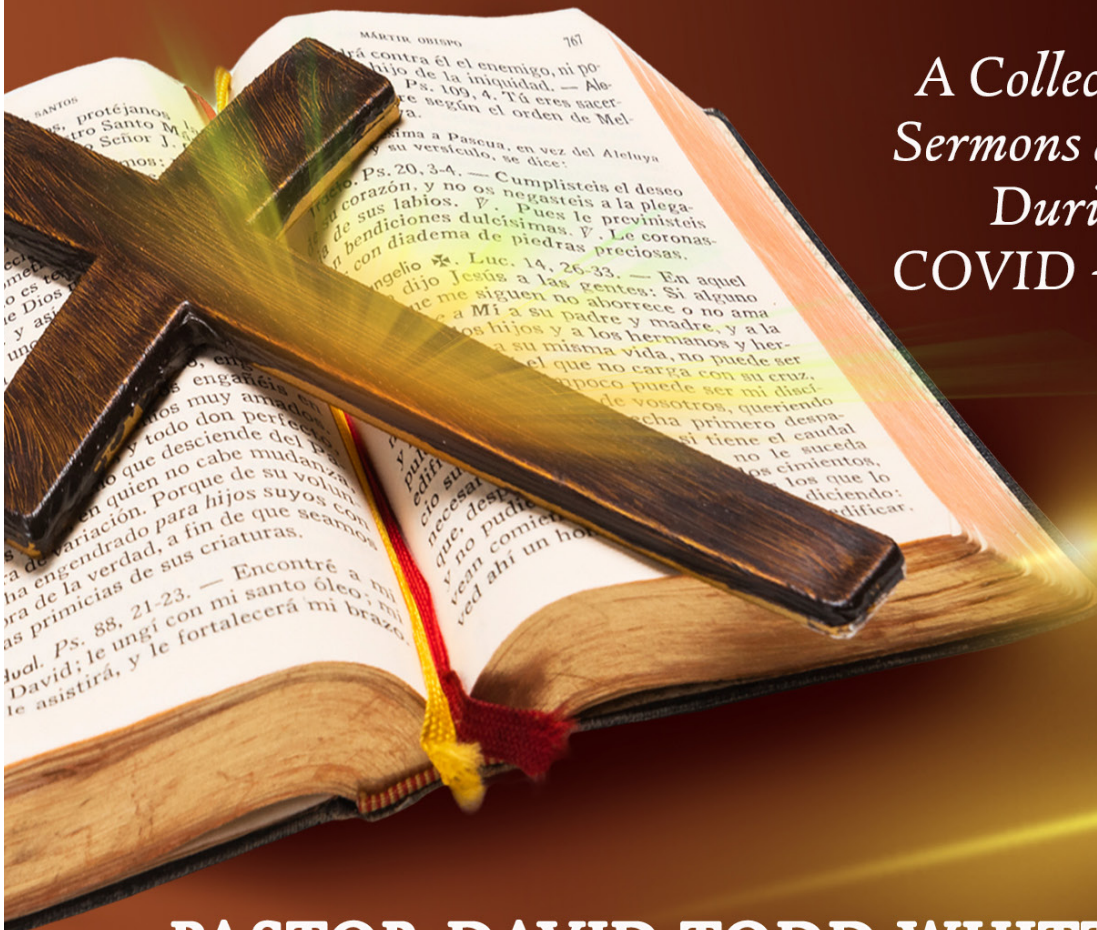


SOUND WORDS FOR STRANGE TIMES



*A Collection of
Sermons delivered
During the
COVID - 19 Pandemic*

PASTOR DAVID TODD WHITTLEY

SOUND WORDS FOR STRANGE TIMES

By
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**To God be ALL the glory, honor and praise!
Thank you for loving me!
You are my Everything!**

DEDICATION

This publication is dedicated to the love and joy of my life, Dr. Chandra Whittley, wonderful and gifted children, David Jonathan and Sydney Nicole, most honorable parents, Elder Robert and Mother Dr. LuVonia Whittley, amazing brother and best friend, Elder Robert Whittley, Jr, Sister in Love, Phyliss Whittley, and the greatest church in the world, CORINTHIAN TEMPLE CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, THE CATHEDRAL OF PRAISE. APPRECIATE YOU ALL!

SPECIAL THANKS

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“Living in Goshen”

Exodus 9:22 – 26

The land of Goshen was a God-appointed and God-ordained place for His people to live during the famine of Egypt. There Israel worked, raised their families and educated their children. Goshen was a land of vineyards, orchards, tilled fields and rich gardens. Goshen was a place of peace amidst destruction, hope amidst hopelessness and safety amidst storms.

Even though Goshen was in Egypt, which is symbolic of the world and the world's system, they were not of Egypt. They lived under a different system that was governed by God, and God alone. The same holds true for us today - we are in the world, but not of the world, and just as there was a physical Goshen God's people then, there is a spiritual Goshen for us today.

GOSHEN IS A PROVIDED PLACE.

In the Old Testament, Joseph is a type of Christ who provides for those who drew near unto Him. When we draw close to God, He draws close to us (James 4:8).

God is ever near to us to provide and take care of us (Psalm 37:25 & Philippians 4:19).

GOSHEN IS A PROTECTED PLACE.

When God sent the plagues upon the land of Egypt, as a result of the hardness of Pharaoh's heart, it hit the entire land of Egypt, except Goshen!

God made it so for His people to plant life, farm livestock and live healthy. The same holds true for us today. God is in the business of protecting His people in the midst of famine, plague and devastation.

GOSHEN IS A PRESERVED PLACE.

There was mass confusion, fear, desolation and despair in Egypt, but in Goshen, God's people lived in light.

Jesus is still the light of the world ever shining in our souls. In this dark and cold world in which we live, we always have the light of God's presence to guide, lead and direct our path.

THERE IS A GOSHEN FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

“Anchored in Jesus”

ACTS 27

The COVID – 19 Pandemic has been described as a modern-day crisis. By definition, a crisis is an emotional and significant event, a radical change, or any situation that upsets the balance of life. As born-again believers our response to any crisis is faith over fear, God’s Word over worry, and God’s promises over panic. WE ARE ANCHORED IN JESUS!

Acts 27: 23 - THE ANCHOR OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD

We have the anchor of God’s presence, watching, leading, and protecting us during the storms and through every life crisis.

Even in the midst of that raging storm, Paul found that he was not alone. The Lord came to him to minister peace to his heart.

Acts 27: 24 & 25 - THE ANCHOR OF THE PROMISES OF GOD

As Paul weathered that long, terrible storm, the Lord came to him with a precious promise. He reminded Paul that he would stand before Caesar, and that all those on the ship were to be spared as well.

As Christians, we can claim the promises of God as an anchor for our soul at any time and during any crisis.

Acts 27:24 - THE ANCHOR OF THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD

Paul is told by the Lord that this storm is God working out His plan in Paul’s life.

We must know and believe God is doing the very same thing our lives as well. God is Sovereign! He is in absolute control of everything that happens in life!

Acts 27:44 - THE ANCHOR OF THE PERFORMANCE OF GOD

What the Lord told Paul and what Paul believed would happen came to pass: everyone made it safely to the shore. God kept His Word! He spared every life and proved Himself to be as good as His Word!

GOD IS ABLE TO WORK IT ALL OUT!

“Hope In The Midst Of Crisis”

PSALM 27:1-5

God's Word gives us the approach that we should adopt when facing any battle or distress. We live in a day of trouble and global crisis but God's Word gives hope and encouragement which keeps us from panic and fear.

Although the earth is in peril and the nations of this world tremble with the pandemic and uncertainties, our declaration should be, “I will NOT fear because my God loves me and He is my refuge & strength. He has proven to be a present help when I am in trouble, so all shall be well.”

David has a personal relationship with God. His example stands as a basic foundation for our hope.

OUR CONFIDENCE IN THE PERSON OF THE LORD PROVIDES HOPE.

As Light, God delivers His people from Darkness.

As Salvation, God delivers His people from Damnation.

As Strength, God delivers His people from Defeat.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE LORD PROVIDES HOPE

David wants to spend his entire life in the very presence of the Lord. This must be our desire as well.

We need that same passion to abide and live in the presence of Almighty God.

There is no greater place to be in than in the presence of God.

OUR COMFORT IN THE LORD PROVIDES HOPE

God has a sheltered place for us.

The Lord will hide us in His pavilion.

**THERE IS A SECRET PLACE IN GOD, THAT GIVES
US HOPE IN THE MIDST OF CRISIS!**

“Something Good Is Coming Out Of This”

ROMANS 8:28

In strange and turbulent times the promise of Romans 8:28 is relevant, rewarding, and rich in encouragement, assurance, and power. The word “good” in the text means ultimate good. Praise God for this profound and powerful promise.

THE CERTAINTY OF THE PROMISE

And we know - This is not conjecture, happenstance, perhaps, or maybe. It is an ironclad and certain promise.

We know (by personal experience) that God works in all things for our good.

THE COMPLETENESS OF THE PROMISE

The words “work together” imply present action, which means that God causes all things to continually work together for good.

God knows how to arrange, rearrange, press, and stretch us for His glory and for our good.

THE CAUSE OF THE PROMISE

David said in Psalm 119:71 said, “It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.”

Notice the testimony of Joseph to his brothers in Genesis 50:20, “But as for you, you thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive”.

David and Joseph came to understand, as we must also, that there is cause and Godly purpose for everything we experience.

**GOD USED GOOD AND BAD, REJECTION AND
ACCEPTANCE, TO MAKE US WHAT HE WANTS US TO
BE & GET US WHERE HE WANTS US TO GO!**

“Singing The Lord’s Song In A Strange Land”

PSALM 137:1 - 4

Singing was very common in Israel. But what happened when the songs of praise and worship of God are interrupted by strange and unusual circumstances, like being in Babylonian captivity? How then could they sing the Lords song? Like Israel, sometimes we find ourselves in “strange places” (COVID 19), where our praise, worship, singing, and rejoicing in God is put to a test. But there is power in praise, even in strange places.

WHAT PRAISE DOES

Praise causes us to consider and appreciate the character of God.

Praise shifts our focus and changes our perspective from the earthly to the heavenly.

Praise expands our awareness of who God is.

WHERE WE PRAISE GOD

In the sanctuary

In the firmament of His power (which speaks of God’s glory, majesty and dominion).

Everywhere and by everything.

WHY WE PRAISE GOD

For His mighty acts and His excellent greatness.

HOW WE PRAISE GOD

With the sound of the trumpet: Praise him with the psaltery and harp.

With the timbrel and dance: Praise Him with stringed instruments and organs.

With the loud cymbals: Praise Him upon the high sounding cymbals.

WHO SHOULD PRAISE GOD

Everything and Everyone who has breath PRAISE THE LORD!!!!

DON'T LOSE YOUR PRAISE!

“Confidence In Crisis”

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

The good news of the Gospel is that in times of crises and upheaval, there is an unchanging God in heaven who will respond to our cries and meet our deepest need. When we are faced with crisis, there is but one thing to do, and that is to cry out to God in prayer. The Golden Text of 2 Chronicles 7:14 gives us confidence that if we do what we do, then God will do what only He can do.

HUMBLE YOURSELF

This word, “humble,” has the idea of being “under another.”

When we humble ourselves to the Lord, we are acknowledging His Lordship and headship in our lives.

PRAY

In times of crisis and even in times without crisis we should commit ourselves to the priority, practice, and posture of prayer.

Prayer is humility in action.

In prayer we see our inability in light of God’s ability.

SEEK HIS FACE

To seek means to “desire something.”

Seeking God’s face should be our heart’s number one desire and priority.

TURN FROM WICKED WAYS

God wants His people to examine their lives and identify anything that does not please Him.

HERE’S THE PROMISE

When we do our part, God will do His part.

GOD WILL HEAR US. GOD WILL HELP US. GOD WILL HEAL US!

“Look Up & Live” PSALMS 121:1-8

There's so much in this life that can cause us to feel anxious. Even when we know God's truth and believe that He's in control it can still be a daily battle in our hearts and in our minds. As we look at the circumstances all around us, we can easily get defeated, drained, and impatient. But no matter what swirls around us, let us set our eyes on God. He knows our way in this journey of life, and He's a “with us” God. The word “keep” is found in Psalm 121 six times:

THE SOURCE OF OUR HELP

In our natural state, there are times when we tend to grow weary, let down our guard, and get caught napping.

Not so with the Lord. He is always awake and actively working on our behalf.

THE STRENGTH OF OUR HELP

God's strength protects us from the enemy of our souls.

God takes up a deliberate, defensive position to protect us where we are most vulnerable.

God will provide a shade in the very areas of our lives that are open and vulnerable to the enemy's attacks.

THE SECURITY OF OUR HELP

The promise of Scripture: “The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul.”

“The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.”

**GOD IS A KEEPER AND WE MUST KEEP OUR FAITH,
FOCUS AND ATTENTION ON HIM!**

“The Importance of Remembering”

Exodus 16:31 – 35

Throughout the bible we read about the importance of remembering what God has done in our life. Failing to do so can affect not only us but also those around us. A good memory allows one to keep and preserve rich testimonies that can be passed on to future generations. There is a generation coming after us who will need to know and hear how God kept and sustained us during COVID - 19. The spiritual things and experiences, that come from a life in God, must be remembered.

In EXODUS 16:31-35 God instructs His people, to bottle manna to save for future generations. Understand, there were no books, tapes, records, computers, magazines, flyers, internet, e-mail, photographs, video cameras, iPhones, iPads, tablets or newspapers back then, so the older generation had to remember what God did, then pass on to the next generation.

The Manna or bread in the Ark of the Covenant represented THREE very important points for God's people to REMEMBER then and now.

THE MANNA MANIFESTED GODS FAITHFULNESS

Every morning God provided Manna, to His people, and gave them enough for only one day at a time.

God does the same for us - Psalm 68:19, God daily loads us with benefits & daily bread.

THE MANNA REVEALED GOD'S GLORY

Every day, God's people witnessed the glory of God's supernatural provision.

Likewise, we have also experienced the glory of God during COVID – 19.

During this pandemic, God has graciously made ways, opened doors and sustained us with His blessings, favor, healings, protection and deliverance.

THE MANNA TAUGHT THE PEOPLE HOW TO STEWARD GOD'S RESOURCES

God gave His people enough to manage day by day.

DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER!

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



David Todd Whittley has been in ministry for over 30 years and is no stranger to leadership in the Church of God In Christ. For over 10 years, he has served as National Director for Scholastic Motivation Ministries (SMM). Scholastic Motivation Ministries coordinates the academic and personal development programs for thousands of youth and youth adults in the of the Church of God in Christ.

Locally, David Todd Whittley serves as Pastor of the historic Corinthian Temple Church of God in Christ - "The Cathedral of Praise," located in Chicago, Illinois. The Church ministers weekly to hundreds of parishioners,

via its services and 25 plus active ministries. In 2017, the church launched its radio ministry, the "LATTER RAIN" Broadcast – aired all over the world on I Heart Media.

David Todd Whittley also serves as President of United for Better Living, a leading social service agency and C.A.R.E. Development, a new entity in the process of building 44 units of Affordable Housing. He is heavily involved in community work, where he serves on numerous boards, alliances and associations.

Notable among these was his appointment by Mayor Rahm Emmanuel & re appointment by Mayor Lori Lightfoot to the Public Building Commission of the City of Chicago. The Public Building Commission oversees and approves the budget for all new construction and renovations made to City building such as Fire stations, Police stations, Public Schools, Libraries and Park Districts.

In addition to local and national church ministry assignments, Pastor Whittley also serves as a District Superintendent and First Administrative Assistant for the Illinois Midwest Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction under the leadership of Bishop Darrell L. Hines.

David Todd Whittley is also an Entrepreneur and accomplished songwriter.

Educationally, Pastor Whittley completed his studies at Roosevelt University (Chicago, IL).

Pastor Whittley is married to the love of his life, Dr. Chandra Whittley, and they are the proud parents of David Jonathan and Sydney Nicole.

To contact and/or learn more about Pastor David Todd Whittley visit the Church Ministry website: <https://www.ctchurchministry.net/>

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