burden will be taken away from your shoulder, and his yoke from your neck, and THE YOKE WILL BE DESTROYED BECAUSE OF THE ANOINTING OIL.**

**Read also: Exodus 28:40-41 and Genesis 1:1-4**

### **Exhortation – Anointed For His Presence And Glory**

Because Jesus perpetually lived in the fullness of the Holy Spirit’s anointing, He never ceased to flow in the Holy Spirit’s grace, power, strength, might and authority, manifesting His Father’s presence and glory everywhere He went. **We, the church, must come to the same place of not living any other way, but under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.** A church without the Holy Spirit’s anointing may have ministries, works and programs, but will lack the power, presence and glory of God that bring hope, healing, deliverance, salvation and life.

**We must pray that our hearts will be seized by the truth that the church’s greatest need is for the Anointer (the Holy Spirit) and His anointing.** With Him and His anointing nothing will be impossible for us who believe. **If we will lean into the Holy Spirit, we will hear His urgent call to His church to:**

- **THIRST AND HUNGER** for Him above all else
- **SEEK AND PURSUE** Him relentlessly and diligently
- **WAIT ON HIM** unceasingly until He fills us to overflowing
- **LIVE, MOVE AND HAVE** our whole being in Him always
- **SUBMIT to His will and OBEY Him** completely by His anointing

### **The Anointing (Unction) Of The Holy Spirit**

Whenever the Holy Spirit comes upon someone, **HIS UNCTION (THE ACT OF ANOINTING) WILL ENABLE THAT PERSON TO SUPERNATURALLY DO WHAT GOD INTENDS** to be done through that person. When the angel, Gabriel, appeared to Mary and told her that she would conceive and bring forth the Messiah, she asked, “How can this be?” In Luke 1:35–37 (NKJV), the angel assured Mary that the impossible would be made possible through the unction of the Holy Spirit, saying, **“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore,**

## SOLEMN ASSEMBLY

**also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God... FOR WITH GOD NOTHING WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE."**

If ever there is a time when the church must live and function in the fullness of the Holy Spirit's anointing, it is now. The church can only reveal the presence and glory of Jesus Christ to the world through the anointing of the Holy Spirit. In the book of Acts, this was how the apostles and the early church—under the anointing of the Holy Spirit—lived and functioned as they supernaturally saturated the atmosphere of wherever they went with the presence and the glory of God. Persecution, suffering, imprisonment and threatening could neither douse their anointing nor restrain them from manifesting the presence and glory of God. **The more the church suffered, the more they prayed; the more they prayed, the more they were filled with the Holy Spirit; and the more they were filled, the more they manifested Christ's presence and glory.** As the church sought the Lord even more, they continued to grow even under the harshest persecution.

### **We Must Seek To Know The Holy Spirit And His Anointing**

The Holy Spirit's anointing is unmistakable, cannot be counterfeited, and can only come from Him. Without His unction, the church has no power to influence, impact, heal, deliver or transform. **THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR THE ANOINTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT; not the best programs, sharpest minds, latest innovations, newest strategies or greatest ingenuity.** All these are effective tools under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, but without the anointing they are merely finite human talents, gifts and skills, with no power to produce the presence and glory of God; or achieve anything spiritual or eternal in God's kingdom. Only His anointing has the power to bring conviction, change and transformation to the world.

How do we receive Holy Spirit's anointing? **THE ANOINTING ONLY COMES WHEN WE SEEK THE ANOINTER IN PRAYER.** Above seeking the anointing, we must seek to **KNOW THE HOLY SPIRIT;** for there is no anointing without a relationship with the Anointer. Wherever the manifested presence of the Holy Spirit is, there His anointing will be.

**THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD ALMIGHTY, GOD SOVEREIGN, AND GOD ETERNAL.** He is the omnipresent, omnipotent and omniscient God. He is eternally the King of kings and Lord of lords. He is the Divine Potentate whose kingdom knows no end, and His power is above all other powers. **When He comes upon or overshadows someone, HIS UNCTION WILL WORK THE IMPOSSIBLE THROUGH THAT VESSEL.** We see the Holy Spirit at work throughout the Word of God:

- In creation: Genesis 1:1–4
- In empowering Samson with supernatural strength: Judges 13–15

## ONE PASSION HIS PRESENCE

- In resurrecting the dry bones into a mighty army: Ezekiel 37:1–10
- In the incarnation of Jesus Christ: of God: Luke 1:30–37
- In the resurrection of Jesus Christ: Romans 8:11

The power of the Holy Spirit's anointing is the same yesterday, today and forever. God's will is to baptize His church with His Holy Spirit so as to transform and enable the church to advance, declare and bring His presence and glory to the whole world. A church with His anointing can reach the most unreachable people, declare the Gospel amidst the severest persecution, deliver captives out of the most impenetrable bondage, and arise to declare His praises in the darkest hours of humanity. In fact, Jesus told His disciples (and today's church) we are to do greater things than Him. How is this even possible? **With God all things are possible! It is the unction of the Holy Spirit breaks all yokes (Isaiah 10:27) and does the impossible.**

The same unction that was upon Jesus through the anointing of the Holy Spirit, God wants His church to receive and do the impossible and complete the ministry of Isaiah 61:1-7 (NKJV). The anointed church not only shall declare the same words but fulfill them; **"THE SPIRIT OF THE SOVEREIGN LORD IS UPON ME, FOR THE LORD HAS ANOINTED ME** to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to comfort the brokenhearted and to proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed. He has sent me to tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD's favor has come, and with it, the day of God's anger against their enemies. To all who mourn in Israel, He will give a crown of beauty for ashes, a joyous blessing instead of mourning, festive praise instead of despair. **In their righteousness, they will be like great oaks that the Lord has planted for His own glory.** They will rebuild the ancient ruins, repairing cities destroyed long ago. They will revive them though they have been deserted for many generations . . . **YOU WILL BE CALLED PRIESTS OF THE LORD, MINISTERS OF OUR GOD. . .** Instead of shame and dishonor, you will enjoy a double share of honor."

Let us remember that the apostles and the early church did one thing consistently and persistently: they prayed earnestly and unceasingly! **EVERY TIME THEY PRAYED, THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS Poured OUT UPON THEM IN GREAT MIGHT AND POWER,** often shaking the physical place they were in. More than preaching, teaching, training or any other good thing the church does, **THE CHURCH MUST PRAY EARNESTLY AND WITHOUT CEASING.** We must pray until the Holy Spirit is poured out upon us, over and over again. We need His anointing to do what He has called us to do: carry His presence and glory throughout the world, that all may know that Jesus Christ is Lord!

## **SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

**NOTE:** Tonight is the Holy Spirit anointing night. Come thirsty and believing to be filled with the Holy Spirit and His anointing for His glory.

### **PRAYER FOCUS**

- A. Pray For The Holy Spirit To Give Us Understanding That He Is Our Greatest Need**
- B. Hunger And Thirst For More Of The Infilling And Anointing Of The Holy Spirit**
- C. Purpose, Commit And Be Disciplined To PRAY UNCEASINGLY AND RELENTLESSLY IN PURSUIT Of The Holy Spirit**
  - 1. To profoundly thirst and hunger for Him** above all else
  - 2. To seek and pursue Him** relentlessly and diligently
  - 3. To wait on Him unceasingly until He fills us** to overflowing
  - 4. To live, move and have our whole being in Him** always
  - 5. To submit to God's will and obey Him completely** by His anointing
- D. Honor, Respect And Love The Holy Spirit**
  - 1.** Learn to hear His voice and obey
  - 2. TREASURE AND PROTECT HIS PRESENCE AND ANOINTING**
  - 3. DO NOT GRIEVE HIM NOR FRUSTRATE HIM**
  - 4.** Be mindful of Him and do not treat Him lightly
  - 5.** Walk with Him, live in Him and be led by Him
- E. Pray That With His Anointing We Will Do What Jesus Did In Isaiah 61**
  - 1.** To bring good news to the poor and to comfort the brokenhearted
  - 2.** To proclaim that captives will be released and prisoners will be freed
  - 3.** To tell those who mourn that the time of the LORD's favor has come
  - 4.** To tell all who mourn that the Lord will give them:
    - a. a crown of beauty for ashes
    - b. a joyous blessing instead of mourning
    - c. a festive praise instead of despair
  - 5.** To declare to them that
    - a. in their righteousness the Lord has planted them like great oaks for His glory
    - b. they will rebuild the ancient ruins

- c. they will be called priests and ministers of the Lord
- d. they will possess a double portion of prosperity in their land
- e. they will have everlasting joy and double honor instead of shame

**F. In His Anointing, Manifest The Presence And The Glory Of God**

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**SOLEMN ASSEMBLY**

**DAY 7 — SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2020**

***PERSONAL AND FAMILY PRAYER—NO CORPORATE ASSEMBLY***

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**DAY 8 — SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2020**

***PRAYER FOCUS — THANKSGIVING AND EXHORTATION***

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# PRAY FOR OUR PASTORS & CHURCH PLANTS

## SENIOR PASTOR & FAMILY

### **KLAYTON AND SHARON KO**

CHRISTALYN (EMMANUEL), JOSHUA (KIMBERLY), JASON

## STAFF PASTORS & SPOUSES

### **BILL BANNISTER**

HORACE AND TALEI **CHEE-MANUIA**

ERNIE AND SIEW PENG **CHOW**

SAM AND LORNA **COCKETT**

MEL AND JENNIFER **CORPUZ**

ABSEN AND SHERLINA **EBOT**

JACOB AND HOKU **FESAGAIGA**

VICTOR **GROVES** (PASTOR'S ASSISTANT)

FREDERICK AND SANDRA **HARRIS**

DANIEL AND FRANCINE **KANESHIRO**

JOSHUA AND KIMBERLY **KO**

JANET AND STAN **KUSUHARA**

TRENTON AND COURTNEY **OSHIRO**

CHIZUKO AND TYRONE **PEEPLS**

RAYMOND AND EVA **SO**

SCOTT AND DEBBIE **SONODA**

FRANK AND TOMIYO **TOOLE**

ATAMA AND MELANIE **VAKALALABURE**

ANDREW AND KAREN **YASUHARA**

## CHURCH PLANTS & MISSIONARIES

ALOHA ASSEMBLY KIRIGAOKA  
CHRIST CHURCH, JAPAN

Ps. Kyoko Koyama,  
Sis. Sayaka Sumitomo

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD BRAZIL

Ps. Celina Takahashi

EAST TIMOR ASSEMBLY

Bro. Adao, Bro. Ajitu

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD BOHOL  
BOHOL, PHILIPPINES

Bro. Orlando & Natalie Bernales,  
Princess Bernales

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD KAMAISHI

Ps. Ketzo & Mami Yoshioka

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD HAMAKUA  
HAMAKUA, HAWAII

Ps. Lynne Higa

FIRST GOMTI NAGAR FELLOWSHIP

ASSEMBLY OF GOD, INDIA

Ps. Prasantha & Sis. Roshika,  
Ps. Mohammed & Mariem Arsad.

BLIJNOR ASSEMBLY OF GOD, INDIA

Bro. Akash

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD HUAMANTLA

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD XETENCO  
Ps. Miriam Farias, Bro. Miguel, Sis. Fabida

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD

MARSHALL ISLANDS

Bro. Yaichy Honchar

LIGHTHOUSE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
NAVAN, IRELAND

Ps. Jamie & Lud Corcoran

LONDON FAMILY CENTER

Ps. Mike McKeever

MBALE CITY CHURCH, UGANDA

Ps. Elijah & Ruth Mabala, Ps. Moses,  
Ps. Paul, Ps. Jonathan

OKINAWA CITY CHURCH, JAPAN

Sis. Helen Edwards, Sis. Miyuki Kinjo

OSAKA BIBLE CHURCH, JAPAN

Ps. Atsuya & Takako Miyashita

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD FALEULA, SAMOA

Bro. Mila, Rosie and Toto Tongamoa,

Bro. Sola, Sis. Peta and Bro. James

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek, inquire for, and [insistently] require: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord [in His presence] all the days of my life, to behold and gaze upon the beauty [the sweet attractiveness and the delightful loveliness] of the Lord and to meditate, consider, and inquire in His temple.

*Psalm 27:4 (AMP)*