

# Tower of the gates of England



Rev Jim Smith



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## Introduction

Here is a little about myself. For the first 19 years of my ministry I was curate, vicar and then full-time evangelist with the Church Pastoral Aid Society. Then I began to work in Africa and in the UK. Currently I'm head of mission of the Serving Africa mission and honorary minister to our local Anglican church. I am licenced to the Diocese of Chichester. I have been an Anglican minister for over 55 years. I'm married to Mary we have seven children and many grandchildren.

I have been involved in intercession for over 30 years. I knew little about it when I started but slowly I have managed to get some idea of how it works and of its very special value to the church. The towers intercessory ministry came into being through a four-session prayer meeting which I have described later in this material.

## **Difficult times**

The world is passing through difficult times and they may get more difficult as tyrants and lawless groups get into the ascendancy. The towers ministry is trying to reach those few serious intercessors in different parts of the world who are aware of this situation. My vision is that the towers will give them encouragement and thoughts on which to build deeper intercession in these uncertain times.

If intercession fails it is my conviction that the world will pass into a very dark phase. Intercessors - deep intercessors - are in the position to move the heart of God against what is happening. This is the function of the intercessor. If that function fails then hard times lay ahead. If this happens it will be because the intercessory stream has failed. As part of the intercessory stream that failure will also be mine.

## **How the towers ministry started**

### **Still Waters to la Verna and beyond**

The towers ministry really began 20 years ago. My house is on the top of a hill looking over the South Downs (in the U.K) towards the sea. Early one morning I saw a light high up on the Downs and although I tried to convince myself it was reflection from a windscreen of a car I knew it was not. One of my closest friends, who was very experienced in intercession said that she thought I had seen the light of the Holy Spirit and that we should pray.

Out of that prayer time came the vision of Still Waters - a small intercessory group which would meet to pray. We managed to find four others to join us and one morning we sat in a room with 6 chairs with no idea what to do. Week by week we met and slowly we began to understand how to intercede. Over 2 years we learned a great deal - almost all by experience.

That group eventually closed and I began to read and study the great intercessors of the last thousand years. I thought I had completed what I had to do, then one day the Lord said to me - "I want you to go to Geneva." So I went but I couldn't understand why. Standing one day outside the headquarters of the International Red Cross buildings, which are based in Geneva, the Lord said to me, "They started small and your intercession experience is small. But like them you will grow. Follow the thread I will show you throughout Europe."

Over the next years I visited many holy places in Europe and at each place my intercessory experience did grow. Finally after many years I came to La Verna. This is the mountain about two hours from Florence where Saint Francis received the stigmata. There was a monastery there and in it was the "Chapel of the stigmata". I knelt there for an hour in prayer. "Now," said the Lord, "I have told you what you need to know about intercession. Wait for my command."

The years passed and I had almost forgotten this experience when in response to the situation in Gaza I started a four-night prayer series on the internet and from that the towers ministry began to grow.

## **History of the towers**

When the war between Israel and Gaza broke out in 2023/4, I was working on my mission base in Ghana. I held a four-session prayer time over a month for this war. About 10 people joined me online and 35 on catchup. As the prayer times began, I became aware that something unusual was happening during them and especially at the last one. During that prayer time the Lord told us that he was going to stand in the middle of the conflict area and asked which of us would stand with him. “We need a tower of intercession,” I said. “Who will occupy it with the Lord?” As so often in intercession I did not know what I was really asking for. Some of the group said they would stand in the tower. I thought that was the end of it. I was soon to discover it was far from the end of it.

During the subsequent weeks the Lord began to show me that a tower of intercession was a very strong spiritual presence, and that the tower in the Middle East would last until he returned. I asked him if there were any other such towers, and quickly he showed me many. Each one had a specific name reflecting its function. I know where some of them are but not all. I know that at this time I haven’t identified all of them.

## **Early one morning**

I woke up in the early hours of one morning and the atmosphere in my room was one I had never experienced before. There was utter stillness – a stillness which I could almost feel. I sat there wondering what was happening. Then the Lord spoke to me and said, “I’m going to show you a worldwide network of intercession. You must act!”

While I was thinking about this during the next few days, the towers of intercession began to show themselves - Singapore and Hawaii being some of the first ones. This was a new experience for me. I could not understand how someone with no influence, no power and little financial resource could in any way influence a worldwide ministry. I didn't choose this path. The Lord opened it for me.

## **Intercession inside a tower**

As the towers began to show themselves to me, I had to learn what life might be like for an intercessor who entered them. Here is what I have discovered so far. I have divided what I have learned into seven areas, although there may be more and they do overlap.

- \* Hard prayer.**
- \* Pouring out of self.**
- \* Setting of the heart.**
- \* The heart of worship.**
- \* The pain of the heart.**
- \* The struggle.**
- \* The victory.**



## Hard prayer

I want to begin with this very challenging picture.

*I came to a fence and beyond it was a house. I crossed the fence and looked into the house. I saw people praying but praying with an intensity that I had never seen before. They were in an agony of prayer. Their bodies were twisted up and they were crying out with such anguish. They were hurting, being hurt, broken and being broken by the intensity of their prayer. Standing in the middle of the group I saw the Lord. Their prayer was flowing into him, and out of him into them. This went on and on and on.*

*A voice said to me - "These are the ones who pray for the nations. They bear the damage to the Lord and he bears it with them. Then he returns the burden surrounded by his blood, so that they can bear some more."*

At the outset, the Lord sets the standard that he expects of intercession. It's very high – Calvary high. It's an intertwining of his passion with the human spirit. This is tough because the human spirit was never designed to bear such a heavy burden.

## Pouring out of self

**Intercessors must walk** a very hard path. To enter this path calls for great sacrifice. The great sacrifice which the Lord asks from those who walk this path is that they will allow self to die. This is the decision they have to make - to live, as "I" or to die as "Him."

Those who walk the intercessory path of the Towers have to choose to make the sacrifice of surrendering self, of pouring out of self that the Lord might be all.

Other sacrifices follow, but not until this supreme surrender is made. I received these words many years ago and they are a profound challenge to self. Only those who can accept this can enter the towers. Can we?

**Many set out to become Intercessors, but they only want roses. When I tell them that roses cannot heal the wounds in my heart, they are sad, and they turn back.**

**You must join me on the cross. You must share my pain, make it your pain, suffer with me. Then together, we can turn to my creation, and allow its agony to become ours.**

**For the suffering we must suffer. For the broken we must break, for the crushed we must be crushed, for the angry we must release love, for the arrogant we must yield humility, for the desperate we must hope, for the sick we must release healing, for the dying we must die.**

**For the confusion of the world, we must share the confusion. For the violence of the world we must absorb, for the spite of the world we must sooth, for the prisoners we must offer release. The agony of the cross will be our healing oil, but only if we are able to face and absorb creation's agony.**

**This is what I invite intercessors into. There are other ways offered to you, but they will fail you. Only by entering into what I have endured, only by sharing it with me can hope flower again.**

This is the invitation to Intercessors – the invitation to crucifixion. Few take it.

## **The setting of the heart**

Here is my vision -

*I came to a beautiful building. It was called "The House of Greater Love." Each of the rooms of this house had names. Joy, praise, healing, forgiveness, hope and many more. I longed to enter each one, but I was led deeper into the house, and the further I went, the stronger grew the glory around me. Worship filled the air.*

*I came to the heart of the house, which was the presence of the Lord. The Lord reached out his hands to me. "Beloved," he said, "come into my love." His love poured on me and in it were diamonds and rainbows, deep seas and sunsets, the eternal depth of heaven, the love of a husband for his wife and a mother for her child. This deeper love sang a song so beautiful that my spirit was filled with loveliness. I sank into the deeper love.*

## My comment

**The struggle in the towers is surrounded by and enfolded with love.** This is hard to understand. Those in the towers cannot just deal with one experience at a time. It is a multi-layered intercessory experience. The struggle and the hardship which are the mark of intercessory prayer have to be experienced at the same time as love which is the sign of the Lord's presence. Intercessors are like the Seraphim - on fire with the love of God. Intercessors drink from the well of his love and they can never drink enough. There is such a passion for his love. It flows from all the hours spent at Calvary. It's a balance for all the pain which has to be shared.

## The heart of worship

Here is my vision -

*I came to a place of great stillness. Nothing was moving. There was a deep silence. An angel said, "We have come to a deep place of the Holy Spirit. We have come into the heart of God." Waves of divinity swept over me. Each one had a name. "Peace which passes all understanding." "Love which enfolds." "Hope filled with purpose." "Healing beyond words." "I gave my life for you." "More precious than diamonds." I was filled with these wonders, and I knelt down to worship.*

## **My comment**

Worship is love on its knees before the Beloved. Worship is allowing all of the Lord to flow into the heart. Worship is two hearts seeking each other and when they meet the heartbeat of his creation flows through and adorns him with majesty.

Once in the spirit I found myself standing beside a very deep chasm. "Jump in," said the Lord. I jumped and fell and fell deeper and deeper into his love. It pressed on me and against me and into my spirit more and more. The deeper I fell the greater the pressure of his love on me. I cried out, "If this continues I will die, crushed by the intensity of your love."

Then I realised that's just what I wanted. I wanted to fall forever into this unfathomable love and never return to the earth. This is where those who intercede in the towers will come to eventually - deciding to surrender to this love that they may be whole.

## **The pain of the heart**

Here is my vision –

*I was walking on a road filled with thorns. Every step I took was painful because the thorns pierced my feet. I wanted to stand still, but ahead of me I saw the Lord, and he was calling me to himself. But to get to him, I had to walk on the thorns, and I did not want to do that.*

*I saw a child, laying in the road, deep in the thorns, bleeding and crying. I was shocked. "How did you come to be here?" I asked. "Help me," it sobbed. "No one comes to help me."*

*The Lord did not speak. The child cried, and the cross called me. I lifted the child and in great agony of spirit, I turned and walked towards the Lord. The journey was endless. The pain hurt, but the sorrow of the child hurt more and began to overcome my own sufferings.*

*I finally arrived, full of pain. "Take the child," I cried. "Now you can heal." "No," said the Lord. "It is not so easy as that. You must continue to bear the child, day after day. You must bear the burden day after day. You must release the compassion day after day. Do you think you can put down your suffering? I suffer day after day for the heartbreak of my children. If you truly want to share my sufferings, you must do the same."*

### **My comment**

In the towers there is real pain and agony. This is because the sacrifice of the Lord and his deep compassionate heart is being rejected by those for whom he died. This is easy to write but very hard to bear day by day. Yet it is a burden which cannot be put down if intercession in the towers is going to be effective.

## The struggle - Gethsemane

Towers intercession is a bitter struggle. It's the struggle to Calvary, to bear the pain and love of Calvary and within that to intercede. Archbishop William Temple once said that the closer he got to God the more of a sinner he felt. Reflecting on these words, aware of my own sinfulness I came across these words -

**"Only those of the purest eyes can look upon his divinity, those who have risen up beyond lowly works and earthly thoughts and have gone off with him to the highest mountain of solitude."** (John Cassian)

*I was in the spirit, and I saw a column of glass, coming towards me. It was so pure that its purity frightened me. Closer and closer it came, until the purity of the column touched my soul, and I felt so ashamed, so sinful, so unworthy. I cried out to the Lord, "What is happening?" The Lord said, "Only as you become purer, as your heart becomes purer can you come closer and closer."*

I want to be a mirror. So that when the glory of the Lord shines on me, it will be reflected back to him. Then when he looks at me, he will see himself. But how can this be? I am so impure, so full of weakness, sin and failure. The intercessory teachers of the past would say that this feeling is the beginning of deep intercession. They teach that such awareness of imperfection is essential if intercessors are to kneel before the Lord. Without it, they will never gain access to the deepest places of the spiritual world, and never intercede from within his heart.

## **Victory**

**And God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light.**  
(Genesis 1:3)

**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”**  
(Matthew 28:20)

**Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, “Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?” But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it.**

**I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. Then one of the elders said to me, “Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals.”** (Revelation 5:1-6)

The pressure of the enemy on the intercessors and the towers is huge. Intercessors have to learn to bear this pressure and within it exercise their ministry. The battle has already been won. It was God at the beginning who called for light. It was Jesus who won the authority over all things on the cross and it is Jesus who has triumphed. It is the Spirit which empowers intercession.



In the middle of the battle when the task seems so large and the enemy so strong it's easy to forget that victory belongs to the Lord. Authority was his, is his and remains his forever. For his own reasons he still allows the enemy to move but he moves within the victory of the Lord.

### **Here is my vision of victory and encouragement.**

*I came to a place in heaven where there were many clouds. "What are these clouds?" I asked. "They are your encouragement," said the Lord. As I stood still, the clouds began to pass over me.*

*The first cloud rained down glory on me and I lifted my hands to praise the Lord. "This cloud comes on those who worship," said the Lord, "and changes their worship into pure glory."*

*The second cloud rained down silver on me. I felt the purity of the Lord's heart. I saw how much I needed to be changed to be like him and I knew it would be costly, but I wanted it. I wanted the purity because I knew that with it I could serve him better. "This cloud comes on those who seek me with all their hearts," said the Lord. "They receive their heart's desire which is to become more like me."*

*The third cloud rained down stillness on me. As it touched me, my fears and anxieties were calmed and I knew that the Lord was in control of all the events and circumstances of my life. "This cloud comes to those who are troubled and disturbed," said the Lord. "I stand in the gap for them, and they can rest in my certainties."*

*The fourth cloud rained down mercy on me. I felt a great sense of release and freedom. I knew that the Lord would never leave me. "This cloud comes to those who feel worthless and of no purpose" said the Lord. "It reassures them of their place in my heart."*

*The fifth cloud rained down comfort on me. My many sorrows which weighed me down were shared by the Lord. "This cloud flows from very deep within my heart," said the Lord. "I long to comfort those who have no comfort and are lost in their sorrows and despairs."*

*The sixth cloud rained down healing on me. My sicknesses were taken away and in the new strength which it gave, I rose up to serve him. "This cloud causes great rejoicing in heaven," said the Lord.*

*The seventh cloud rained down victory on me. In the cloud I saw the triumph of the Lord, and I was encouraged.*

## **A pattern of intercession**

I'm often asked - "Is there a pattern of intercession which I can use?" Here is my pattern when I am setting aside a specific time to intercede.

**\* I leave all my burdens and requests at the door of the intercessory room.** These things are precious, and the Lord teaches that all requests be made known to him. But that does not apply here. They will only get in the way. Leave them outside and pick them up on the way out.

**\* Control the brain!** The Bible teaches that spirit speaks to spirit and the physical mind has no part of this. It cannot understand spiritual things. It will keep interrupting - "You did not lock the car. You forgot to order the bread. Where are your glasses?" I let all these things run through my mind for a few minutes. This gets them out the way. Then I say this, which looks unusual in writing but works for me - "Brain, I appreciate you greatly and I will need you later to help me analyse what I have seen and felt. But for now please sit at the back of my head run my body and let me alone."

**\* Spend some time reflecting on the cross.** This helps me tune my spirit into spiritual things. Sometimes I read chapters 14 and 15 from Mark's gospel, or reflect on a picture. I do whatever it takes to focus my mind on the cross which is the way forward into deeper into deeper intercession.

**\* Then I am ready to intercede.** This is how I see it. The Lord is already interceding to the Father. Hebrews 7 teaches that he lives to intercede for his people. I want to get into that flow, stand beside the Lord and share it with him. In this way my intercession is God-centred and not “me” centred. The Lord adjusts his intercession so that I am able to enter into it and begin to intercede for the things he wants me to intercede for.

## **Tower of the gate of England**

The gates were an important part of any ancient city. They were the only way of passing through the wall and were normally closed at night. They were important places of meeting. Much of the business of the city was done there (Ruth 4:11). The word “gate” is sometimes associated with power, dominion or control. God promised and instructed Abraham that his subsequent generations should possess the gates of their enemies, their towns, and their fortress (Genesis 22:17). Jesus taught that the gates of hell would not prevail against the church (Matthew 16:18).

What spiritual gates may be part of the history and life of the UK? How might intercessors come to know them, protect them and use them?

## 1. Spiritual background

The Lord has his eyes on the gates of the spiritual world. He made this clear to Peter -

**“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”**

(Matthew 16:18)

The gates are spiritual places where blessings come in and evil is kept out. Watchfulness is needed in them as King Jehoiada understood - **He also stationed gatekeepers at the gates of the Lord’s temple so that no one who was in any way unclean might enter.**

(2 Chronicles 23:19)

Open gates must be protected and guarded against the enemy. Good spiritual things must be let in but evil spiritual things must be kept out. If even one gate is unprotected, the enemy will gain a foothold. Guarding them is the task of the church and within the church the task is given especially to the intercessors.

### **Satan aims to destroy the gates**

In his commission to Peter Jesus made this danger very clear -

**“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”**

“Overcome” means “to prevail, to be superior, to overcome”. The enemy is very determined. It is violent, deceitful, blinding, insidious and murderous.

**Violent:** When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. (Matthew 2:16)

**Deceitful:** Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God really say, ‘You must not eat from any tree in the garden’?” (Genesis 3:1)

**Blinding:** “The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel that displays the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.” (2 Corinthians 4:4)

**Insidious:** “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’ ‘An enemy did this,’ he replied.” (Matthew 13:24-8)

**Murderous:** Then he took his firstborn son, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a sacrifice on the city wall. The fury against Israel was great; they withdrew and returned to their own land. (2 Kings 3:27)

Satan is determined to enter the gates that he might destroy the nation. When he is ruling the nation he can challenge the Lord's authority over all things. Then he can begin to fulfil his deepest desire which is to return to heaven and be God.

### **Costly struggle**

Intercession in the Gates tower is going to be costly. Intercessors have only to look to Hannah to learn this. For Hannah, intercession was her very life. She interceded from great need to meet a great need. She shows the way. **In her deep anguish Hannah prayed to the Lord, weeping bitterly**

Hannah was weeping from deep within her suffering. From such deep places, prayer flows with a great intensity. Hannah's prayer was urged on by her suffering. The Lord is asking today's intercessors to do the same - to cry from within their sufferings. I have noticed that the most effective intercessors are those who have suffered. Then they can easily identify the Lord's suffering. Hannah wept bitter tears. Tower intercessors must do the same.

Hannah was disturbed very deeply in her heart at what was happening to her. **“I am a woman who is deeply troubled. I have not been drinking wine or beer.”** The Lord is also deeply troubled by what is happening to his world. Few seem to care too much for the world. The lands are not safe. Unfaithfulness, a foolish dependence on prosperity and an arrogant abandonment of godliness –these are not the marks of a safe world.

The Lord is deeply troubled and the intercessors in the towers must be equally disturbed and distressed by the situations that they are seeing. The pain of the world must become their pain as it has become the Lord's pain. Deep intercession demands giving the whole heart into the Lord's distress. This is extremely costly for the intercessor, and yet at the same time a privilege beyond words.

This is the heart of Hannah's prayer. **“I was pouring out my soul to the Lord.”** She was giving her very life to move the heart of God. She was giving everything. This was her - **“I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint.”** (Psalm 22:14)

Hannah's outpouring of tears came from her broken heart. A broken heart gives entry into a spring, a river, an ocean of tears – tears which can be used to cry for the nation. Many have never understood this fact. They have broken hearts without knowing that this is the heart which can reach out to God's broken heart and serve it.



## 2. Background teaching for the gates

What is the theological and doctrinal background to the gates tower? Here are some ideas which will give intercessors a foundation on which to work.

\* The Lord has power in every gate.

**And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.** (Matthew 16:18) “Overcome” here translates “superior in strength.” Jesus is the Stronger one. (Mark 3:27)

\* The Lord can open every gate which tries to resist God’s people.

**When they had passed the first and second guard, they came to the iron gate that leads into the city, which opened for them by itself; and they went out and went along one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.** (Acts 12:10)

\* God’s people have the authority in the gates.

**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”** (Matthew 28:18)

\* Blessings flow through the gates.

**Open to me the gates of righteousness; I shall enter through them, I shall give thanks to the Lord.** (Ps 118:19)

### 3. England

The enemy hates England for what it has done for the Lord in the past. He fears what it might do for the Lord in the future. The enemy has gained access at many levels. Here is an old prophecy which might indicate the challenge to intercessors - and their opportunity.

#### **\* England has not guarded its gates**

“Yet you have compromised yourselves. You have been willing to lie down with the snake, saying, “We will be safe in the den of the serpent.” And so you have been robbed of your power. The serpent has stolen your power. You have become tarnished, as blind as those you were meant to save. You do not see the poor. You do not hear the cry of the unloved. You do not stand with the oppressed. You do not speak out against injustice. You side with the powerful, saying, “These will protect us.”

The enemy has managed to release spirit of compromise which has weakened the power of the once great Christian land. “Choose who you will serve” was the message Joshua laid before the people. Those who are interceding in the gates will see that the purity of faith and the deep commitment of God's people is lacking. The enemy has taken advantage of this lapse. This is going to be a tough challenge.

## **\* Hope still exists**

“See I am going to do a great thing. All power is mine. Heaven and earth are mine.

I control all things. Nothing is outside my power, for I am the Lord. As the rain falls from heaven and waters the earth, giving life, refreshing and cleansing – so I am going to pour out my cleansing power on you my people, so that you may be prepared vessels to show my glory.”

Against the background of compromise the Lord's love for the land still shines out.

**It is permanent** - “The Lord appeared to us in the past, saying: ‘I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.’” (Jeremiah. 31:3)

**It is unbreakable** - “How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I treat you like Admah? How can I make you like Zeboiim? My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused.” (Hosea 11:8)

**It is profoundly deep** - “This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.” (1 John 4:10) This loving God is going to do a “great” thing.

This will strengthen the intercessors as they pray in the gates.

The task for Intercessors in this tower is becoming fairly clear. If this word is of God, they will have to resist satanic accusation, seek for forgiveness and open the way for revival.

#### **4. What gates are vulnerable?**

This is for intercessors to discover as they intercede from the top of the tower. Reflecting on the prophecy above it would seem that compromise, the loss of spiritual power and vision, the pursuit of self and personal satisfaction, the loss of biblical principle and the loss of confidence in the Lord are all areas which the gates have failed. The church has failed to protect the spiritual life of the nation, and the enemy has found entry through these and many other gates.

This corruption of spirituality and morality is the result of the failure of the intercessors to watch and guard. Why has this happened? The intercessors are the lamps of God – so precious and so necessary. They are often alone, often isolated and ignored, their intercession unseen by any but the Lord. But they are vital to the future of God's people everywhere. If intercession fails the gates are very vulnerable. If intercession has failed England why has this happened?

In my prayers, I saw a large desert. It was barren and lifeless. The Lord said to me, "Dig," so I took a spade and began to dig. After a while, I uncovered hundreds of lamps. They were all broken. They had not shone any light for years. "What is this?" I asked. The Lord said, "Once they were my intercessors. They shone but now they are lost."

Some intercessors just got weary and tired. Some - maybe many intercessors have just given up. They have had so many years with nothing to show for their intercession, and then one day they just did not have the energy to carry on.

Some intercessors had no support at all. No one seemed to care so they just stopped. Some intercessors - maybe many - have been destroyed by the Church. Jeremiah the Prophet faced this pressure. The leaders of God's people did this - **They lowered Jeremiah by ropes into the cistern; it had no water in it, only mud, and Jeremiah sank down into the mud.** (Jeremiah 38:4-6) Many intercessors have been so attacked, ridiculed and judged by God's people that they have been pushed into the muddy pit, never to rise again.

Some intercessors - maybe many - have been crushed by the enemy. Despair, hopelessness, sickness, financial trouble, problems at work and home - have broken their willingness to intercede. The Bible tells us this about Satan - "The Thief comes to kill and steal and destroy." (John10:10) Satan has, effectively, killed many streams of intercession. Some intercessors have survived. They hid themselves away. They refused to be beaten down. They refused to yield. These have kept a tiny flame flickering – but they are few.

**A few have survived. It is into the hands of these few that this material is given.**

## Rooms in the Gates tower

As I have studied the towers and have tried to understand their character I have used the picture of rooms. These rooms equip the intercessors for their work from the top of the tower. Teresa of Avila also did this in her book "The interior castle."

### Door

These words are written on the door, and they have already been mentioned in this material. They are the obvious ones but they should set the minds of the intercessors in the right direction. **"And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it."** (Matthew 16:18)

### Gates room - denying and claiming

Intercessors who are going to fight in the gate begin by being strengthened in these two areas -

#### Denying Satan

**The Lord said to Satan, "The Lord rebuke you, Satan! The Lord, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?"** (Zechariah 3:2)

**But even the archangel Michael, when he was disputing with the devil about the body of Moses, did not himself dare to condemn him for slander but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"** (Jude 1:9)

In these two verses, Satan is denied whatever he wants. By standing firm in faith and victory intercessors are able to deny him access. He is used to getting access. It is time to remind him that the Lord is the stronger one.

**“When someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armour in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder.” (Luke 11:22)**

**Claim the Lord’s authority**

**“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” (Matthew 28:18)**

No matter how much the enemy whispers, intercessors have the authority in the gates. Any statement to the contrary is a lie and the enemy is a consummate liar. It is time to establish the victory of the cross. God's people and God's people of alone have authority in the gates.

### **Gates room - Lift high the cross**

**When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having cancelled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. (Colossians 2:13-15)**

Victory is in the cross. These old words are powerful - *Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.* These are the areas where the cross can and must be lifted -

### **The cross has power**

When the cross is lifted over a nation things can happen. Impossible circumstances can be turned round. Strong enemies can be defeated. Huge advances can take place. If intercessors have the courage to lift the cross over situations that are desperate, then anything is possible. There is amazing power in the cross. It releases people and situations. **“So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”** (John 8:36)

The power of the cross is a key. It opens the prison doors and lets the prisoners out. One terrorist who had been fighting and killing for years said this: - “I have fought for decades to set my people free from tyranny. I thought violence was the way. But when I read the Bible, and saw the power of the cross. I gave my life to Jesus. Now I know what true freedom is!”

It breaks every curse. **“Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.”** (Galatians 3:13) No chains are left. Curses - old and new - are broken forever and the enemy has no further hold over the nation.



Watchman Nee tells this story. "One day the enemy came to accuse a man of many sins and failings. But as he began to accuse and curse, the Lord came to stand beside the man. "What are you accusing me of?" he asked. "What are your curses against me?" "Not you," said the enemy, "but that sinner who is standing beside you." "No," replied the Lord. "It doesn't work like that. He is mine, so it is me you have to accuse and curse. What were you saying again?" The enemy withdrew, defeated. He knew he could not accuse the one who had shed his blood to break every curse.

It opens new ways. "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." (John 14:6) The cross not only opens the prison doors, it leads into new pathways where a nation can be healed and set free to serve.

It makes us conquerors. **"Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross."** (Colossians 2:15)

A Priest came to his new Parish. As he talked to one man, suddenly a strange voice came out of the man. "We control this town," it said. The Priest was amazed. He had never heard such a thing before. "I am going to preach the blood of cross," the Priest said, "And you will be defeated." "We know," the voice replied. "That is what we are afraid of." By the power of the cross, we can take back the land which the enemy has stolen.

The power of the cross is as strong as every intercessor who stands in the power of the cross is strong.

## Gates room - worship

Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!” The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshipped. (Revelation 5:13-14)

Intercessors need to worship. Why is worship so powerful?

**\* Worship lifts the name.** (Philippians 2:9-11)

The enemy hates the sound of worship. It reminds him of what he has lost and will never have again, however much he attacks in the gates. This one word from Jesus crushes him. **“Worship the Lord your God and him alone.”** (Matthew 4:10)

**\* Worship lifts the authority of the Lord.** (Matthew 28:20)

The enemy claims authority - “All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast—all whose names have not been written in the Lamb’s book of life, the Lamb who was slain from the creation of the world.” (Revelation 13:8)

But he does not want to be reminded of this - **“When a strong man, fully armed, guards his own house, his possessions are safe. But when someone stronger attacks and overpowers him, he takes away the armour in which the man trusted and divides up his plunder.”** (Luke 11:21-22)

**\* Worship breaks the enemy. (1 Samuel 7:8-11)**

The enemy had planned to destroy Israel at Mizpah, but worship broke him -

**The people said to Samuel, “Do not stop crying out to the Lord our God for us, that he may rescue us from the hand of the Philistines.” Then Samuel took a suckling lamb and sacrificed it as a whole burnt offering to the Lord. He cried out to the Lord on Israel’s behalf, and the Lord answered him.**

**While Samuel was sacrificing the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to engage Israel in battle. But that day the Lord thundered with loud thunder against the Philistines and threw them into such a panic that they were routed before the Israelites. The men of Israel rushed out of Mizpah and pursued the Philistines, slaughtering them along the way to a point below Beth Kar.**

**\* Worship establishes the throne. (Revelation 5)**

**Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying: “Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and praise!”**

**Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honour and glory and power, for ever and ever!”**

**The four living creatures said, “Amen,” and the elders fell down and worshipped. (Revelation 5:7-14)**

Intercessors in this gate need to be strong and worship will make them strong.

### **Gates room - repentance**

Unrepentance has to be dealt with to free the gates.

Unrepentance has been around for a long time. Lamech, a descendant of Cain showed no sign of repentance at what Cain did or at what he himself had done. His unrepentance has rolled down the generations and damages England today.

**Then Lamech said to his wives: “Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; Wives of Lamech, listen to my speech! For I have killed a man for wounding me, even a young man for hurting me. If Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, then Lamech seventy-sevenfold.” (Genesis 24:23-4)**

Unrepentance has to be removed and the rebellion ended. Intercessors in this gate will have to be profoundly aware of the unrepentant nature of the nation. They will have to draw that unrepentant spirit into themselves and bring it to the Lord to be broken. It can be done.

## **Here is my vision.**

I saw the lamps of many churches being taken away. Those churches lost their power. As I watched, I saw the Lord standing in the room where I was praying. He was holding a lamp with a different light inside it. The light was called **“repentance and the broken heart.”** I saw many angels also standing, holding the lamps.

Everyone waited quietly, and then one person stepped forward and took one of the lamps with the flame of repentance and the broken heart. They placed the lamp on the ground and a few people gathered round it. The light shone, and the people began to feel the brokenness of the nation.

One by one they came forward, and the light of repentance burnt into them, and they were in pain. They laid things before the lamp – things which had to be released before the light of repentance could begin to burn in them.

Tears poured down and became a small trickle which ran towards the feet of Jesus. His tears ran and mixed with the tears of the people. He began to intercede in Gethsemane pain. “Father,” he cried “have mercy.”

## **Gates room - revival**

Revival is needed and possible. These words are from writing about the Hebridean revival which will encourage the intercessors in this tower as they pray for revival.

“I want to say this, and I say it on the authority of this Book, yes, God will [bring revival] again when He finds a church He can trust; when He finds a man whom he can trust with revival. God found men in Lewis – I have no hesitation in saying that – men whom He could trust.”

“I believe that when God finds the clean hands and the pure heart we shall see springs in the desert and rivers in the dry places. My dear people, let us get on our faces before God and pray that He may yet visit us in mercy and that we, His people, may once again ascend the hill of God and stand in His holy place. May God grant it.”

### **Will God revive?**

The writer of Psalm 85 tries to answer this question and gives intercessors some material on which to think and pray.

**Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? Show us your unfailing love, Lord, and grant us your salvation.** (Psalm 85:6)

What is the Psalmist asking for?

The Septuagint and Vulgate help here, translating “Will you not revive us again” as **“Returning, wilt thou not give us life?”** The word revive means **“to live; to cause to live.”** and the idea is that of recovering from a condition of death.

One writer puts it like this -

“Everything among them was like such a winter, when there is neither leaf, nor flower, nor grass, nor fruit; or like such a drought, when desolation is seen everywhere; or like the grave, where the dead repose. The image of spring, after a long and dreary winter, is one also which will properly describe the condition of the church when the influences of the Spirit have been long withheld, and when, under the visitations of grace, religion seems to live again among the people of God.”

### **Does the Lord want to revive and what will he do?**

Here are the promises in this Psalm for intercessors to build on. (The bold type is mine.)

\* You, Lord, showed **favour** to your land you **restored** the fortunes of Jacob.

\* You **forgave the iniquity** of your people and **covered all their sins**.

\* You **set aside all your wrath** and turned from your fierce anger.

\* **Restore us** again, God our Saviour, and put away your displeasure toward us. Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger through all generations Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

This promise was revealed again at Pentecost -

**Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1-4)**

I had this vision while I was working in Ghana. A woman wanted to boil her pot to cook vegetables. She had wood but no fire. She went to a friend and took a red hot charcoal in her tongs and carried it to her fire. She had to carry the red hot charcoal carefully so she kept it low to the ground. As she moved along the ground everywhere the charcoal touched the grass it caught fire.

Intercessors have the power to pray that the fire of the spirit will move and the grass will catch alight.

**TOP**

**Pass through, pass through the gates! Prepare the way for the people. Build up, build up the highway! Remove the stones. Raise a banner for the nations. (Isaiah 62:10)**

As intercessors begin their ministry having passed through the tower, here is a verse to reflect on as they look for the gates and try to break them and retake them:-

**\* Pass through** has the meaning of “Enter.” Intercessors have the right to enter and retake the gates.



\* **Prepare the way.** Intercessors need to break every covenant, every witchcraft, every curse and every sin, especially the sins of our Fathers.

\* **Build up the highway** of intercession, sacrifice, and worship. These are the “stones” of the gates.

\* **Raise a banner.** Intercessors proclaim the Lordship of Jesus over every gate.

### **Prophetic framework**

Here is an old prophecy for England which might make a helpful framework for intercessors. They need to pray into it and reflect on it.

See I am going to do a great thing. All power is mine. Heaven and earth are mine.

I control all things. Nothing is outside my power, for I am the Lord. As the rain falls from heaven and waters the earth, giving life, refreshing and cleansing – so I am going to pour out my cleansing power on you my people, so that you may be prepared vessels to show my glory.

For indeed you need cleansing. You have so disappointed me. I placed you as a light to the nations. I longed that you might shine like the stars, a sign of my glory. Yet you have compromised yourselves. You have been willing to lie down with the snake, saying, “we will be safe in the den of the serpent.” And so you have been robbed of your power.

The serpent has stolen your power. You have become tarnished, as blind as those you were meant to save. You do not see the poor. You do not hear the cry of the unloved. You do not stand with the oppressed. You do not speak out against injustice. You side with the powerful, saying, “these will protect us.”

Now my people, I demand that you turn from your ways of compromise. Open your eyes, lift up your heads, see what you have become and open your hearts to me afresh. Be sorrowful, fast and pray, seek me with all your heart and I will purify you. For you are my bride, my beloved. I cannot abandon you. I will cleanse you. It will be painful for you – great pain – but this will be a blessing, and I will revive you and bless your land.

## **Encouragement for intercessors**

Here are a few visions which I hope will encourage intercessors as they begin or continue their task.

### **Hope of new beginnings**

**I saw a huge reservoir, but it was broken and empty.** The people were crying out for water and grieving that their dam was broken. “What is this?” I asked the Lord. “Who broke the dam?” Tears streamed down the Lord’s face, but he gave me no answer. Then I knew that his people, had broken this dam and lost the life-giving water.

As I watched a few people came with old tools and began to try and rebuild the dam. It was a slow job, because they were few and their tools were old. But they were strong old tools which had been used many times in the past for this job.

As they worked, they were filled with sorrow at the loss of the water and the destruction of the dam. What they did not see as they worked was tiny drops of rain beginning to fall, forming a tiny lake in the reservoir. This reservoir had a name. "Hope of new beginnings."

### **Spring of life**

I came to a spring of pure water, bubbling up from the ground. Many people came to it, hoping for some encouragement. I dipped my finger into the water and felt the power of life flowing in the spring. I did not just see water, but healing, new beginnings and love.

At the spring, a great silence flowed and within it eternity settled into my heart. Peace took my hand and led me to the deep places of the Spirit. I saw a garden, perfect in every way. The Lord walked in the garden and around him was Peace. It was the Peace which was before eternity and after it.

This living Peace stretched out towards me. Its touch was so gentle. It spread through my spirit and I was totally engulfed. The Peace took my hand and drew me to Jesus. Like a tributary running into the sea, I poured into him and was lost in his love and at the same time found forever.

I cried tears of longing and belonging, yet in this moment I saw a new beginning, a new wholeness of rejoicing and being. I saw glorious beings, whole and free, moving perfectly at the command of the Spirit. New views opened, of a country almost beyond my comprehension. I heard only one word - "Glory", and at this, the beings fell down to worship. I knew that at this moment I was also at my new beginning.

## **Freedom!**

I saw huge columns of fire shooting up into the air. In the columns I saw the word "freedom". But a strong wave came, and it pulled the fire down. The hope of freedom grew smaller. Then the Lord spoke to me:-

"Who will guard the fire? Who will turn the wave away, so that the light of the fire can illuminate the lands around? The enemy has tried to destroy the fire again and again. He wants it extinguished for good, so that it is not spread. Who will guard it, so that it can burn on down the generations?"

## **The hill**

I was standing on a hill, and I saw a great figure towering over the landscape – a beautiful figure, which I sensed was Jesus. He was pointing to the north, to the south, and to the east and to the west. "Lord," I said, "What do you want?" Immediately, I saw the vision again. But this time thousands of hands were reaching up to Jesus, from all over the world, and many voices crying out in joy.

Then the Lord spoke-

“Look to the North, the South, the East and the West. What do you see?” I replied, “I see clouds.” The Lord said, “The clouds are breaking. My glory is beginning to shine. But there is still far to go. There is much to be done before I can reveal my fullness. What must you do?”

“I must go and proclaim - Glory! Glory! Glory!”

## **What now?**

Many individual towers are available to read on our website. There is also a video teaching series and videos on individual towers

### **The 5 session video series**

Each of the videos available on YouTube feature Rev Jim Smith speaking about different aspects of the towers ministry. They last approximately 30 minutes and they are a good introduction to this work. They are linked to the chapters in the material “The towers ministry” which is available from the website.

- Video 1.** INTRODUCTION AND LIFE IN THE TOWERS
- Video 2.** THE ETERNAL & PROPHETIC FRAMEWORK  
OF THE TOWERS
- Video 3.** HOW TO INTERCEDE IN THE TOWERS
- Video 4.** LOOKING INTO A TOWER - ENGLAND
- Video 5.** WHEN INTERCESSORS FAIL

This material is free to watch on the towers YouTube page - **unshakeable towers**

“The towers ministry” and other books and written materials are available for free downloading from the towers website - **[www.unshakeable-towers.org](http://www.unshakeable-towers.org)**.



Jim Smith writes - "I have been an Anglican Pastor in the UK for over 55 years, and I serve also as a missionary in Ghana. I have been an intercessor for many of those years.



Recently I have been learning about towers of intercession - special places in the world where intense intercession is needed. I have been learning about such a tower in England.

In this this book Jim Smith explores what the England tower might be like and how intercessors might enter, repair and use it.

### ***Also in this series:***

**The Towers.** Here Jim Smith explains how the towers material came into being and looks at much greater depth at what intercession is and how it might work.

**The Singapore tower.** In this material Jim Smith takes a look at what the tower in Singapore might look like.

**Ascending the hill.** Jim Smith explains how intercession develops in the heart of a Christian and what it would mean for their life.

Visit our website for this and much more material  
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