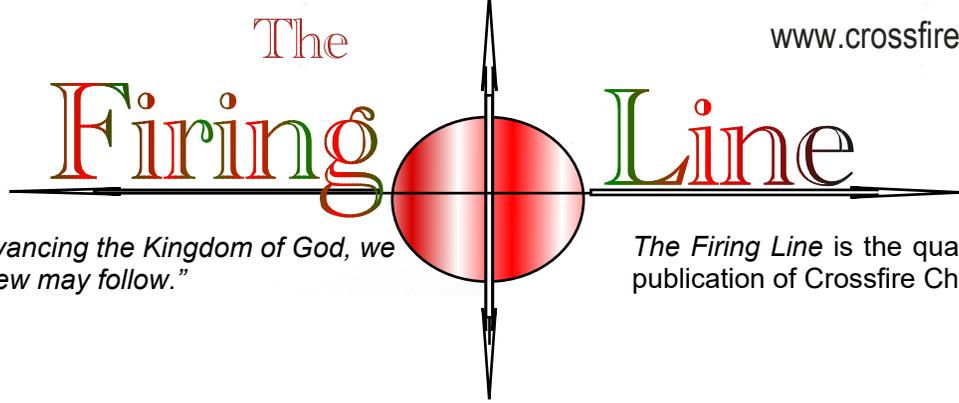




Special Edition
Christmas 2021

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"Passionately Advancing the Kingdom of God, we boldly go where few may follow."

The Firing Line is the quarterly publication of Crossfire Church.

As we enter the season of celebrating the birth of Christ I have been drawn to the book of Ezekiel and the ministry into which he was commissioned. In Ezekiel's account of his call, his experience of the glory of the Lord, his assignment and his commissioning there is a message for the remnant. It is for those who have ears to hear and a heart to discern the signs of the times. There is a messianic and prophetic aspect to this Christmas season.

In my thirtieth year, in the fourth month on the fifth day, while I was among the exiles by the Kebar River, the heavens were opened and I saw visions of God. On the fifth of the month—it was the fifth year of the exile of King Jehoiachin—the word of the LORD came to Ezekiel the priest, the son of Buzi, by the Kebar River in the land of the Babylonians. There the hand of the LORD was on him. (Ezek. 1:1-3 NIV)

The Lord calls to Ezekiel as he stands by the Kebar River in Babylon, river which still exists in modern Iraq. He was not seeking a call, but it came to him. He was only 30 years old and was 5 years into his exile in Babylon, a land he did not choose. He was a captive but not confined to a jail or prison. He was no longer in the promised land of Israel. He was in Babylon involuntarily as a consequence of decisions made by Israel's spiritual and civil leaders. It seems as though we too find ourselves in a foreign land, not geographically, but socially and morally. We live under unrighteous rule incarcerated by emerging Marxist ideology, attempts to silence the church, vaccine mandates, shutdowns, and 'science' idols. It feels at times like we are under the oppression of a foreign force.

In Ezekiel chapter 1, Ezekiel describes the glory of God seen through an open heaven. There are cherubim, profound sounds and scenes of heaven, and manifestations of God's glory that only the Apostle John's revelation can compare. *I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north—an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. (Ezek. 1:24a NIV)* He sees a windstorm, also translated as a whirlwind, coming from the north. This speaks of power and in this case God's supernatural power upon which Ezekiel would need to depend. Today there are governmental windstorms, but they must bow to the whirlwinds from heaven to bring

alignment and upright the nation. I believe there is a whirlwind of glory that God is bringing to our land.

As the scene continues Ezekiel describes it this way; *this was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD. When I saw it, I fell facedown, and I heard the voice of one speaking. He said to me, "Son of man, stand up on your feet and I will speak to you." As he spoke, the Spirit came into me and raised me to my feet, and I heard him speaking to me. (Ezek. 1:28b-2:2 NIV)* While the power and manifestation of this experience caused

him to bow down, the Spirit of God spoke to him in a unique way. He called him 'son of man'. This language was used only by Jesus to refer to Himself and by Daniel in messianic prophecy (Dan. 7:13). God addresses Ezekiel as 'son of man' more than 90 times. This alerts Ezekiel to the magnitude and gravity of what is spoken.

The Lord said, *'stand up on your feet and I will speak to you'*. There is a time for us to bow to the Lord, but there is also a time when He calls us to stand up and talk face to face. The more intense the battle, the more challenging the times, the more onerous the opposition, the greater the demand to stand. He wants us to be humble towards Him, but also to operate from a position of authority that He delegates to His church. We live in a time when we must stand, allowing the Spirit of God to speak and impart directly to us, empowering us to confront the enemy of our soul, and to advance the Kingdom of God. He needs us standing. He needs us assertive. Kingdom territory is expanded from the outer edges. We must live on the outer edge of His kingdom, infused with power from the center, Jesus Christ. He desires a remnant that is ready, moving in authority, and confidently pressing outwardly with Truth and Grace.

Ezekiel then gets the assignment for his prophetic ministry. The way the Spirit of God speaks reflects the way Ezekiel will need to speak and act on behalf of Yahweh. *He said: "Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to a rebellious nation that has rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me to this very day. The people to whom I am sending you are obstinate and stubborn. (Ezek. 2:3 NIV)* If you live in the USA, you live among many obstinate and stubborn people who resist the Lord and His word. Instead

EZEKIEL'S WORD FOR THE REMNANT TODAY

An article by Harvey Wittmier



of resisting evil, many resist the Spirit of God. Some in the church are passively stubborn, choosing to go with the flow, not actively against God, but not for Him either. They are immersed in the woke ideology of social justice devoid of Jesus' justice. This 'wokeness' is rampant and is a form of obstinate opposition to Truth and Grace. As one prophet recently said *'A "woke" Christian might go to heaven, but here on*

earth you are an enemy asset.' Other people actively oppose God but attempt to hide their anti-God agenda under a cloak of deception.

But there is a remnant that is rising up as they hear the sounds of Heaven. Even as Ezekiel arose at the voice of the Lord, the remnant ones are arising to receive the Word of the Lord and go forth. They enter the battle clothed in armor of authority and infused with the assurance of Heaven.

The Lord continues to speak to Ezekiel and infuses a level of understanding and strength as He is sent out to the nation. God says to him, *But the people of Israel are not willing to listen to you because they are not willing to listen to me, for all the Israelites are hardened and obstinate. But I will make you as unyielding and hardened as they are. I will make your forehead like the hardest stone, harder than flint. Do not be afraid of them or terrified by them, though they are a rebellious people.'* (Ezek. 3:7-9 NIV) The Lord says He will make Ezekiel to be harder, tougher, and unyielding. Ezekiel's forehead will be as the 'hardest stone', a requirement for head to head assignments.

The Spirit of God knows that the enemy uses intimidation to get the church, even the remnant, to submit and cower. So the Spirit of the Living God says **'do not be afraid of them'**, the voices that intimidate and threaten. This is encouraging and assuring to Ezekiel and to the remnant today. The devil, operating through people and government, will try to intimidate you into forms of compliance and submission. **DO NOT BE AFRAID OF THEM!** Just as Ezekiel was led toward the battle, so are we led toward the battle. The name **Ezekiel means 'strength of God'**. He was named for a call and assignment that would demand strength far greater than his own. We are designed and destined to be harder, tougher, and unyielding toward Marxists ideology, intimidating voices, mandates, orders and other man-made laws that violate the Word of the Lord.

The Spirit of the Lord affirms this again as He speaks to Ezekiel, *But when I speak with you, I will open your mouth. You will say to them: Thus says ADONAI Elohim. He that hears, let him hear. He that refuses to hear, let him refuse—for they are a rebellious house.* (Ezek. 3:27b TLV) Do not be dismayed or discouraged by refusals to listen. Keep speaking and acting according to the Word of the Lord. There is a call from heaven to the 'sons of man'. It is a call to stand, speak and act with authority from heaven. Do not be afraid or discouraged by those who refuse to listen; some will hear. Do not be intimidated by what you see or what the enemy says. **The hand of the Lord is upon you, imparting wisdom and strength for this day and hour.**†



Harvey Wittmier is an apostle and a pastor. He is passionate about equipping the church to navigate the last days.



The Home-Going of Debbie Tran

Debbie Tran, our friend, sister in Christ, and ally in advancing the Gospel to the nations passed into heaven on December 4th in Kansas City from cancer. She has been an apostolic voice to many nations including S. Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Japan, Nepal, Hong Kong, Australia, Canada, UK, France, Germany, Israel and America among them. She had a special call to America and was a patriot among patriots for this nation's return to the Lord. Deborah and I were with her a couple days before she moved to heaven. We have ministered with her in Vietnam, Japan, America, Israel, Hong Kong, Nepal and elsewhere. We grieve her loss here on earth and celebrate her elevation to Heaven.



3001 S. Acoma St.
Englewood, CO 80110
Enter through the north doors.



10:15 a.m. Worship Service
9:30 a.m. Pre-service Prayer
9:45 a.m. Coffee Fellowship



Bring your children to Children's Ministry with Pastor Peggy Nelson

Crossfire has zoom! For those of you who are far away or can't make it to in-person service, Crossfire streams every Sunday morning service on zoom. We also meet in person on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays. We meet only on Zoom on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. For information on the zoom meetings please email harvey@crossfirechurch.us.