

RESTORING THE PRIESTLY ROLE OF INTERCESSION (Part 7)

Out of the Shadows into the Light

God no longer requires us to keep vigil over a fire in a tent or stone temple, but the reality revealed in the principle remains perpetual. The sacrifices we should offer to the Lord as priests and kings includes sacrifices of thanksgiving, praise, worship, unceasing prayer, and the service of intercession. That is why it is necessary for God to issue a call to intercession as a vital part of any effort to restore the priesthood of all believers to His Church. There is no way around it: Every priest of God is called and anointed to pray and intercede.

A prayerless priest isn't a priest. Just as the prayers and intercession of Aaron with the incense and fire from the altar saved the lives of thousands the day Korah rebelled in Numbers 16, so do our prayers and intercession make the difference for people today!

Did you realize that nowhere in the Scriptures is prayer, praise, worship, and intercession technically called a special spirit gift? It's not there - nowhere to be found! Do you know why? It's the right of every priest! God is an equal opportunity employer, and the ministry of prayer and praise is the job description of every authentic priest!

Question to Ponder:

Are you an authentic priest?

Defining Our Terms

According to Merriam-Webster, the word intercede means "to intervene between parties with a view to reconciling differences: mediate." The Latin root words means basically "to go between." The Hebrew word for intercession in the Messianic passage of Isaiah 59:16 is paga. It literally means to "strike the mark."

Throughout the Gospels, we find Jesus disappearing to spend entire nights in fervent prayer before ministering to the masses the following day. He chose to spend His last night before the crucifixion in the garden of Gethsemane - praying.