Chapter 1
Preamble and Introduction

Between 6-3 BC and about 30 AD Yeshua, Jesus was incarnated in the earth realm, lived like a human in order to experience our pain and went to the Cross where He paid the price with His Own blood to secure our redemption. By this sacrifice, Yeshua literarily recovered the Kingdom which Adam lost from Satan. Subsequently, He arose from the dead, conducted a School of Ministry for the disciples for 40 days after which He ascended to heaven bodily (Acts 1:1-4). He was not running away from the earth realm! He had finished His Own part of a divine plan in the earth realm so that those redeemed by His Blood would carry out the remaining to be done. It is unfortunate that for several centuries, saints have been limited by the cloak of religion from understanding the dynamic and exciting plan of Elohim which is written in high definition in the Holy Scriptures.

An extraordinary plan

From a Kingdom perspective, the divine plan featured 4 things Yeshua would do for His Church to assure it victory in prosecuting the Great Commission: 1) Authority in His Name 2). His Abiding Presence, 3) The Holy Spirit to abide within His saints 4) Yeshua's present ministry of Intercession as High Priest.

Authority of His Name

Before He left for Heaven, Yeshua released what can be considered unlimited authority to all who believe on Him along with a cast iron promise of His abiding presence.

> Mark 16:15-20 (KJV) 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name

shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

His Abiding Presence

Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV) 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

The Holy Spirit to abide within His saints

John 14:15-18 (KJV) 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Acts 1:4-8 (KJV) 4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him,

> saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Yeshua's present ministry of Intercession as High Priest

With Holy Spirit in us, Yeshua and His Presence with us, Yeshua had one more extraordinary safety guardrail for His saints in the earth realm: as High Priest of the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, He is Personally engaged in one of the humblest assignments on our behalf at the Highest Seat of Authority, The Throne of Grace.

> Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV) 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

> Hebrews 2:17-18 (KJV) 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.

> Hebrews 6:18-20 (KJV) 18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for

> refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Response of the Saints: The 3 Tools to be exercised in Faith

To tap into the fullness of these divine resources in both the earthly and heavenly realms, Yeshua gave His saints a triple slew of resources called Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare which is to be exercised in Faith. Since there is another work on Faith, this resource presents fresh insights into the subject matter of Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare. The three terms represent specific dimensions of spiritual activity which lead to victory in our earthly walk. When properly understood, practised, and made a lifestyle, both the individual saints and collective Body of Yeshua, Jesus in the earth realm are clothed with His Presence, virtue, and strength. Look at this incredible promise of the power of prayer to the individual saint as well as to the collective:

> Matthew 18:18-20 (KJV) 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

Potential abuses

On the other hand, when this vital ministry and spiritual activity is misused, abused, or wrongly applied the outcome is negative fruit. Today, in several countries, prayer has been turned into sessions of railing at Elohim and instructing Him to do what believers want, no

matter how outlandish or contrary to His expressed will in the Holy Scriptures. Fasting has been misused to imply it is a means to be powerful. In the process, not much care is exercised to ensure adequate protection of the most vulnerable. Spiritual warfare has been turned into charismatic witchcraft sessions where people use 'Holy Ghost Fire' to destroy their 'enemies' with loud boasts when those ungodly prayers, based on the Old rather than New Covenant principles seem to 'work.' The Lord deemed it necessary to grant fresh revelation for balanced spiritual understanding of this vital ministry, as laid out in the Holy Bible. As second edition of a well-received work, we can only hope that it will turn out to be bigger and better even as the Lord has matured our understanding of His Kingdom and its operating principles over the past 7 years since the first edition rolled out.

Assignment: 1. What are the three things Yeshua provided for His saints to walk in victory? 2. What are the three things through which saints can do to walk victoriously indicated in this chapter? 3. Please indicate any other thing(s) you are taking away from this chapter.