

FATHERING NATIONS



As He is, so are we in this world

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***Thou shalt be a father of many nations.
GENESIS 17:4 KJV***

***He shall be a father to the inhabitants of
Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah.
ISAIAH 22:21 KJV***

Please note the Sacred Name of the Father is used here interchangeably as YHWH and Yahweh.

MANKIND'S GREAT NEED

Nations need fathers. Nations are failing because they are not being led by fathers.

The earth is groaning because there are not enough fathers leading the nations.

Men abandoned kingship as a governmental model and sought their own Frankenstein systems. This is because kings failed them and the reason they failed them was they were not fathers to them. The Stewarts in 17th century England and Scotland failed in this very regard and brought war and bloodshed to the British isles.

The Stewarts' obsession with being rulers and not fathers helped found America as people with a vision for a nation led by Father God fled to the New World to follow that destiny.

Kings are not fathers by default; hence all the strife and war in the earth. Our geopolitical system is the result of centuries of misrule by men who would not be fathers to their nations but who sought to exploit, pillage and subjugate the peoples of the world.

Jesus said that the kings of the nations exercised lordship over them and loved to be called benefactors (Luke 22:25). The mantra of "it's for your own good" is often spoon-fed us by governments.

In most nations we are no longer ruled over by kings, at least as far as titles go. Yet our governments have rulers who act as kings. One thing is for sure: We are not led or ruled over by fathers.

This is the crying need of the age – for people to be fathers to their nation.

When God finds a man (or woman) who has a father's heart for the land, he will remove a mercenary leader and replace them with the person who has the fathering heart.

God is looking for people who will be fathers to their nation.

One thing you have to understand is that being a father to your nation will crush you. It is a life of unimaginable pain and suffering. God will break anyone who walks in this calling. A million times.

He has to put the nation in your heart. That alone is agony because you will grieve at how the people of your nation snub the Fatherhood of Yahweh.

Fathering a nation is weeping and pain and sorrow. Are you ready for this?

To be a father to your nation is to endure the contradiction. You are given the blueprint of your nation's prophetic destiny yet you also are keenly conscious of how far the present moment reality falls short. This is very hard to endure. Fathers are not made on cushioned pillows or beds of ease.

Fathers are made in the forge of the Holy Spirit. To be a father to your nation is to know what it means to go through fire over and over till all personal ambition and selfish motive are removed. Mercenaries cannot be fathers. The vainglorious are similarly disqualified.

We need national leaders who have a father's heart. Kings should be fathers to their nation. When those who rule a nation focus on power and not responsibility, you end up with tyranny. Tyrants do not make good fathers.

People need fathers. Nations need fathers. This is how God has created us. Remember that Jesus came to reveal the Father to us.

All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

MATTHEW 11:27 KJV

Jesus did not come to do His own will but the will of the Father (John 6:38). The mission of Jesus was to reveal the Father.

When He taught us how to pray, He began with the words "Our FATHER."

Everything begins with the Father.

Legitimacy comes from authority and all authority comes from the Father. The centurion recognised that Jesus's authority came from Someone who had sent Him. He realised that Jesus was under Someone's authority.

That Someone was the Father.

We are all under the Father's authority. If Jesus is under His authority, you and I certainly are.

It is vital to understand that the primary way Yahweh God has chosen to reveal who He is to us is as our Father.

Jesus Himself tells us to look beyond Himself to see the Father in Him and through Him.

We talk a lot about matured sons but this is not a complete revelation unless we realise that maturing as sons means we mature to be fathers.

A lot of people want to relate to Jesus because they are afraid of fellowship with the Father. This is a type of father wound. People with this type of father wound like to hang out with Jesus as a Brother and Friend but are scared to be intimate with Father God. However, Jesus is calling us to intimacy with His Father.

To father a nation you must have your father wound healed. You cannot be immature and father a nation.

Ultimately, maturity is healing. Choosing to be healed is maturity.

You see, a father endures all things, including suffering and pain, to be the person he is supposed to be. A father endures for those he fathers and is responsible for. As a father to your nation, you are responsible for your nation and its people.

Maturity is knowing the Father. We start this process as babes in Christ. Children know the Father, John says (see 1 John chapter 2). Our maturing is going from knowing the Father to demonstrating the Father.

We are to live in the Father's shadow and as we mature we become a shelter to others who live in *our* shadow.

The purpose of God in us is to bring us to fatherhood, to be people who father peoples, communities and nations.

We are in the cosmos as He is. We manifest in the physical realm what He is in realms of glory.

Fathering nations is our commission. The nations are crying out for fathers to lead them, shepherd them and bring healing to them. Only the strength and wisdom of true fathers can heal our nations.

It is our responsibility to be just as Yahweh in this cosmos. Jesus said we must be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect. This word "perfect" is the Greek word *telios* which means complete, fully matured, having reached its end point, lacking nothing in its fullness.

Jesus tells us to be *telios* people like our Father is a *telios* God.

The Father lacks nothing in any area. So are we to be. We are to be absolutely *telios* as He is.

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17 KJV

Your destination point never deviates. It is to be as He is. Now, you understand that in the natural, when we go on a journey, time and distance separate us from our destination.

However, in the spirit there is no time and there is no distance. The spiritual realm is the eternal realm. It is the dimension of the immediate as well as the dimension of the always. It is not temporal or subject to change.

The eternal is the realm of perfection. You are perfect in eternity. You will never atrophy or lose in the eternal realm.

So Jesus tells us: Be *here* what you are *there* because what you are *there* is who you really are. The eternal you is the real you.

Maturity takes time in the natural. But in the spirit, there is no time. Spiritual maturity comes through revelation. By that I mean that maturity is developed in us in this temporal realm by revelation. It is revealed to us who we are!

There is no actual *becoming* from an eternal perspective. We are already perfect in eternity. We are already full-grown fathers eternally speaking. The call on us is to manifest it here in the time-space dimension.

In Yahweh's mind we are already fathers to our nations. He will allow for our immaturity but calls us out of it. He cannot lower the standard of full-grown perfection for us so the *telios* point never varies. As Father, He is perfectly patient. He will let generations come and go till we get the revelation of who we are meant to be.

Revelation is the divine shortcut to destiny. Revelation is the *telios* portal and that portal always leads to full-grown fatherhood.

Being the father you are meant to be to your nation means you will see sons and daughters come to you (Isaiah 60:4,9). Even strangers and enemies will respond to this father dynamic (Isaiah 60:10-16). Being a father to your nation subdues hostility and inspires trust and

confidence in people who are not normally aligned with you. Because of this, these people will help you and serve you.

Paul said we don't have many fathers. We have ten thousand instructors but very few fathers. This is because men seek prestige. People want titles, offices and other things that bring renown. But true fathers don't seek renown. Seeking to have others honour you is immaturity.

Fathers know that their responsibility is not to pursue prestige but to raise fathers. Authentic fathering is not about perpetuating childhood in one's sons and daughters but in preparing them to be parents.

Maturity is always the goal but we must not see it just as an end point. We *begin* from maturity and end there. It is a circular thing because it is eternal. Jesus is both Alpha *and* Omega.

We begin at the *telios* point. If you are striving to get to maturity, you will never arrive because you have locked yourself into the temporal realm. You need to begin from the eternal where you are already perfect and mature.

This is why the standard never slips. You are not a temporal being; you are an eternal being operating in a temporal dimension.

You must be mature as your Heavenly Father is. This is not a suggestion. God's patience with us as we work this out on the earth actually demonstrates His perfection.

Fathers need to get used to waiting. The father in what we call the Parable of the Prodigal Son had to wait for his boy to come to his senses. Fathers wait. They don't go chasing after wayward sons. A father's role is to be in the home, waiting if that is what is called for.

Fathers often have to wait for their children to deal with their father wounds. Not all father wounds are evil. Some are wounds that become much worse by picking at them.

The Lord understands this. That's why we are commanded to honour our father and mother. Respect is not commanded and neither is love. Some parents are so bad that you can neither respect nor love them.

Respect has to be earned but honour is in our gift. We honour even where we cannot respect because honour is God-like. Honouring people is maturity and perfection.

We are commanded to honour all men (1 Peter 2:17). Honouring your parents shows that you have stepped out of the emotional and sentimental realm into maturity. It means you can now father others.

You become an adult when you choose to honour your father and mother. That is why it comes with the promise of living well and living long. When you honour your parents you affirm that you have a divine destiny and purpose in the earth.

Honouring all people is maturity. Fathers must raise sons to honour others and demonstrate a life of honour.

It is maturity to honour even those who are not honourable. We don't need to respect those who live

wicked, unproductive lives but we honour them because that is in our gift and because honour is about who we are and what we represent, not what other people do.

Authentic fathers carry massive honour in their personages and bearing. Maturity is understanding that you cannot influence where you do not show honour.

Personal honour is everything. When you lose honour, you do incalculable damage to yourself. The Book of Proverbs is full of wisdom to help you live a life of honour and integrity.

Fathers must exemplify honour. People expect honour from fathers. A dishonourable man cannot function as a good father.

KNOWING YOUR FATHER

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

JOHN 8:44 KJV

Fathers reproduce nature and character. Jesus told these people they were of their father because He saw the traits of their father in them.

Father God is love. We expect to see love in His children. However, you can tell the children of the devil because they are full of lusts.

Every child of satan is animated by the love of money. Mammon is their father.

Fathers impart nature and character. This is why we must be born again. Your father is your destiny. For this reason Jesus taught us to pray "Our Father." You become who your father is.

John tells us that fathers - i.e. mature believers - know Him who is from the beginning (1 John 2:13,14). We begin with the Father and end with fathers, the company of mature believers. The beginning and the ending meet and are the same *telios* point. This is the eternal realm.

Jesus instructed us to be like our Father. You have to *know* Him. In the knowing is the doing. As He reveals

Himself to you, you become conformed to Him and represent who He is to the world.

Jesus is the express image of the Father. When we see Jesus, we see the Father. We cannot afford to get stuck in sentimental concepts of Jesus. We cannot stay at the manger and gaze in wonder at the Eternal Word poured out in flesh as the babe born of a virgin.

We cannot even stay with the miracle worker who ministered in Galilee.

We must go on to perfection, to the crucified Jesus who was raised, ascended and now shines forth at the right hand of the Majesty on high.

We must see the Father in Jesus. He said He came to show us the Father. Some would rather relate to Jesus than come into the Father's Presence. This shows a flawed understanding of who Jesus is. Yes, He intercedes for us before the Father but the Spirit He sent to live in us cries out "Abba, Father" in us.

You can have the wrong kind of fear in relation to the Father. This comes from unhealed father wounds. God hasn't given us this kind of fear. The genuine fear of God is healthy and brings blessing.

Everything flows from how you relate to God as your Father. Knowing Him is our very life.

I remember when I knelt by my bed and made the decision to commit my life to Him. It was the Father who spoke to me.

You have to know which Person of the Godhead is speaking to you. Also, in the prophetic it is very clear sometimes which Person is speaking *through* you.

This Christian business is all about relationship. It isn't all about principles and formulae. It is about life and relationship. Everything flows from the Father and He is the One we all must answer to.

If Yahweh is your Father, we expect to see Him in you. We look for signs of kinship. His DNA is in us as His children.

Fathers make descendants. Fathers determine what comes after them. Fathers produce seed that goes into the future. You can tell the nature and character of the father by observing the seed. Whatever comes in the future comes from a father.

This makes fathers prophetic; who they are determines what will happen and who will be involved. Fathers are progenitors; they create futures. You could not be here without a father.

Who your father is spiritually determines your destiny. If your spiritual father is the father of lies, you have no foundation of truth. Truth is another word for reality so if your spiritual father is the father of lies, your foundation in life has no basis in eternal reality.

Lies have no place in heaven and no purchase in any dimension. The reason for this is they are not real.

There is nothing more real than an authentic father because fathers know Him from the beginning i.e. they are rooted in the Father from the realm of eternity.

The Fatherhood of God is the source from which we draw all we need. We are commanded to be in this eternal reality at all times. When we lose consciousness of our eternal reality as being fathers shining forth out of our Father in glory, we slip into the lie state of separation, immaturity and uncertainty of our true nature.

The evil one is the father of this lie paradigm. Whenever you believe you are not perfect in and from a perfect Father, you fall short of His glory. Note that Jesus didn't say "Be perfect like Me." He said "Be perfect as your Father which is in heaven is perfect."

Jesus is locating perfection, which is the *telios* state, in glory realms. He is telling us we are anchored to and rooted in eternal realities. Eternal things are not subject to change.

You can be perfect because your Father is perfect and lives in a realm where that perfection is immutable.

Fathers cannot be shaken or perturbed. The blessed man of Psalm 112, who is a father, cannot be moved. Stepping into the paradigm of being a father to your community and nation is a decision to be unshakeable and immovable.

The blessed man is a rock that cannot be broken.

When you read Psalm 112 you will see a picture of a fully matured father who is unbreakable in and by life.

This is a man with God's DNA in him.

We expect to see the progenitor in his seed.

We expect to see love in those whose Father is Love.

An online search for the meaning of genes garnered this:
“a unit of heredity which is transferred from a parent to offspring and is held to determine some characteristic of the offspring.”

The offspring will have characteristics which can be traced back genetically to the ancestor or progenitor. As believers born again from above, we have characteristics and traits that show our Father is Yahweh.

It is vital to know that God is your Father and you are His child.

THE FATHER'S BUSINESS

We must be about the Father's business. Our role and function is to be fathers who demonstrate the Father to the world.

This was what Jesus was all about. He said He must be about His Father's business. It's interesting that He was sitting with elders and fathers when He said this to Joseph and Mary.

Jesus said He only did what He saw the Father do and He spoke what the Father was saying.

Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise.

JOHN 5:19 KJV

For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

JOHN 12:49 KJV

Jesus is not self-appointed or self-employed. He is about His Father's business.

There is only one enterprise we are concerned with and that is God & Sons Unlimited. This enterprise only operates to do the will of the Father.

It is very dangerous to step out of doing God's will.

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.
MATTHEW 7:21-23 KJV

Not everybody who calls Jesus their Boss will enter the Kingdom, only those who do the Father's will. This is referring to people who do their own thing and not what the Father has assigned them to do. These are very sobering words.

Scholars and preachers debate what these words mean but I want to postulate here that Jesus is talking about saints who choose to stay at a level of immaturity. They refuse to grow up and be fathers who show forth the Father.

I knew an old man once who had regressed to the state of a child in the natural because he refused to mature spiritually. He even had the voice of a child and his wife – who was an outstanding woman of God – had to treat him like a wee boy.

It is tragic to see believers settle in a place short of full growth. Our calling is to be fathers. We are to demonstrate the Father to a broken world. Growing up is the most spiritual and the most benevolent thing you can do.

We are about the Father's business which involves bringing all things under Christ's feet. Then He will deliver all things to the Father that the Father may be all in all.

His will is that we may mature to be perfect like Him. This helps the purpose of God & Sons Unlimited, which is to subdue all opposition that God may be all in all.

Jesus said "My Father worketh hitherto (up till now) and I work." None of us should be idle. Nor are we self-employed or retired. We are about the Father's business. If that includes Jesus, it includes all of us who call Jesus our Lord.

LOOK TO ABRAHAM

Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

ISAIAH 51:1,2 KJV

We are told here to look to father Abraham. He is our progenitor. We are his seed (see Galatians chapter 3).

What you look to determines your destiny. What you look to is what you will walk in. What you look to is what you will be conformed to.

This is why we are told to look to Abraham. As Abraham's descendants and heirs, we will be who he was called to be. Romans 4:13 informs us that Abraham inherits the cosmos. This is *our* inheritance.

You are called and destined to be like your father. This applies to Father God and it applies to father Abraham. Just as Abraham walked before God and had to be metamorphosised into Him, so we must look to Abraham to be like him.

Essential to our study here is the truth that Abraham is ***the father of many nations***. In fact, this is what Abraham's name means.

You are called to father nations. Of course, you can only do this effectively if you are a matured son. That is why you are a father – because you have matured.

I am addressing the father in you here. You may be displaying aspects of immaturity but, like Isaiah, I adjure you to look to Abraham because as you look you will conform to that image.

There is a scene in the Godfather book where Don Corleone tells Johnny Fontane to stay with him for a month so he can see how a real father lives.

When you look to a true father, something of that father is transferred to you. You become what you look to. This is why Paul said you can have ten thousand instructors but fathers are much more rare.

If you want to lead nations, you must learn to father them. This is done by looking to the father of many nations, - God's covenant partner, Abraham. What you gaze at, you will become.

Abraham is the template for mature believers. He endured to become a father of the seed of promise. He overcame the limits of his own body and the impossibility of his situation to father nations.

It is the overcomer company of matured sons who will step into nation-fathering. This is not for immature believers who value the physical life and soulish entertainments. You cannot be a friend of this world if you are going to father nations and peoples.

Anyone can sire offspring but that doesn't make you a father. Fatherlessness is society's great curse and it comes from men who can sow seeds but not cultivate and grow the trees.

Society needs fathers. Sons need fathers. The job of a father is to raise fathers.

A father's place is in the home, not out on the roam. This applies to fathers of nations. Some men who are called to father their nation would rather have an "international ministry" and get a name for themselves. Some are genuinely called to the nations but many who seek that ministry are called to their own nation. Instead, they are off sowing seed elsewhere.

These are among the ones to which Jesus says, "I never knew you." They did not do the will of the Father, seeking an international miracle ministry rather than be a father to those around them.

Fathers don't have business cards. They are not looking for the honour and esteem of others. You father where God sends you but for those who seek renown and prestige among men, this can be a challenge.

You are not called to be famous. You are called to be a father. Fathers seek no medals. Often being a father is a thankless task. A big part of fatherhood is often just waiting for the crazy to come out of your children, like the father in the Parable of the Prodigal Son.

Fathers must learn to wait. That takes patience, the kind of patience that leads to being fully matured.

But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

JAMES 1:4 KJV

Patience i.e. constancy and persistence will make a matured son of you. It will make you a father in your community.

DAVID THE PATRIARCH

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

ROMANS 10:9 KJV

Because if you acknowledge and confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and in your heart believe (adhere to, trust in, and rely on the truth) that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

ROMANS 10:9 AMPC

We see here that confessing with your mouth that Jesus is Lord will regenerate the human spirit. It will kick out the old Adamic nature that had satan as its father and bring in a new Christ nature from above.

There is awesome power in using your mouth to declare that Jesus is Lord. It literally changes the identity of your spiritual father.

As we will see, confessing Jesus is Lord was exactly what David did – a thousand years before Jesus was born.

The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people

shall be willing in the day of thy power, in the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek. The Lord at thy right hand shall strike through kings in the day of his wrath. He shall judge among the heathen, he shall fill the places with the dead bodies; he shall wound the heads over many countries. He shall drink of the brook in the way: therefore shall he lift up the head.
PSALMS 110:1-7 KJV

Where we see the capitalisation LORD here, that is, in Hebrew, the sacred name Yahweh or Jehovah.

This passage is about an interaction in the Throne Room of heaven between Yahweh God the Father and Jesus His Son. We could speculate that David saw a vision in *his* time which would mean that he saw the pre-incarnate Jesus or that he had a prophetic picture of the future resurrected Jesus before the Father.

The reality is that discussing these possibilities really only helps us frame these verses from our reference of the temporal realm we live in.

The important thing here is that David is describing eternal realities and speaking them forth in time long before they became part of what we in the New Covenant era consider fundamental truths to live by.

In short, David calls the One that sits by Yahweh's right hand *the* Lord and goes so far as to boldly call him *my* Lord.

Here is what we must consider here: It is an ETERNAL truth that Jesus is Lord. Therefore it could be argued that at any point in the timeline of history, declaring Jesus as Lord has saving power.

Of course, two things to factor in here is that the text does not indicate that Jesus' Name has been revealed to David so we don't know he said "Jesus is Lord" – something we know is vital to be saved this side of the cross and resurrection. But we do know that enough was revealed about this Person at Yahweh's right hand for David to give him the title Lord.

The other thing we must factor in is that, at this point in the timeline of history, Jesus has not yet been born and gone to the cross. Yet it was clearly important to God that David receive this revelation of Jesus as Lord 1,000 years before Jesus walked the earth and was ascended to His Father.

We can conclude that this revelation of Jesus as Lord – something Christ Himself referred to (see Matthew 22:42-46) – had a vital part to play in David's life and kingship.

David, of course, walked in the power of the age to come in that much of his experience, conduct, worship and

grasp of spiritual realities had more of a New Covenant ring to it than Old Covenant.

The thing we need to focus in on here is that David's *identity* was shaped and formed by his revelation of Christ as Lord at Yahweh's right hand.

David was a glorious example of the principle that you become what you look intently at. As David gazed upon Yahweh and this Lord at Yahweh's right hand, he saw the template of the perfect King.

It is abundantly evident that David – and those who were around him – saw his own kingship inextricably tied up and woven with Yahweh's. Psalm 89 is all about the Davidic dynasty and right at its heart is the bold declaration that "Yahweh is our defence and the Holy One of Israel is our King" (verse 18). David is happy to centre his own kingdom in the heart of Yahweh's. The two are so intermingled and entwined in Israelite culture.

Yahweh as King is a prominent theme in scripture and David is comfortable basing his own kingdom firmly within Yahweh's dominion over Israel. David exercises his rulership as a virtual extension of God's.

This is very much New Covenant thinking. Christians function in the Name of Jesus and exercise *His* Kingdom authority in the earth. David understood the vital importance of aligning his rulership as king over Israel

with Yahweh and his own personal Lord at Yahweh's right hand.

David's crucial grasp of spiritual reality meant that he realised his identity was affirmed by aligning with the heavenly structure of authority. He effectively conformed to what he saw by revelation – Yahweh God the Father and His Son seated on heavenly thrones of glory.

This is arguably why God said David was a man after His own heart – because David patterned his own kingship after the image and pattern of Yahweh God and the Adonai at His right hand.

You are conformed to the image you keep before you. This is why as believers we are conformed to the image of Christ. In a very real way, David walked in this out of the context of his time. He walked in the power of the age to come. His identity was tied to eternal truths, not temporal circumstances. David, of course, was a worshipper which meant he engaged with the eternal realm and meant that he was radically transformed by the One he encountered in worship.

There is a fundamental principle that you conform to the image of who or what you worship. A gigantic part of David's identity was *worshipper* and this radically transformed him into a man after God's own heart and a beloved king.

Jesus identified as the Son of David and we know that Mary was descended from David and thus carried his genetic code. Psalm 110 was clearly heavenly reality and in the DNA of the Christ child; therefore we could speculate that David was so profoundly impacted by this heavenly revelation in Psalm 110 that it became part of his own genetic makeup. In other words, what David saw in this psalm was not just a revelation of heavenly and eternal realities but a divine blueprint that became so much a part of his DNA that centuries later, it helped to give birth to the vision he saw.

In essence, David fathered in the earth what he saw in heaven. Remember that Jesus is the One destined to sit upon the throne of His father, David.

To get Jesus in the earth, David had to have this revelation of Jesus in Psalm 110 in order that his DNA would be so impacted it would carry the image of Messiah the King in his genetic code.

DNA is a massive part of our identity. It was necessary that David the ancestor of Jesus be so powerfully affected by the heavenly image of Jesus enthroned that it was written into the genetic makeup that helped en flesh the Second Person of the Godhead.

What you see in higher dimensions of glory, you will father in this physical realm. Faith is the heavenly

substance, the real essence of things that is transmuted into material reality here in the earth.

David had the *hupostasis* of Jesus encoded into his DNA. He carried within him the faith image of a perfect King and when Yahweh needed a virgin with that DNA written in her genetic code, he found it ***where He had placed it*** in one of David's descendants.

This is the meaning of the phrase in 1 John chapter 2 that fathers know Him who is from the beginning. David knew Jesus by revelation in Psalm 110 and other places. He saw the Eternal Word at God's right hand. This image so profoundly affected him, it was the beginning of the process of Yahweh's getting His Messiah into the earth through David's lineage. David and his descendants were the genetic vehicle that produced the perfect virgin to conceive the Christ.

This Christ child was the Person that David saw in Psalm 110. David was the ancestor of Jesus. The Bible calls him father David in relation to Jesus (Luke 1:32). David knew Him that is from the beginning! He knew Jesus, having seen Him in Yahweh's Throne room.

David saw a heavenly King and the *hupostasis* of this altered his DNA to the point he eventually helped father this heavenly King in the earth. He saw a heavenly King and fathered this King in the earth through being Mary's ancestor.

Acts 2:29 refers to David as a patriarch. This means he was a progenitor. Acts 2:30 tells us that David knew as a prophet the Messiah would come from his loins.

In Jeremiah 33:22 we read that the same promise of multiplied seed given to Abraham – the father of many nations – that his descendants would be as uncountable as the stars of heaven and the sand of the sea, was given to David.

Just as we look to father Abraham, we must look to David. If David is the father of Jesus, he is ours too.

And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

LUKE 1:30-31 KJV

Mary's part here was to conceive and bear the Christ. This she was positioned to do because her ancestor David saw this Christ centuries before and David's declaration of Christ's Lordship activated the process.

David proclaimed the Lordship of the Messiah and this seeded into his own being the capacity to father this Messiah in the earth.

Fathers will arise who will give manifestation in the earth to what they have seen, heard and engaged with in the heavenly realms.

SEATED AT REST

There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God.

HEBREWS 4:9 KJV

Being a father is being at rest. It is the place of maturity. It is the place of peace, strength and security.

When crises happen, family members run to the dad. He is the person of strength and unflappable demeanour in times of trouble.

You will find fathers in the home; that is where they belong. Fathers don't rush about or exert needless energy. You don't summon a father, you *go to* a father. Much of our activity is trying to get our Father in heaven to come down here to us.

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

MATTHEW 6:9-10 KJV

Praying Thy Kingdom come isn't summoning the Father from His place of rest to come down here and do something about our problems. When you pray this, He is going to send YOU to bring the Kingdom and back you with angelic support.

We need to understand that the Kingdom of Heaven functions from rest.

Jesus is *seated* at God's right hand. Yahweh Himself is sitting at rest.

A father's role is to sit at rest in his house. Most homes have a "father's chair" in them. This is not because fathers are typically lazy or incapacitated; it's because we expect a father to be seated at rest in his own home.

Now we are talking about fathering nations here and the same principle applies. Fathers of nations are not off wandering; they are seated in their rest communing with Yahweh, Jesus and the Holy Ghost until their nation calls on them for wisdom and counsel.

Sadly, we see many who are called to father their nation running off to build their "ministries" in other nations. True fathers are not interested in building a ministry; their desire is to see the government of God established in the nation they are called to be a father to.

The nations don't need men who know how to carve a ministry out of the church mountain here on earth – they need heaven-sent men from the glory who have been on YHWH's mountain and have come with the life-releasing technology of higher dimensions that solve the problems of humanity.

These men are mature fathers who come from a place of rest. They sit in their own rest which is built on YHWH's rest.

YHWH has a completely different perspective to ours.

He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the LORD shall have them in derision.

PSALMS 2:4 KJV

In the midst of all the turmoil in the nations, Someone is sitting down and laughing. Someone is at rest. That Someone is Yahweh. He is not fretting or jumping about, wringing His hands saying: "What are we going to do? Some bad people got elected!"

Yahweh is He that sitteth. As He sits in His rest in the heavens, so we sit in His rest here on earth.

To be a father to your nation means that you sit in authority over your nation. The authority is granted you by YHWH. There are thrones in and over nations that Yahweh has appointed for spiritual fathers and mothers to govern those nations.

This is the job of God's ekklesia and is available for every believer but only matured ones will function in this.

Yahweh told Jesus to sit and be at rest until His enemies were put under His feet. It is not that Jesus is sitting

twiddling His thumbs. He legislates and wields the sceptre but from a place of rest, not agitation.

We are *seated* with Him in heavenly places. We also are to function from rest, not hard labour.

Being a father means learning to sit and govern. You must govern and rule from rest. Children rush about, adolescents and young men love their activities and proving what they can DO but there comes a time when men must mature and settle down.

This is the meaning of the word "rest" in Hebrews chapter 4 – to settle and dwell. It indicates habitation, not visitation. A father's role is to sit at rest in his home and inhabit the territory.

Fathers of nations are called by YHWH to inhabit their allocated territory on thrones of authority. He is looking for fathers who will stop rushing around doing church and ministry activities, who will take responsibility for their nation and sit at rest on seats of heavenly dominion.

ONLY YHWH MAKES TRUE FATHERS

And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.

GENESIS 17:1-5 KJV

I remember hearing a preacher say that Yahweh is saying here to Abraham: "Walk before Me and be metamorphosised into Me." This sums it up. We must walk before the Father and be transformed into fathers who are cloned images of him.

There is a lot of emphasis on sonship and being mature sons. But a true father does not expect his sons to remain in a perpetual sonship mode. By this I mean you can get stuck in being a child. Sons who are fully matured can sire children but then abandon them because they cannot handle being fathers.

It's good to get bounced on your dad's knees but when you are a grown man with children of your own, you are the one who needs to be bouncing your knees. Too many want to stay in the child stage.

Nations need fathers. Immaturity serves no-one.

Abram's name means "high father." This is very telling. It means Yahweh began with a father. Note that Abram was married to a barren wife. However, his identity overcame his tragedy. Who YHWH called Abram to be was a truth that trumped his circumstances.

We see that Yahweh shifts the paradigm here. Abram's focus has been on a son and heir but Yahweh's purpose is beyond our individual needs. Abram wants a baby boy to bounce on his knee but Yahweh is speaking multitudes of descendants.

Authentic fathering is following YHWH's vision, not our own. Abram is focused on his own house but Yahweh is telling him that his house is much bigger.

If you are focused on your own ministry or church deal, you need to see that you are not called to shepherd a few sheep within four walls of a building but to father multitudes and nations.

Abram's name was changed to Abraham which means "father of many nations."

It's interesting that YHWH tells him: "You will be the father of many nations" and then says: "For a father of many nations I have made you."

Note that Abraham's destiny is pronounced and his identity is revealed. YHWH has already i.e. past tense *made* Abraham the father of many nations.

Fathers are made by YHWH. You don't *become* a father by willpower, racking up experiences or firm decisions. Fatherhood is not your doing; it's in YHWH's gift.

Spiritual maturity is not subject to time in the same way as natural maturity. There is an eternal reality where you are a mature father in Yahweh. You can choose not to walk in it here in the temporal realm. However, it's yours to walk in if you choose to.

There are shortcuts to this maturity. Even in the natural, young men can mature virtually instantly by taking responsibility. Taking responsibility is maturity in every realm of existence.

Here is a shortcut to maturity you can use right now:

Herein is our love made perfect, that we may have boldness in the day of judgment: because as he is, so are we in this world.

1 JOHN 4:17 KJV

I asked Yahweh if I could share this with you because it is a *mysterion* i.e a sacred secret. It is a shortcut to maturity. I told Yahweh that it is vital for people to get this.

You see, part of maturity is arguing with Yahweh. By that I don't mean rebelling against Him but arguing your case. He doesn't want automatons; He wants sons. I have other things to share on this but maybe I can address them in other places or in future revisions.

You can use this shortcut to maturity because the verse speaks of an eternal truth and reality: As YHWH, so are you in this cosmos.

Here is another shortcut:

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

MATTHEW 5:48 KJV

This is not a command to attain something impossible in your own strength. It is an invitation to enter fatherhood.

CHILDREN ARE COMING

And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at thy side.

ISAIAH 60:3-4 KJV

When you sit as a father in your designated place, your sons and daughters will gather and come to you. Yahweh brings those who need fathered to mature fathers in the nation.

We need to prepare for multitudes of children. Perhaps one of the reasons the church has not received a large harvest is because God is not looking to bring sons and daughters to ministry professionals but to fathers and mothers.

Notice here that sons and daughters come to those who have risen and who have God's glory upon them. These are Eliakims in the earth. Eliakim means "God who rises" and can also mean "God will raise up."

Fathers are called to raise up children into maturity. In order to raise and develop children, you need fathers.

Nations fall and society disintegrates because there aren't enough fathers. Fathers impart to their children what no mentor or teacher can.

Surely the isles shall wait for me, and the ships of Tarshish first, to bring thy sons from far, their silver and their gold with them, unto the name of the LORD thy God, and to the Holy One of Israel, because he hath glorified thee.

ISAIAH 60:9 KJV

We see here that children come with silver and gold. Isaiah 60 speaks of an economy under the Melchizedek Order. It is about a culture of honour and a financial system based on tribute. Just as kingdoms brought tribute to Solomon in his kingdom (1 Kings 4:21), so those who seek to be fathered will bring silver and gold to Melchizedek Order king-priests. This is part of the end-time wealth transfer.

These children are drawn to the Name of YHWH that is upon us.

Children will pay tribute to spiritual fathers in the Melchizedek economy. Just as Abraham paid a tithe in tribute to Melchizedek in ancient times, so those mature fathers in the Melchizedek Order will receive tithes in the earth.

We see that these children come to the glorified people of God. The silver and gold are magnetised to heavenly

glory. Gold is physical glory in the physical realm. Gold is attracted to glory from higher dimensions.

And the sons of strangers shall build up thy walls, and their kings shall minister unto thee: for in my wrath I smote thee, but in my favour have I had mercy on thee. Therefore thy gates shall be open continually; they shall not be shut day nor night; that men may bring unto thee the forces of the Gentiles, and that their kings may be brought.

ISAIAH 60:10-11 KJV

The honour shown to fathers in the Order of Melchizedek extends to sons of foreigners. Even children of other fathers will want to serve the Eliakims that Yahweh will raise to father nations.

Then verse 11 says that men will bring the forces of the nations. This word forces is *chayil* in Hebrew, which means wealth, riches, resources and multitudes of people.

The wealth of nations is magnetised toward those who walk in the fatherhood paradigm.

But thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

DEUTERONOMY 8:18 KJV

Note here that the power to get wealth is given to ratify the covenant made with the FATHERS. The Hebrew word for wealth here is again *chayil*.

Chayil is reserved for the fathers of nations.

Those who walk in the calling to father nations are divinely positioned to receive the wealth of the earth. The power to get wealth refers to the glory which is the magnet that attracts this wealth.

Fathers will manifest on earth what is theirs in the heavenly vaults of YHWH's Kingdom. Just as Melchizedek is God's banker in heaven, so will fathers in the Melchizedek Order function as bankers of resources in the nations of this earth.

MATURE SONS AND DAUGHTERS

I write unto you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake. I write unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I write unto you, young men, because ye have overcome the wicked one. I write unto you, little children, because ye have known the Father. I have written unto you, fathers, because ye have known him that is from the beginning. I have written unto you, young men, because ye are strong, and the word of God abideth in you, and ye have overcome the wicked one.

1 JOHN 2:12-14 KJV

There are three stages of growth and maturity mentioned here: children, young men and fathers.

Children are young Christians – babes in Christ – who are all excited because their sins are forgiven. They are rejoicing in salvation and being part of God's family. Knowing they are loved by God is a big deal to them as they feel the difference between living in sin and darkness to now being cleansed and living in the Kingdom.

Then there are the young men, the adolescents. These are believers who have learned they have authority over the devil and his demons.

Sandwiched between children and adolescents are the fathers. Why does the Bible not list children, young men and fathers chronologically?

There is a simple and powerful reason for this, which is that spiritual growth is not subject to time; it is subject to hunger and revelation.

When you are born again, you receive a perfect redemption and are perfect in Christ. Spiritual growth happens as this perfection is *revealed* to you. It is a matter of manifestation. You see the end from the beginning. The more you see with the eyes of your inner man who you are in Christ and who He is in you, the more you "grow" spiritually. It isn't that you *become* more perfect, it's that more of the perfect Christ in you is *revealed* to you.

The growth we measure is what we can see in this earthly realm as you are already perfect in Christ (see 1 John 3:2). You "grow" as this is revealed to you.

Spiritual maturity is not subject to time in the same way as natural maturity. You can manifest maturity spiritually in a relatively short period of time here on earth by being hungry for revelation.

In this passage, fathers clearly represent leaders. Maturity is essential for leadership. Novices should not be appointed to leadership roles as they can get puffed

up with pride and fall into condemnation of the devil (see 1 Timothy 3:6).

In the passage in 1 John 2 here we see children walking in the knowledge of the forgiveness of sins and young men (youths) growing in their consciousness of authority over the wicked one. But fathers know Him who is from the beginning.

Maturity is not sonship; maturity is fatherhood. True fathers raise fathers, not sons. We must mature beyond knowing our sins are forgiven and our ability to wage spiritual warfare and overcome the wicked one.

Some people want to stay in the warrior life, fighting demons and binding strongmen. But there is more to life than conflict. There is modelling peace in the home which, if implemented properly, can radiate into the community. Leadership is not about constant warfare; it is about building communities in peace.

God's Kingdom is one of peace, not strife. A father will bring peace to the home and to those around him.

Fathers know Him who is from the beginning. This means that fathers see the big picture and know the purpose of God in time. Sons that are engaged in fighting the wicked

one see only the battle, not the purpose of the battle.
That purpose is peace.

There remains a rest for the people of God. That place of rest is full maturity i.e. fatherhood. In times of war the nation looks for young men of strength to go out and fight the battles. The fathers stay at home. It's not that they haven't the vigour to fight but a father's job is to be in the home. He is the source of wisdom, strength and comfort. He is the man of peace.

We have enough warrior energy. We need more father energy. That is why Paul said "You have not many fathers." Father energy is rare.

There are thousands of instructors and military captains teaching us how to wage war and be strong Christians. Much of that is activity – more praying and studying. But time spent sitting with a father is much more precious than time spent listening to instructors.

A father's maturity can be transferred to you if you will honour that father and purpose to absorb his energy. It's not about receiving information; it's about receiving impartation.

True fathers raise fathers, not just obedient sons. You can train a man to be obedient – like the elder brother in

the parable of the prodigal – but all you have is a resentful son. A good father is not looking to raise slave sons but mature, capable fathers.

Men must leave their fathers and mothers and cleave to a woman. This means a man must be the source in his home, not the dependent. All men must be fathers. Even if a man is single, he is called to be a mature father.

A mature father only has to sit in his house. Thieves and destroyers will not seek to enter a home where a seasoned warrior dwells. Seasoned warriors are those who have moved beyond the phase where they have to prove their prowess in battle. They can live in peace because enemies will step warily round them.

Maturity takes time in the natural. But in the spirit, there is no time. Spiritual maturity comes through revelation. By that I mean that maturity is developed in us in this temporal realm by revelation. It is revealed to us who we are!

Yes, there is a growing into. Yes, time is part of the process. However, you can mature very quickly (from a time perspective) by purposefully and actively spending time with God. And by spending time with mature fathers.

Leadership must be fathering. Armies need Captains and Majors leading the soldiers in the field. But they also need Generals and Field Marshall back at Headquarters. Their role is to be fathers.

Men must be led by fathers. That is why Jesus came to reveal the Father to us. Fatherhood must permeate everything. The Father must be all in all. The enemy's attack on manhood is because of this. Satan hates man because man is made in the image of the Father.

Children of God must come through sonship to fatherhood. Many choose to stay in sonship. Sonship is the place of being zealous for the things we have learned. Yet sonship is a phase. While we are always children in that we came from a father and mother, we must leave childish things behind. If we don't, we get stuck in a place where our zeal for truth mutates into trying to impress others with how good sons we are. We become like the elder brother, seeing ourselves as competing with other sons to be the Father's go-to son.

Fathers transcend; that is their role. A father sees all and loves all. A father knows all that is going on in his house. Fathers are the heart of the home. That is why everything goes toward and through the father. The home must revolve around the father.

To be an authentic leader, be a father. Be mature. And raise up sons to be fathers.

Young men like to fight and prove their prowess in battle. But there comes a time when a warrior serves best in the command centre rather than on the field.

Battle-hardened soldiers get promoted. They trade in their swords for sceptres.

As an officer goes through the ranks, it becomes less about his prowess with weapons and more about his command of the battlefield.

Field Marshals take dominion by edicts rather than direct use of weapons. This is why they are given Field Marshal batons as symbols of their authority.

As a mature saint, you must transition from spiritual warfare in the trenches fighting demons to taking dominion over cities, regions and nations.

You must move from the sword to the sceptre.

THE ELIAKIM MANDATE

Thus saith the Lord God of hosts, Go, get thee unto this treasurer, even unto Shebna, which is over the house, and say, What hast thou here? and whom hast thou here, that thou hast hewed thee out a sepulchre here, as he that heweth him out a sepulchre on high, and that graveth an habitation for himself in a rock? Behold, the Lord will carry thee away with a mighty captivity, and will surely cover thee. He will surely violently turn and toss thee like a ball into a large country: there shalt thou die, and there the chariots of thy glory shall be the shame of thy Lord's house. And I will drive thee from thy station, and from thy state shall he pull thee down. And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah: And I will clothe him with thy robe, and strengthen him with thy girdle, and I will commit thy government into his hand: and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to the house of Judah. And the key of the house of David will I lay upon his shoulder; so he shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him as a nail in a sure place; and he shall be for a glorious throne to his father's house. And they shall hang upon him all the glory of his father's house, the offspring and the issue, all vessels of small quantity, from the vessels of cups, even to all the vessels of flagons.

ISAIAH 22:15-24 KJV

In this fascinating passage we see the contrast between mercenary leadership and authentic leadership.

Authentic leadership is fathering leadership. We don't need more "leaders" – more captains, generals, presidents, managers, gurus, mentors and teachers. We need more fathers.

It's not wrong to desire to be a leader but you need to know fathers have no egos. If you need your ego stroked, you are not yet ready to lead.

This man Shebna was a self-seeking opportunist who saw his privileged post as a means of promoting his own importance and lining his own pockets. He had built himself a tomb reserved for very important dignitaries, all to show the world what a bigshot he was.

When you put your own prestige before service, that always results in a ministry of death.

Shebna was thrown out of office and replaced with Eliakim whose name means "God rises" or "God will raise."

Yahweh is in the business of raising genuine leaders. Note that it says He will commit the government into Eliakim's hand and that Eliakim ***shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah.***

Government belongs in the hands of fathers. We see that Eliakim will father both the people and the nation.

This passage is a prophetic message to our times. God will raise up Eliakims to be fathers to nations and their peoples.

This passage contains one of two explicit mentions of the Key of David; the other is in Revelation chapter 3. There are other allusions to this Key in the Bible and it is also written in coded form.

Eliakim had the Key of the House of David placed upon his shoulder. This could have been a symbolic badge or brooch pin, something like that worn by the Hand in Game of Thrones. It may have been an actual master key to the doors of the king's palace.

It is very definitely a Kingdom key for fathers to use (see Revelation 3:7-13). It is a key of dominion in and over the earth.

**For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and
his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The
mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of
Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace
there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and
upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with
judgment and with justice from henceforth even for**

**ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.
ISAIAH 9:6-7 KJV**

What is interesting here in verse 6 is that the government is on the shoulder of Jesus and He is called The Everlasting Father.

In the Kingdom, only fathers get the government - the Key of David – placed upon their shoulder. Every believer has authority over the evil one but there is a maturing that takes us from sword to sceptre, from exercising power over demons to functioning with heavenly Throne Room authority in the earth.

Fathers are matured sons who speak to and have authority over nations. They have the Key of David on their shoulder which is visible in the spiritual world and can even be discerned in the natural, so much so that people bow down to their authority (see Revelation 3:9).

Nations need fathering leaders, not career politicians who seek their own interests or antichrist agendas.

Fathers are those who are of the Order of Melchizedek, matured sons who function as king-priests and share in the sceptre ministry of King Jesus. Fathers are engaged in making the nations a footstool for Jesus. They are the governmental executive that forms an interface between heaven and earth.

Now I am going to say something controversial here. There are fathers in the church who don't qualify for this. The reason is, they won't shift the paradigm; they would rather be stuck in a place where they feel comfortable or where they have ministerial prestige.

The need for prestige is the reason so many destiny scrolls go unfulfilled. That is the gentle way of putting it.

Being a father means your ego is crucified. Some fathers are only known as such in heaven. Being a father to your nation may mean only Yahweh, Jesus and the Holy Ghost knows you as such, along with the angelic and demonic realms.

So I am not really talking about apostolic fathers here, although there can be some crossover. This is not about being known or recognised. These things are nice because affirmation is nice but even that soulish yearning must be crucified.

Even where your function as a father is revealed to others, much of what you do in that capacity will very likely remain hidden, particularly in areas of intercession and ruling from the heavenlies.

Yahweh has fathers hidden right now who He will bring into manifestation at the right time. If you are presently being hidden, don't seek your own revealing. Let your need for prestige die. Fathers don't seek medals.

FATHERING PHARAOH

Something many miss in the story of Joseph is that he functioned as a father to both Egypt and Israel. In fact, Joseph was a father on so many levels and as such this further amplifies his being a powerful type of the Lord Jesus.

So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and Lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.

GENESIS 45:8 KJV

Joseph and Daniel are two biblical examples of God's people who functioned as very high-ranking governmental officials in regimes we would call superpowers of their day.

Joseph is saying here to his brothers that not only is he the right hand man of mighty Egypt's Pharaoh and thus the highest authority in the land under him, he functions as a father to Pharaoh.

Real power is not held by those who have titles and offices but by those who YHWH appoints to father them.

And it must be stressed that this power of fathers in a nation can never be manipulative in any way.

Nations need fathers and national leaders most certainly do.

A major function of fathers over nations is to be counsellors and advisers to kings and government officials. I teach a lot about this in my teaching on Emrys ministry.

The nations are in tumult because their leaders have foolishly abandoned YHWH and His Son (see Psalm 2). What is needed is for governments to turn back to YHWH. We need to see nations break away from the antichrist globalist club and be set-apart sheep nations for YHWH in the earth.

We need Josephs, Daniels and Eliakims to rise up into positions of fathering influence in nations and their halls of power.

Again, it must be emphasised that we are talking here about fathers *to the nation*. We are not necessarily talking about apostolic fathers or fathers in some church structures. Neither are we talking about being a father because you are a certain age or because you are a father figure.

Fathers to the nation are matured sons who function in the Melchizedek Order and have a calling and heart for their nation. Now, this is open to anyone. It's not elitist nor is it an attempt to fashion a new clergy class. Every

believer is called to this but few will position themselves to be chosen.

You'll know if you are being led into this. The clue is you will not be satisfied with church or ministry stuff, not even what others consider radical. You know there's something more. That more is functioning as a king-priest of the Order of Melchizedek. That more is fathering your nation.

MOTHERS

We have looked at fathers in these studies. This has not always been about gender in the natural, although some of the analogies refer to natural fatherhood.

Much of what we are looking at here is referring to fatherhood as a metaphor for maturity. However, there are scriptural references to mothers of nations that women can lay hold of.

And they blessed Rebekah, and said unto her, Thou art our sister, be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them.

GENESIS 24:60 KJV

The appropriate response to this is “Wow!” This is a promise any woman can latch on to, both in terms of natural children and spiritual children. It is an astonishing promise.

Remember that when this woman was pregnant, YHWH told her: “Two nations are in thy womb.”

We must understand that we are called to parent and disciple *nations*.

I Deborah arose... I arose a mother in Israel.

JUDGES 5:7

Deborah was Israel’s national leader at a time of great crisis. It is very telling that she identified as a mother in the nation. There are too many who seek titles and offices. Fathers and mothers are not looking to get

prestige and honour from men. Their satisfaction is in parenting. In many respects, parents go under the radar. They are the hidden ones whose unseen hand guides their children to greatness.

Even although Deborah was a prominent leader, she understood that Israel did not need a power-crazed political and military leader; the nation needed a mother who would take the people in her arms.

Fathers to the nation have some differences to mothers to the nation but essentially it is the same function. Deborah is the example of this.

Sadly, we tend to be trite when we speak of biblical women by saying things like “You are called, like Esther, for such a time as this.” When you ask exactly what women are called to do you might get “Be a Proverbs 31 woman.”

Firstly, very few understand what that really means but more importantly, these tired clichés don’t honour women of God.

Women are also called to disciple nations. We should say that women can father nations, regardless of whether they use that term or prefer “mother.” That is why we use the term “father your nation” referring to maturity rather than gender.

Consider the teachings here to be more about function than gender.

However, if the gender thing matters to you, understand there is scope for that. Nations need mothers as well as fathers.

Look unto...Sarah that bore you.

ISAIAH 51:2 KJV

Sarah is known as the Mother of Nations (Genesis 17:16). Kings of people were to come out of her.

Your destiny as a father or mother is to bring kings into the earth.

HONOUR THY FATHER AND MOTHER

Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.

EPHESIANS 6:1-3 KJV

Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord : look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged. Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

ISAIAH 51:1-2 KJV

One thought I want to leave with you here and it is this: We are to honour both fathers and mothers. In Isaiah 51, it isn't men look to Abraham and women look to Sarah.

Honouring both fathers and mothers is for all of us.

For more teaching on Joseph's function as a father, please see my book: *The Benjamin Company*.

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