



Auxiliary Newsletter November 2008

THE PRAYING FIELD

I love the season of Fall because of the crisp cool air and soft breezes. Other people love fall because of football. I went to my first football game in San Antonio last month. I was invited to go to the game because my nephew and niece were marching in the band. I don't like football, so my only motive for attending the game was to see the band perform and to eat a hotdog in the Alamo-dome. On a side note, I must admit, the event hasn't changed much since I was in high-school (many moons ago). The things haven't changed are: the pep squad cheers don't make sense, the popular kids control the front bleacher rows, the opposing team is twice the size, the cheerleaders are thin as a rail, and the mascot is too annoying. Putting aside this observation, we, the spectators, are primarily at the game to cheer, praise and empower our favorite team to win so we can walk away proud. The football playing field is a place where people come and hope for the defeat of the opponent and we anticipate for the adversary to be crushed. The only ally in the playing field is the person next to you. With each touch down your neighbor cheers with you and with each fumble they also groan in disbelief. As the game proceeds, a family of strangers begins to form in the bleachers. This new family of strangers can cheer in harmony and can also synchronize themselves to do the "Wave". This "Wave" of hands that rolls across the stadium motivates the players to tackle harder and run faster. The playing field is transformed into organized chaos.

As we consider the subject matter of prayer, the playing field and the praying field have many of the same characteristics. First, in the praying field people participate and are motivated because God answers prayer. In the midst of your prayers God inhabits the field and is in the presence of his people. Where two or more are gathered, there God is. *Ps. 91:15 tells us that, "He will call upon me (the Lord), and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble, I will deliver him and honor him."* Participating in the praying field has only one purpose-fellowship with God.

Second, in the praying field people are empowered because they are able to have victory over the enemy, Satan. Prayer gives you the authority to bind whatever is in earth and it releases whatever is in heaven. If Satan is bringing tribulation and strife into your life, you can bind him in the name of Jesus. If your life is lacking peace, faith and wisdom,

you can release the blessings from heaven through prayer. *“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours” Mk. 11:24.*

Thirdly, in the praying field, families are fashioned because there is power in numbers. *“Again, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven”, Mt 18:19.* The greater the number of praying people, the larger the crowd, the more intense the prayer request is. God is obligated to hear prayer requests because the prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective (Jas 5:16). Also, He is compelled to answer because we obey his commands and do what pleases him (1Jn. 5:14).

The Praying field is a place of hope where the game of life is about transformation and salvation. Everyone has a motive for going to the praying field, *Jas. 5:13 says, “Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise.”*

It’s a Divine place where you can meet God and petition Him. Pleas that are offered in the praying field are waves of incense that are offered before the throne of God (Rev. 8:3).

The praying field beckons you to spend some time with Jesus. I pray that you will look to the Lord and his strength; and seek his face always.

Your fellow day-dreamer,

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