

THE WATCHMAN

Prayer Newsletter

December 2013

Volume 1

Issue 6

HERE AT EAGLE ROCK CHURCH

Pastor Sheila – Wednesday Night Bible Study

A decree is something that is foreordained. That's what makes a decree prophetic. In other words, we hear it and then we pray it out and we begin to make decrees. We are not just decreeing because it's just something that was put in our mind. We are making decrees because we've been connected to God in prayer.

A decree also means to order, decide or officially appoint a group or persons to accomplish something. So a powerful way that the Bible gives us about praying is in Job. The Bible says to decree a thing and it shall be established. So the areas of decrees should include: favor, glory, blessing, health, prosperity, business, victory, wisdom, marriage, family, wealth and other things. Those are things that we begin to decree and we know that they are going to happen.

Decrees and proclamations are very very powerful. Isaiah 51:16 says, 'For I am the Lord your God who stirs up the sea and it's waves roar. I have put my words in your mouth and have covered you with the shadow of My hand. I who set the heavens in place, who laid the foundations of the earth, and who say to Zion, 'You are my people.'"

So we don't just decree to be decreeing but God has given us the word and we are establishing heaven on earth. So, kindly intercession is released through decrees. With them we legislate God's will on earth just like an earthly king would.

TIPS FOR STAYING SAFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

The Columbus Police Dept is investigating an attempted robbery in the Best Buy parking lot. While out shopping this holiday season be your safety comes first.

The National Crime Prevention Council offers the following tips for staying safe when shopping:

- Do not buy more than you can carry. Plan ahead by taking a friend with you or ask a store employee to help you carry your packages to the car.
- Consider alternate options to pay for your merchandise, such as onetime or multiuse disposable credit cards or money orders, at online stores and auction sites.
- Wait until asked before taking out your credit card or checkbook. An enterprising thief would love to shoulder surf to get your account information.
- Deter pickpockets. Carry your purse close to your body or your wallet inside a coat or front trouser pocket.
- Have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle. Check the back seat and around the car before getting in.
- Do not leave packages visible in your car windows. Lock them in the trunk or, if possible, take them directly home.

Source from NBC4i.com

*Have a safe and happy
holiday season from
the Watchman Newsletter Staff*

THE BREATH OF LIFE

Kysha L. Currence

Have you ever missed an opportunity to speak to someone about God or minister to a hurting person? This may happen because we just didn't see the situation with our spiritual eyes or we may have been afraid or timid concerned about how it would be received. We do have supernatural help available to empower us to respond differently when the next opportunity presents itself. God has breathed on each one of us and this very breath and spirit of God gives us the supernatural empowerment to respond how God wants us to respond and do the will of God.

Throughout scripture we see references to the "spirit of God" or the "breath of God." I will focus on 2 of the most used Hebrew words for this concept.

The Hebrew word *Nesama* or *Neshamah* (Strong's #5397) means breath or blast of breath, by extension: life, life force or spirit. Most often we see it translated in scripture as breath, blast, or breathed. When these translated words are used in scripture, you should immediately think "life." It is the life giver (i.e. God) breathing the breath of life on the receiver. Consider Gen. 2:7 which says "And the Lord formed man of the dust, and breathed into his nostrils the *Neshamah* (breath) of life; and man became a living soul." When God breaths into you, coming from Him it may look like ordinary air from one person to the next but from our vantage point it is a life force coming at us with hurricane force winds that literally gives us life. This is a big blast coming to give us life. Isaiah 42:5 says this about God, "...He that giveth *Neshamah* (breath) unto the people upon it and *Ruwach* (spirit) to them that walk therein." When God breaths on us or breaths again on us when we feel dead, it is life giving life. He is everything giving us everything.

Not only does God literally breathe life into us but He also pours out His Spirit upon us. The Hebrew word *Ruah* or *Ruwach* (Strong's #7307) means breath, wind; by extension: spirit, mind, heart, as the immaterial part of a person that can respond to God, the seat of life, spirit being, especially the spirit of God. *Ruwach* is translated spirit, wind, or breath in scripture. It is the most used Hebrew word for spirit. Psalms 33:6 says "By word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all the host of them by the *Ruwach* (breath) of His mouth." Likewise, Psalms 104:29-30 says "You hide your face, they are troubled; you take away their *Ruwach* (breath), they die...You send forth your *Ruwach* (spirit), they are created."

What I love about God is that He can be so complex is just one word *Ruwach*. When God breathes on us, it is so much more than an ordinary breath.

This exhale from God provides us with divine empowerment. Consider the prophet Ezekiel. Time after time we see in scripture that the *Ruwach* of God empowers Ezekiel to be the prophet God called him to be. Ezekiel 2:1-2 "And He said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee. ² And the *Ruwach* (spirit) entered into me when He spake unto me, and set me upon my feet, that I heard him that spake unto me.

Ezekiel 11:5 "And the *Ruwach* (Spirit) of the Lord fell upon me, and said unto me, Speak; Thus saith the Lord..."

Ezekiel 11:19-20, 24-25 "And I will give them one heart, and I will put a new *Ruwach* (spirit) within you; and I will take the stony heart out of their flesh, and will give them an heart of flesh: ²⁰ That they may walk in my statutes, and keep mine ordinances, and do them: and they shall be my people, and I will be their God...²⁴ Afterwards the *Ruwach* (spirit) took me up, and brought me in a vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to them of the captivity. So the vision that I had seen went up from me. ²⁵ Then I spake unto them of the captivity all the things that the Lord had shewed me.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 "And I will put my *Ruwach* (spirit) within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.

Ezekiel 37:14 "And shall put my *Ruwach* (spirit) in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the Lord have spoken it, and performed it, saith the Lord.

When God poured out His *Ruwach* on Ezekiel it empowered him to speak on behalf of God. To prophesy what God told him to prophesy. If you study further the context of some of these scriptures, you will see that after the spirit of God was put into Ezekiel THEN he spoke. God knew what Ezekiel would face and knew that Ezekiel would need the power of His Spirit to prophesy to the Israelites. In Ezekiel 2:3-7, after God has poured out His Spirit on Ezekiel (See Ezekiel 2:2), God warns Ezekiel about the people and what he will face when speaking to the Israelites. "He said, "Son of man, I'm sending you to the family of Israel, **a rebellious nation** if there ever was one. They and their ancestors have fomented rebellion right up to the present. **They're a hard case, these people to whom I'm sending you**—hardened in their sin.

Tell them, 'This is the Message of God, the Master.' They are a defiant bunch. Whether or not they listen, at least they'll know that a prophet's been here. But don't be afraid of them, son of man, and don't be afraid of anything they say. Don't be afraid when living among them is like stepping on thorns or finding scorpions in your bed. Don't be afraid of their mean words or their hard looks.

THE BREATH OF GOD - Continued

They're a bunch of rebels. *Your job is to speak to them.* Whether they listen is not your concern. They're hardened rebels." (Message) It takes the spiritual and physical courage to stand up to a rebellious people, but God gave Ezekiel exactly what he needed to withstand the hardened rebels.

But don't miss the fact that God continually poured out His *Ruwach* on Ezekiel. This was no one time pouring on Ezekiel. God recognizes that with our human frailties, we need to continually draw from the well of His Spirit. And time after time, we see God's Spirit falling on Ezekiel. That same spirit can continually fall on us. We need only to ask for it.

It is not just Ezekiel that received the benefit of God's spirit being poured out. Many in the Old Testament received the *Ruwach* of God. In 2 Chronicles 15:1-2 it says that "the *Ruwach* (Spirit) of God came upon Azariah the son of Oded: ² And he went out to meet Asa, and said unto him, Hear ye me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin; The Lord is with you, while ye be with him; and if ye seek him, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you." Joel 2:28 also says "And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my *Ruwach* (spirit) upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions." It is the divine *Ruwach* of God that empowers us to say and do the things God requires.

After studying out the *Neshamah* and *Ruwach* of God, I posed this question to God, "Why does all of this matter?" Immediately, God answered and said that, it is important that we have the *Neshamah* and *Ruwach* of God because He does not want us to settle for a portion of Him but He wants to give us ALL of Him. He wants to breathe fresh wind/spirit over us time and time again. We CAN have the breath of life flowing through us without His Spirit being poured out upon us. We CAN walk around breathing without the POWER God intends for us to possess through His Spirit.

We CAN walk around breathing without the POWER God intends for us to possess through His Spirit.

We CAN have life and not be living because the spirit that responds to God isn't in us. Consequently, without God's *Ruwach* we are like the walking dead. We need life AND spirit. We receive life and spirit from Him so that we can give. He pours out His life force spirit on us and we pour out our life force spirit on others. We receive then give. He doesn't want us to be walking idols without life. We really LIVE when breath and spirit are breathed on us. Remember that Isaiah 42:5 says that God is the one "... that giveth *Neshamah* (breath) unto the people upon [earth] and *Ruwach* (spirit) to them that walk [on earth]." This is available to every one of us. If you are on earth, you are qualified to obtain the breath and spirit of God to enable you to walk out the will of God in your life. Why would you want to walk around without God's divine EMPOWERMENT in each and every situation you face?

Local

PICKERINGTON STUDENT DETAINED AFTER ALLEGED THREAT

A 16-year-old student at Pickerington High School Central was arrested and placed in juvenile detention last month after allegedly threatening to harm a fellow student with a gun.

Source from Pickerington Times

Continue to pray for the safety of our schools, the administration, the faculty and our children.

ALLEGED LOADED RIFLE BROUGHT INTO SCHOOL ZONE

All four Canal Winchester schools were on lockdown for about a half-hour during mid-morning Nov. 14 after a 19-year-old Canal Winchester man allegedly brought a high-powered, loaded military rifle within the boundaries of a school zone.

Source from the Pickerington Times

PRAYER POINTS FOR ERC

- Personal Revival
- Miraculous healings
- Holiday struggles (financial, loneliness & lost loved one)
- Strategies for the funding of the new addition
- Growth of the Saturday night services

GRITTY WOMEN OF GOD – A REDEFINING EXPERIENCE

I just hear the Spirit of the Lord say,” What if? What if this is the day? What if this is the day when we really really don’t care anymore if we are too fat, too thin, too white, too black, too old, too dumb, too smart, too poor? What if I flip a switch and it’s over for life. Not for a little while when you’ve got your workout on and you’re feeling cute, but if it’s over over over and we are REDEFINED as women, what if? What if I set you free forever, from hurt, from shame, from the past, from all those things that we come to conference after conference begging for help with and we get a little bit helped and a little bit healed? What if this conference was the appointment for the women of God, forever REDEFINED, forever stepping across the line, out of the past into the

future, what if? What if, what if?” And I said God, is it possible and He said, “Did I make mountains, did I make the earth, did I make you, did I make the air you breathe? What is not possible? It is like flipping a switch on the inside, for Me, it is that easy. The what if is your job? Pray in the “what if”? If it was possible for your sister, for your mother, for your baby girl, for your best friend or what if it was possible for you, how would you fight for this conference? How would you fight for these women who are coming? They need to be that precious on the inside of you and the “WHAT IF” needs to be that real.”

Source from Amanda K. Grady



COLUMBUS HOMICIDES FOR 2013

“And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace you will have peace.” Jeremiah 29:7

Continue to pray for the peace of your city. Although you don't always see prayer at work, statistics prove that it works. Below are the homicides in Columbus (top two categories),

Gender

Male – 82%
Female – 18%

By Age

60+ – 63.2%
0-19 – 11 %

By Race

White – 27.5%
Black – 65%

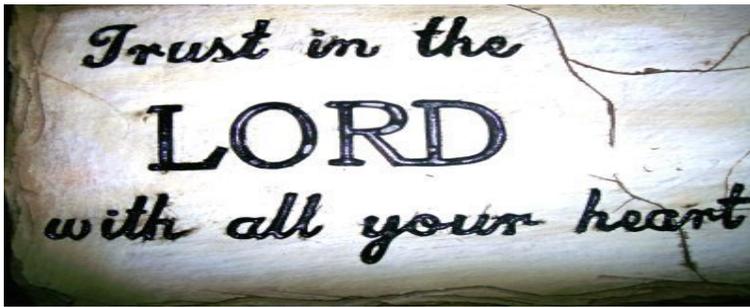
Causes

Shooting – 75.8
Trauma – 11%

Slight decline in the total number of homicides over the last four years:

2010 – 105
2011 – 93
2012 – 90
2013 – 83

Source: Columbus Dispatch



WHERE DOES YOUR TRUST LIE?

Chinwe Okpalaoka

The walls of Jerusalem had several watch towers from which watchmen diligently kept watch over the city. In those days walls were built as fortresses to protect a city, and from the watch towers watchmen stayed awake and alert in shifts to discern from afar and announce the approaching enemy or friend. In addition to keeping the enemy out, the towers also served as places of refuge for city inhabitants- Judges 9:51.

Today, intercessors have been called to serve as watchmen and watchwomen over our homes, churches, cities, nations and our world. Like the watchmen of old, we are called to take up our posts and be alert to the wicked wiles of the enemy who prowls like a lion waiting to see who he will devour (1 Peter 5:8). We are not and should not be ignorant of his wiles and intentions (2 Cor. 2:11).

Brethren, we cannot sleep on the job because the enemy does not sleep on the job, but we have an advantage over him-we have the Lord God on our side because Psalm 127:1 reminds us that except the Lord keeps watch over the city, the watchman lies awake in vain. Psalm 121: 3-4 also assures us that He who keeps Israel does not slumber nor sleep. He is our ultimate high tower, our refuge and strength! Only complete dependence on God will get us through the watch and one of the ways we can maintain our position is to call upon His name. In Jeremiah 33:3, God encourages us to call upon Him and He promises that He will answer us and show us great and mighty things that we do not know.

Proverbs 18:10 likens the name of our God to a strong tower into which the righteous (that's us) can run and be safe. We know that there are many names by which our God manifests Himself to His people. His name is Jehovah; He is the great I AM. That means that He is anything we need Him to be in any situation. He is El-Shaddai, the all-sufficient God; He is Jehovah-Jireh, the God our provider; He is Jehovah Shammah, the God that is always there; and even Jehovah Sabaoth, the God of Hosts. His many names are like a strong tower wherein we can find refuge in times of trouble.

So, brothers and sisters, in what or who do you place your trust? The Psalmist declares “some may trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of our Lord God” (Psalm 20:7). Also “the wealth of the rich is their fortified city; they imagine it an unscalable wall” (Proverbs 18:11). This means that instead of our assurance of safety to be in the Lord and in His name and His word which He has exalted above all things (Psalm 138:2), we look to our wealth as our strong tower, as our fortified city, and as being able to offer us refuge and safety in times of trouble. Some may trust in their military might and even their wealth, but the righteous should trust only in the name of our God. We must know better as the people of God, for God himself speaking through Jeremiah in 9:23-24 cautions us:

Let not the wise man boast of his wisdom or the strong man of his strength or the rich man boast of his riches, but let him who boasts boast about this- that he understands and knows me; that I am the Lord who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth- for in these I delight, declares the Lord.

ABORTION IS MAY BE REVISITED

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court declined for now to jump back into the long-running legal fight over abortion, but a flood of new state restrictions has increased the chances that the issue soon will be back before the justices.

November 5, 2013

ABORTIONS IN NIGERIA LEGALLY RESTRICTED

In the West African country of Lagos unsafe abortions are a major cause of maternal death. In Nigeria abortion is legally restricted, permitted only to save the life of the mother. But at least 760,000 abortions happen every year, mostly outside the legal parameters, and from 3,000 to 34,000 women die annually from unsafe abortions, according to reports by the Guttmacher Institute and the government of Nigeria. (The numbers range widely because of the difficulty tallying the secret procedures.)

While safe abortions have a very low complication rate, unsafe ones — those performed by providers without adequate training or in a setting that does not meet medical standards — can lead to hemorrhaging, infection and perforation of the bowels or uterus and death.

Abortion providers here are part of a shadowy economy. Many are poorly trained, and the market is unregulated. But while abortions are secret, they happen all the time and across the social spectrum. Some wealthy Nigerians can access and afford skilled doctors.



LARGEST CHILD PORN BUST

A child pornography investigation has led to the rescue of 386 children around the world and the arrest of 348 people in Canada.

Toronto police describe the Project Spade operation as one of the largest child porn busts they've ever seen.

"It is alleged that officers seized hundreds of thousands of videos detailing horrific sexual acts against very young children, some of the worst that they have ever viewed," Inspector Joanna Beaven-Desjardins said.

Police said 108 people were arrested in Canada and 76 in the U.S. Others were arrested in other countries.

Australian Federal Police commander Glen McEwen on Friday confirmed that 65 men had been arrested in Australia as a result of the Canadian investigation, and six Australian children had been removed from harm.

Police said the children were "rescued from child exploitation" but did not give more details.

School teachers, doctors and actors were among those arrested.

Source ABC News

Ohio University held its End Slavery Movement this past week to raise awareness about human trafficking. The series of events included a panel discussion, an art show, a lunch-and-learn and a keynote speaker.

The End Slavery Movement was started by Megan Gallagher, a communications studies major whose goal is to raise awareness about human trafficking.

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

TEXT 40404

@ercprayeralerts

***Receive prayer alerts sent directly to your phone**