

# ***THE COMMANDED BLESSING: RELEASING THE PROMISES OF GOD***

**– GARY WIENS**

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## **INTRODUCTION:**

### **I. HISTORY OF PROPHETIC PROMISE TO GIG HARBOR AND REGION**

- A. Kurt's history with pastors' prayer – Prayer Summit
- B. Faithful saints in Gig Harbor who have prayed and waited

### **II. PERSONAL HISTORY**

- A. Lived here since 2007
- B. Founded and led IHOPNW for 8 years, left in 2016
- C. Impressed by Holy Spirit to begin inter-church worship gatherings, and to honor “the gatekeepers” (city pastors)

### **III. TWO SCRIPTURE PASSAGES THAT WERE HIGHLIGHTED DURING THIS TIME:**

- A. ***Deuteronomy 10:8 (ESV) At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to him and to bless in his name, to this day.***
- B. ***Psalms 133:1-3 (ESV) Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It is like the dew of Hermon which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.***

### **IV. UNPACK THESE PASSAGES JUST A BIT:**

- A. Deut. 10:8
  - 1. Tribe of Levi –
    - a. Priestly tribe for God's people Israel. Prophetic picture of Church *vis a vis* the world
    - b. 1 Peter 2:9 expands this identity to the followers of Jesus – we are the royal priesthood, destined to rule and reign with Jesus as He establishes His Kingdom on the earth.

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2. Priestly Job Descriptions
  - a. Carry the Ark of the Covenant – carriers of the Presence
    - (1) The Word – the Law written on our hearts
    - (2) The Rod of Aaron – the miraculous confirmation of identity and calling
    - (3) The Jar of Manna – the assurance of God’s provision
  - b. Stand before the LORD to minister to Him – Worship!
  - c. Bless in His Name – declaring the blessings of God over people and territory with the authority and power of the Name of Jesus.
  
- B. Psalm 133
  1. The unity of God’s people is a precious thing to Him – focus of Jesus’ prayer in John 17:21-23. Two main results of the unity of the saints
    - a. The world believes that the Father sent Jesus
    - b. The world believes that the Father loves them even as He loves Jesus
  2. This blessing of unity is compared to the anointing oil on the heads of the High Priest. This unity comes primarily through the priestly ministry, not the apostolic or prophetic ministry.
  3. It is like the dew of Hermon falling on the mountains of Zion – interesting phrase because of the significance of Hermon in the Scriptures.
    - a. Situated near Caesarea Philippi, known as a portal for worship of demons
    - b. Known also in Biblical times as “The Gates of Hell”
    - c. Probably the place where Jesus took Peter, James, and John for the transfiguration.
    - d. Extra-biblical literature names Mt. Hermon as the place where fallen angels (“sons of God” – Gen 6:4; c.f. 1 Enoch 6:1-6) descended to earth to take on human appearance and co-habit with human women.

- e. Mt. Hermon is the high place to which the King in the Song of Solomon (a picture of Jesus as the Bridegroom-King of the Church, His Bride) desires to take her to give her prophetic insight and authority (see Song 4:8).
- f. Bottom line re: Mt. Hermon – God intends to transform the spiritual access points of the enemy into strongholds of blessing and power for His people – the “Gates of Hell” not prevailing against the Church.
- g. How? Through the grace of unity among His people!
  - (1) Restored perspective of worship as warfare, not merely personal enjoyment
  - (2) Coming together as the Priests of the Kingdom to minister to the Lord and declare blessings in His Name
  - (3) Making other-centered relationships a priority, especially among pastors and leaders – ref. Philippians 2:1-11