P216

Grace Notes Radio Program

SERIES: REVIVAL IN THE LAND - Part 3

SONGS: Come fill this place

O for a thousand tongues to sing

INTRO:

Welcome to Grace Notes, an outreach of Sandbek Concert Ministries. On our last program, King Hezekiah finished the house-cleaning and purification process. Now they were ready for the next step toward revival. Today, Barbara Sandbek will continue with another key element in bringing revival. But first, let's listen as Barbara prepares us for the message with a song of worship.

VERSE 1

You are my destiny Living inside of me Now that You set me free I hunger for You

Peace I've been longing for
Flow through me now once more
My heart's an open door
Proclaim to the world
You are
CHORUS

Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty
We bow down before Thee
To worship Your name
Jesus Savior my heart is Yours, Lord
Pour out Your mercy
Come and fill this place.

Your love and nothing less Conquers my emptiness Unending faithfulness I lift up my hands And cry...

Repeat CHORUS 2X

I particularly like the first line in that song. It says..

"You (addressing God) are my destiny."

The word 'destiny' means 'a predetermined course of events'. Once we've received Salvation by the grace of God through faith in Christ, Ephesians 2:6-7 states that...

God raised us up with Christ and SEATED us with Him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages He might show the incomparable riches of His grace, expressed in His kindness to us in Christ Jesus.

We have a royal position – we are SET ABOVE. God does not only secure our destiny, He IS our destiny. Acts 17:28 says...

In Him we live, and move, and have our being....we are His offspring.

Ephesians 2:10 tell us that God has our destiny plotted out...

We are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God PREPARED IN ADVANCE for us to do.

1 Peter 2:9 defines that work...

You are a CHOSEN people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people BELONGING TO GOD, that you may DECLARE THE PRAISES of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.

Our destiny is the calling we've received to glorify God.

It isn't too much to ask, considering all that Christ went through to redeem us. Verse 5 in that same passage says we're precious to God. We belong to Him. Psalm 24:1-5 reads...

The earth is the LORD'S and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein. For He founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord or who shall stand in His holy place? He that has CLEAN HANDS and a PURE HEART; who has not lifted up his soul unto vanity nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the BLESSING from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

The greatest honor WE can give God is to walk in His ways – to be SET APART from evil.

God wants us to be SET ABOVE and SET APART, but there's more to it.

God has called Believers in Christ to Himself in much the same way he did the priests and Levites in Hezekiah's day. God instructed Hezekiah to have them consecrate themselves. To 'consecrate' means to dedicate or SET ASIDE for God's use. We need to dedicate ourselves to the cause of Christ.

In 2 Chronicles 29:11, Hezekiah also said...

Do not be negligent now, for the Lord has chosen you to stand before HIM, and serve HIM, and minister before (or unto) HIM.

God not only wants us to be set ABOVE, set APART, and set ASIDE, He wants us to SET ourselves BEFORE Him – to minister to Him. When we think of ministry, we usually think of it in terms of serving others. How do we minister to God, then? The word 'minister' in this verse means 'SERVICE IN WORSHIP'.

For a goal-oriented person, this is hard to instill. Every day I commit myself to the Lord and ask Him to use me. There are times when my car never leaves the garage and the phone never rings. At the end of those days I pray, "Lord, I gave myself to You today. Why didn't You use me?" And it's as if He smiles and says..."My child, I am pleased with you. Your thoughts were directed to me all day and that's exactly what I wanted you to do. That's all that matters."

Why is it we feel we must always be 'DOING' something? Sometimes, just BEING is all He asks – that ministers to God. What a better goal could we have than to please our Lord. Proverbs 23:26 says...give me your heart.

We need to worship the Lord before we set out to minister to others. This is why so many of our efforts are ineffective. We're serving on 'empty'. When we glorify God by ministering to Him, He turns around and gives us back the glory so then we have something to share with others.

So, let's set ourselves ABOVE by receiving Christ as our Savior. Set ourselves APART from the world by daily cleansing. Set ourselves ASIDE for God's use. And set ourselves BEFORE God. Commit to WORSHIPPING Him by offering praises to His Name with our being and our voices.

One way our voice can be reflected is through writing. Poetry, for me, is one of the ways I've found to worship the Lord. There's a great sense of fulfillment in being able to express my heart to Him through words. I suppose that's why King David wrote so many wonderful psalms. I want to conclude now with one of the first poems I ever wrote and follow it with a beautiful song I believe we may all sing in Heaven.

If I had a thousand tongues to sing I'd use them all for Thee I'd speak Your Name I'd sing your praise
For You have set me free.

We spend much time ourselves to praise
We say so many 'l's'
But we should speak
Your Name far more
When all occasions rise.

My mouth, my tongue, my lips I give I offer them to You Give me the words
To use to praise
Your Name my whole life through.

VERSE 1
Glory to the Lamb
Whose throne forever reigns.
God in the highest
Worthy to merit our praise.

CHORUS

Oh for a thousand tongues to sing Praises unto Thee. Oh for a thousand hands to raise In honor to the King.

VERSE 2

We crown You with singing
Our lips shall utter Your praise.
In humble adoration,
In endless refrain.

REPEAT CHORUS

TAG

Oh for a thousand hands to raise In honor to the King. Oh for a thousand hands to raise In honor to the King. In honor to the King!

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Join us on our next program. Until then, let your grace notes be a song of praise!