

Scotland Tower

Guardians of the word

Jim Smith



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Jim Smith has been an Anglican minister for 55 years. With his wife Mary they have established the Serving Africa mission in Ghana. Jim has been involved in Intercession for over 40 years and is currently developing the towers project - a call to intercession for those who are serious at this dangerous time. He lives in Sussex in the UK, and as well as running the Serving Africa mission, he is honorary minister to Saint Philip's church Burwash.

Introduction

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever. (Isaiah 40:8)

I did some work once in Aberdeen which is known as the “Granite city.” This title reflects the nature of intercession in the Scotland tower. It has to be very decisive and strong because to the intercessors in this tower the Lord has entrusted the guardianship of his word. Everywhere the word of God is being undermined. The old days of preaching it in power and strength, expounding it and applying it to lives seems to be fading. I'm not against modern preaching, which often has a strong media element. However this often obscures the strength and power of the expounded word. The strength of Christian faith has always been in the clear exposition of the word of God which feeds, encourages and strengthens the church.

The towers network needs a tower which is strong in the word, holding onto it and refusing to yield its power. The Scottish tower has been given this task. It's a great privilege to have intercessory roots plugged into such a powerful stream. It is also a great responsibility. It is going to be a tough tower to work in. Here is a vision I had which warned me of the struggle in which intercession is engaged.

As I waited on the Lord in the tower of the word of God, the enemy and all his forces came against me. Baal, Bel, Nimrod, Jezebel, the Curse, Jericho, Moab, Pharaoh, Diana, Legion, the Empire, Aggression, Lie and False god. They lifted their swords and came against me and the word of the Lord.

I did not yield, because in the moment of showing his power, I saw his weakness and his defeat. I rejoiced in the word of God - knowing its enduring and unbreakable power. "Your days are numbered," I said, "and your defeat assured. You may rule for a time, but you will never reign. The word of God has broken you and will break you again and again." "I know," he said. "That is what I am afraid of."

Chapter 1: 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.

Prayer cell

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.

Chapter 2: The spiritual background to the “Word of God” tower

There are many spiritual pressures on this tower and those who intercede inside it need to be aware of them and to stand against them.

Doubt - “Did God really say?”

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)

In recent decades there has been an undermining of the power of the word of God. The scholarship which has helped understanding has also been used to undermine trust and confidence. The enemy has been using these doubts and will continue to use them. Doubt in the efficacy of the word of God will come strongly against this tower as the enemy seeks to undermine it.

Cross - Robbed of power

For Christ did not send me to baptise, but to preach the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

(1 Corinthians 1:17)

The enemy will seek in every way to undermine the power of the cross. Forgiveness of sin, focused on the cross has been replaced with other apparent benefits of following Christ - and the prosperity gospel has had a key part to play in this undermining. The Christian faith is built on the sacrifice at Calvary. The word of God teaches that the cross is about forgiveness which breaks Satan's hold once and for all. This the enemy does not want creation to know. So undermining this theology has been a key strategy.

Demas - In love with the world

Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. (2 Timothy 4:10)

Love for the world has always been a threat to the word of God. The Lord has given his creation a lovely world and wants it to be enjoyed in every way. Its greatest gift has been breaking the sin which has spoiled his creation. However the enemy has used the world to attract creation away from the word of God with its wholeness and healing. Other gods - the gods of this world - have blinded creation to the power of the word and the church has often been complicit in this process.

Itching ears

For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. (2 Timothy 4:3)

When the word of God is no longer held in high honour or preached in its fullness the world will go after other things. The Lord has given creation an inquiring mind and that mind will inquire of other philosophies when the word of God is not held out to them.

Loss of confidence in the word

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile.

(Romans 1:16)

So many of those who preach the word have lost confidence in it. If it doesn't live in the hearts of those that preach and teach it how can it live in the people of God?

“You shall receive power.”

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (Acts 1:8)

The release of the energising power of the Holy Spirit of God fills the word of God with power. Sadly many churches seem to have abandoned any understanding of the power of the spirit. This goes along with a loss of confidence in the word of God. The powerful word filled with the spirit went out from these islands to change the world. That confidence appears to have been lost. That confidence is to be found in a conviction of the spirit-filled power and strength of the word of God. It is this that will mark the tower in Scotland.

How can intercessors stand?

How can the intercessors in this tower cope with all this negativity? They need to believe in the sacrifice of the lamb as taught so clearly in the word of God. This will break every negativity which the enemy throws against the tower of intercession. These scriptures will help -

“For I delivered to you first of all, what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again on the third day.” (I Corinthians 15: 3-4)

“Having therefore a great high priest who has passed into the heavens, Jesus Son of God... because he continues forever, he has an everlasting priesthood.” (Hebrews 4: 14, 7:24).

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: “For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Romans 8:31-9)

Chapter 3: Intercession

In each of the towers booklets I have written different things about intercession - things I have learned as I have followed my own intercessory path over the last 30 years.

During one period of intercession the Lord showed me some of the blessings of intercession and I have been very glad of them. Intercession is often a hard and lonely path and it is easy to get worn down. These seven blessings have always lifted my spirit as intercessor and I think they are especially appropriate to the very tough Scottish tower.

The blessing of reconciliation

The Bible teaches - **“Through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.”** (Colossians 1:19-20)

This is in many ways the greatest blessing, for it speaks of final restoration and the new earth.

The blessing of forgiveness

The bible teaches - **“Son, your sins are forgiven.”**
(Mark 2:5)

This blessing is the way by which creation came back to the Lord. It is a precious blessing.

The blessing of cleansing

The Bible teaches - **“Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water.”** (Hebrews 10:22-3)

This blessing is the gift of cleansing from a guilty past.

The blessing of new beginnings

The Bible says - **“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here.”** (2 Corinthians 5:17)

By his grace, creation can begin again.

The blessing of service

The Bible teaches - **“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”** (Luke 9:23-25)

To serve is the highest honour of intercession.

The blessing of value

The bible says - **So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.** (Matthew 10:31)

Intercession is lonely and it is easy to feel valueless.

Chapter 4: Rooms in this 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 found on the door of the tower and they can come as no surprise to intercessors in this tower.

"All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever."

(1 Peter 1:24-5)

From "Let there be light" to "Marana tha" the enduring nature of the word of God is the undergirding of his presence. If intercessors do not believe this they cannot come into this tower and it might be wondered whether they could be intercessors at all.

Room 1 - The satanic struggle

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

(1 Peter 5:8)

They will have little time for intercessors to reflect in this tower. The first room faces them with the satanic struggle for maintaining the purity of the word of God. Not only does the enemy oppose it but he violently attacks those who want to stand in the strength of the word.

His strategy is clear and intercessors in this tower need to have a clear understanding of that strategy. This is it - to return to the glory which he lost and be God.

“Then war broke out in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. The great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.” (Revelation 12:7-12)

He wants total rule. He wants complete domination of the universe. He has an inner arrogance – “I will ascend to the heavens.” (Isaiah 14:12-14) His intention is clear – to rule.

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” (Matthew 4:8-9)

The enemy thinks he can pull Christ down, and a key part of that strategy is to destroy intercession and especially any who believe in the power of the word of God. He has these characteristics which are dangerous -

*** He has method**

“Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.” (Ephesians 6:11) The plan is there and it is a well worked out plan. Intercessors cannot afford to be casual in the face of such a strategy.

*** He is aggressive.**

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. (1 Peter 5:8) the strategy is active and never ceases day or night. There is no time in intercession for being casual. The enemy will take advantage of every opportunity when he sees the intercessors are unaware of him.

*** He will not accept defeat**

When the devil had finished all this tempting, he left him until an opportune time.

(Luke 4:13) When people are young in Christ they rejoice at every victory over the enemy. But mature intercessors know that he will never go away until the Lord returns.

Intercessors in this tower must face the reality of the satanic struggle. I have found St Patrick’s breastplate has encouraged me -

**I bind unto myself today
The strong name of the Trinity:
By invocation of the same,
The Three in One and One in Three.**

Room 2 - Permanence and creativity

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”

(Matthew 7:24-5)

“But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”

(John 16:13)

This is such a creative, strengthening and encouraging room. The word of God contains within itself both the exciting create activity of the spirit and also the permanence of God's principles and actions. Intercessors need to hold these two truths together as they stand firm in the word of God. This vision of permanence and creativity came to me one day -

The Pilgrims wanted to mark the new beginning and the new hope. So they build a beautiful new house for the Lord. Into the foundations they poured their love, and the walls were built from their praise. A river of forgiveness flowed in the house, and they were daily cleansed and made new. They promised that they would never come to his house to take, but only to give.

In the house, the name of the Lord was held in high honour. Glory shone and heaven rejoiced. Satan was afraid and feared to come near. Then the Lord came to his people. They rejoiced at his presence and offered him love from a pure heart. The Holy Spirit flowed and every day the pilgrims were being made new. The Lord walked with them, and was their covering.

I have found intercession hard, lonely and tiring. But at the same time I have been thrilled by the creative permanence I continue to find in the heart of the Lord. It has given me such strength that I've managed to continue the fight for 75 years now. This is a beautiful room and will lift the hearts of every intercessor as they fight for the word of God.

Room 3 - victory!

“But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”

(1 Corinthians 15:57)

Intercessors are the victors. The battle has been won. During the time between the Lord's ascension and his return this victory cannot be fully realised, yet it can be claimed. It becomes the framework of the intercessory heart. Intercessors are able to live in the end times return of Jesus and his victory even though it has not yet happened. If intercessors can grasp this they have a power in them which can never be broken and the enemy will be forever backing away from them in defeat. The victory will shine out brightly. Apostle Paul sums this up really well -

“For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

(Romans 8:36-9)

I have been considering how to describe this victory in spiritual and heavenly terms. One day in the spirit I the Lord showed me this picture and it has helped me understand that victory has to be described in spiritual terms.

The Lord spoke to me about the seven thunders of victory. I did not understand so he taught me this -

The first thunder was called “Before Abraham was, I am.” When it moved, the whole earth was filled with the authority of the Lord. The enemy was afraid, but God’s people were lifted up and grew strong in its presence.

The second thunder was called “To him who sits on the throne and to the lamb be praise and honour, glory and power for ever and ever!” When it moved, all who had opposed the Lord, in heaven, in earth and in hell trembled and knew that their days were ending. God’s people were lifted up.

The third thunder was called “At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow.” When it moved, the huge army of God’s people who lived in glory rose up and exalted his name. The demons shrank down and cried out, “Please don’t destroy us.” Joshua came and put his feet on the necks of the demons. “Your days are numbered,” he said. God’s people were lifted up.

The fourth thunder was called “King of Kings and Lord of Lords.” When this thunder moved, the Lord stood on the earth again, as sovereign King. His people exalted him, and he came and lived with them. Every tear was dried and there was no more death or sin. God’s people were encouraged and bowed down in worship at its presence.

The fifth thunder was called “Behold I am coming soon.” When this thunder moved, all those of God’s people who were being persecuted were strengthened to endure. God’s people were encouraged.

The sixth thunder was called “Death is swallowed up in victory.” When this thunder moved, chains fell from creation, and a new vista of glory and service was opened up to those who believed in Him. God’s people were encouraged.

The seventh thunder was called “I am alpha and Omega.” When this thunder moved, I saw the Lord high and lifted up. He came in glory to judge. But I was not judged, because I believed in him. My soul was filled with joy.

Room 4 - Strength of the word

For, “All people are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord endures forever.”
(1 Peter 1:24-5)

There are so many examples of the word of the Lord displaying his strength and intercessors can draw strength from each one. Here are just a few for reflection.

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

Lazarus come out! When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. (John 11:33-4)

Be still. He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. (Mark 4:39)

Top of the tower

“Yes, I am coming soon.” (Revelation 22:20)

What is the view from the top of the tower? What is it which after going through these rooms the intercessors should be praying, seeing and hoping for? What is the task? It is the job of the intercessors to discover this for themselves and I don't like to interfere with that process.

Every tower is different and every function is slightly different. I have had a few thoughts as I have studied which might help.

Seek. “But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”

(John 16:13)

The beginning of victory is not to seek the enemy, but to seek the Lord. Intercessors need to be led into the truth of his word, his life, his victory his way of fighting and his way of overcoming. This will radiate from the intercessory tower into the people of God, lifting their eyes again to the divine truths held in the word of God.

Reveal and expose. “You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

(John 8:44)

As the intercessors hold out the word of God from the intercessory flow, the enemy will be revealed for who he is and what he has done to that living word. God's people by his grace will begin to return to the living word. Satan will be broken by this living word.

Destroy. “In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.”

(Romans 8:37)

The ultimate nature of the conflict is to inflict on the dark powers the power and victory of the cross. To announce forgiveness. To proclaim the ransom. To force him to look at the blood, which is the perfect sacrifice, opening the way to reconciliation and new beginnings. Intercessors do this by pressing on with the word of God and as they do this from the tower the enemy will ultimately be destroyed. By the word of God victory is ours.

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**.

Jim Smith writes - “I have been an Anglican Pastor in the UK for over 55 years, and involved in intercession for over 40 of those. and I serve also as a missionary in Ghana. Recently I have been learning about towers of intercession - special places in the world where intense intercession is needed.”



Rev Jim is searching for individuals who are deep in the intercessory stream who be willing to hear what the Lord is saying to him about intercession.

In this this book Jim Smith lays out the main teaching on the background of “the Towers”.

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 within the towers.

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

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

Blazing Fire. In this this book Jim Smith explores what the Blazing tower might be like and what intercessors will find there.

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
and video teaching

www.unshakeable-towers.org