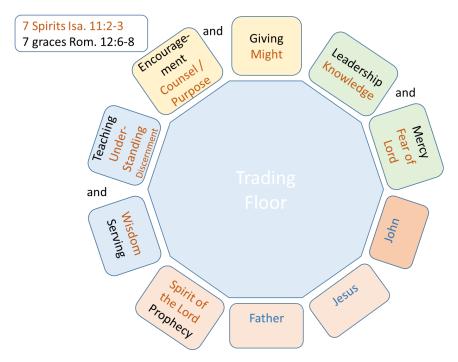
Recovering Spiritual Masculinity

I observed a friend living in Chicago who offered practical suggestions on a face book blog for rising out of poverty. He got verbally attacked and was accused of being a racist for offering wisdom from his own successful life in business. I was surprised at the venom and saw it as the presence of a stronghold. It was all a bit unnerving because his message isn't a lot different than the ideas of serfdom I was feeling to share in Europe.

I put the whole episode on the shelf and went to the council later in the day and just asked the Lord what was on His heart. I asked, "How can we set these captives free?" The setting was my normal picture of the council – a roundtable discussion explained in <u>Seers and Doers</u>.



Wisdom – Don't cast your pearls before swine. People immersed in a stronghold don't want to hear the truth. Their hearts are not released from captivity by practical or intellectual advice which they resent. It sounds like accusations in their hearts, and they receive it as condemnation.

Jesus – People's hearts are bound in captivity and must be set free first. I'm giving you a redemptive key to the Kingdom of Heaven that will help them. See them in the courts and council first and lead their hearts second. Accusations are answered by the blood of the Lamb; repentance, forgiveness, and favor. Standing in the gap on their behalf will change the sound of your words in their hearts.

Holy Spirit – Stand in the gap for those in captivity and release angels to go before you to "SET THE CAPTIVES FREE." The "how" is in courts – dealing with accusations and blood lines with repentance. The "Why" is that these serfs are sons who are called to be seated in heavenly places in the council.

- The larger goal is reformation, opening their seer gift, their nation (Netherlands), books it's fun!
- This access to heaven is for men they are designed to be warriors. They are motived by the goals, strategies, victories, and results. They cannot just live in the process of courts and councils without advancing the Kingdom on earth. I made them this way.

Father – Love people enough to see them in heaven. Understand that I've wired men with testosterone. There must be a balance between their spirit, soul, and body. They cannot just function as spirits alone. Men need all three activated and integrated.

- **Spirit** they can access heaven, see strategies, experience results
- **Soul** they can love, dream, see practical visions, and celebrate victories
- Body They can make things happen, create wealth, receive favor to multiply seed

Give men an apostolic goal (like "<u>All Shall Prosper</u>"). Let them experience great men of God shaping cultures in mountains like <u>Dave Hodgson</u>. Lift their vision high and show them what it looks like and what it feels like. They cannot just be prayed and preached into this experience. They must see it and walk in it.

I heard, "Let no feeble one be found among them" like a corporate goal for men of wisdom to set captives free by imparting the ability to create wealth, not just in the church, but in the nation as well.

Ps 105:37 - He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes. KJV

Courts of heaven – At this point, I heard an accusation, "These men are Eunuchs. They are impotent."

So, I confessed before the Father:

We have not birthed the Kingdom. We have not experienced the romance of heaven. We have not "engaged." Our hearts have been missing in action (MIA) and absent without leave (AWOL). Forgive us, Father, we will raise up sons and daughters. We will "father" reformation in Europe.

Then I saw men enlisting in God's army. I saw them on horses riding up and down enemy lines and charging in a "V" formation. I saw Jesus leading them like a general on a great stallion. I saw them celebrating victories, telling stories of heroism and bravery and conquering.

I saw Jesus telling these men, "I am restoring your seed." He asked a great crowd of soldiers, "Who do you say that I am? They answered in unison with a loud voice, "You are the son of the living God." Then Jesus asked them this question, "Who do I say that you are?" They answered together in the same loud voice, "sons of the living God." Then Jesus said this:

"On this mountain, I will build my ecclesia (warriors)." Everyone understood that sons access the council (mountain). That Jesus was the firstborn of many sons and that He would convene His army in His council before every battle. Then He said, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against you." Everyone knew that their assignment was nations. They are now included in the Fathers business, a battle for the ages. Now there was an uproar among the army. It didn't stop. Angels and the cloud of witness joined in, and it turned to worship that ebbed and flowed and soared. Amazing experience! When men rise up and shout, it has a very different sound, and everyone knew it.

Fear of the Lord – Release the spirit of manhood – of honor. Create a culture of honor. Celebrate exploits, reward bravery and acknowledge victories. Teach your sons the value of being "Men of God" – They all appear before me. Men must have hearts with highways to heaven. They must experience turning Baca (weeping) into a spring. They must be allowed to build and go from strength to strength. They must appear before God in the council and hear "well done" and share in the strategies of heaven.

5 How blessed is the man whose strength is in You, In whose heart are the highways to Zion!

6 Passing through the valley of Baca (weeping) they make it a spring; The early rain also covers it with blessings.

7 They go from strength to strength, every one of them appears before God in Zion. NASU

- **Might** Release David's mighty men. Lead them with a man of war like David. They need the inspiration of examples. Release strength in God's house. Let the prophetic voice of men resound in the temple. Let there be a mighty shout of war and victory in the camp.
- **Knowledge** Let leadership come from men of wisdom and understanding. Let the strategies from heaven's council be voiced in the nations. Let my authority and rule and reign be release on the earth through these men of wisdom and understanding
- **Counsel** Release the purpose in every man's heart. "Is there not a cause?" Men will find Kingdom purpose in their dreams and in their Father's heart. It's the source of their authority and courage.

I came away from this session knowing that it was a preview of things to come. The spirit of manhood is released on the earth. That it's something the Father is doing right now, and we are able to bring it from heaven to earth. It can be prophesied, shown by example and lived in practice.