



# HOUR OF POWER

## Reverend Dr. Major A Stewart

### PSALM 54

To the chief Musician on Negvath, Maschil, A Psalm of David, when the Ziphims came and said to Saul, Doth not David hide himself with us?

1 GIVE me, O God, by thy name, and judge me by thy strength.  
2 Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For strangers are risen up against me, and oppressors seek after my soul: they have not set God before them. Selah.

4 Behold, God is mine helper: the Lord is with them that uphold my soul.

5 He shall reward evil unto mine enemies: cut them off in thy truth.

6 I will freely sacrifice unto thee: I will praise thy name, O Lord; for it is good.

7 For he hath delivered me out of all trouble: and mine eye hath seen his desire upon mine enemies.

### PSALM 55

To the chief Musician on Negvath, Maschil, A Psalm of David.

1 GIVE ear to my prayer, O God; and hide not thyself from my supplication.

2 Because of the voice of the enemy, because of the oppression of the wicked: for they say, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

3 My heart is sore pained: and the terrors of death are fallen upon me.

4 Fearfulness and trembling are come upon me, and horror hath overwhelmed me.

8 I would hasten my escape from the windy storm and tempest.  
9 Destroy, O Lord, and devour their tongues: for I have seen violence and strife in the city.

10 Day and night they go upon upon the walls thereof: mischief and sorrow are in the midst of it.

11 Wickedness is in the way thereof: deceit and guile depart from her streets.

12 For it was not an enemy that reproached me: then I could have borne it: neither was it he that hated me that did magnify himself against me: then I would have borne from him.

13 But it was thou, a man equal, my guide, and mine acquaintance.

14 We took sweet counsel together, and walked unto the house of God in company.

15 Let death seize upon him, and let him be cast down quick into hell: for his wickedness is in his dwelling, among them.

16 As for me, I will call upon the Lord, and the Lord shall save me.

17 Evening, and morning, and noon, will I pray, and cry out, and he shall hear my voice.

18 He hath delivered me from peace from the battle of the day: for he hath delivered me from the battle of the day.

19 God, even he shall deliver me from the Lord: I will not be afraid.

20 Because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

21 Remember that thou art God, O Lord: and thou shalt be feared exceedingly.

22 Therefore shall they be confounded, and shall be brought to nothing: because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

23 Therefore shall they be confounded, and shall be brought to nothing: because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

### PSALM 56

To the chief Musician on Negvath, Maschil, A Psalm of David, when he fled from Achish.

1 BE merciful unto me, O God, for man would swallow me up: he would fight daily oppress me: mine enemies would swallow me up: for thou art my strength, O Lord.

2 Mine enemies would swallow me up: for thou art my strength, O Lord.

3 What time I am in trouble, I will call upon thee, O Lord: and thou shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

4 In God I will praise my voice, O Lord: and thou shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

5 Every day they will say unto me, Where is God? But thou, O Lord, shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

6 They gather together, they hide mark my steps, when thou, O Lord, shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

7 Shall they say unto me, Where is God? But thou, O Lord, shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

8 Thou shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

9 When I am in trouble, I will call upon thee, O Lord: and thou shalt answer me, O Lord: and thou shalt deliver me, O Lord.

10 Because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

11 Therefore shall they be confounded, and shall be brought to nothing: because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

12 Therefore shall they be confounded, and shall be brought to nothing: because they have said, We will devour him, and in wrath they will slay him.

### PSALM 57

To the chief Musician, Al-taschith, A Psalm of David, when he fled from Saul in the cave.

1 BE merciful unto me, O God, be merciful unto me: for my soul trusteth in thee: yea, in the shadow of thy wings will I make my refuge, until these calamities be overpast.

2 I will cry unto God most high; unto God that performeth all things.

3 My voice shall cry unto thee, O Lord, from heaven, and my prayer shall come up unto thee. Selah.

4 My heart is vexed, O Lord, because mine enemies are risen up against me: and I lie that are set on of men, whose arrows are, and swords.

5 O God, above glory be above.

6 They have laid a net for my feet: they have digged down: they have hid mine eyes, into the hands of the evil.

7 O God, my God, sing and give.

8 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

9 O Lord, among sing unto thee.

10 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

11 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

12 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

13 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

14 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

15 Thy glory; awake, I myself will.

# THE WORD FOR THE WEEK: VISION







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Reverend Dr. Major A Stewart

April 27, 2023

“A man without a vision is a man without a future. A man without a future will always return to his past.” (P.K. Bernard)

**“Where there is no vision, the people are unrestrained, but happy is he who keeps the law” Proverbs 29:18**



Vision is the bridge between the present and the future. Without it we perish or go “unrestrained,” as the New American Standard Bible puts it. Vision gives purpose to pain. Those without vision spend their lives taking the path of least resistance as they try to avoid pain, discomfort and the unfamiliar. I remember one of my mentors saying to me, “Major, the level of sacrifice that a vision requires will determine the size of people who follow.” In other words, one’s ability to “see” one’s future will be measured by his/her willingness to endure the effort, pain and arduous work required to accomplish the feat.

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For instance, my brother Melvin, had just graduated from high school and joined the Army. Now, my brother was as tough of a character as they came. He did not play around with anyone who meant him harm. However, as soon as he stepped off the boot camp bus, the sergeant started yelling at him. He was demanded to march over to the barbershop and get his head shaved. Then he was up early in the morning to exercise with someone screaming at him and talking about our mother. Just a month before all of this, he was in high school. He would have never put up with any of this nonsense from his teachers, classmates or fellas in the neighborhood. But somehow his whole mindset had changed. You see, his mindset had to change because of what he was trying to accomplish, was on the other side of the pain, effort, humiliation and discomfort. He realized that boot camp was preparing him for a greater destiny. His VISION of the future gave his present physical discomfort meaning and purpose.



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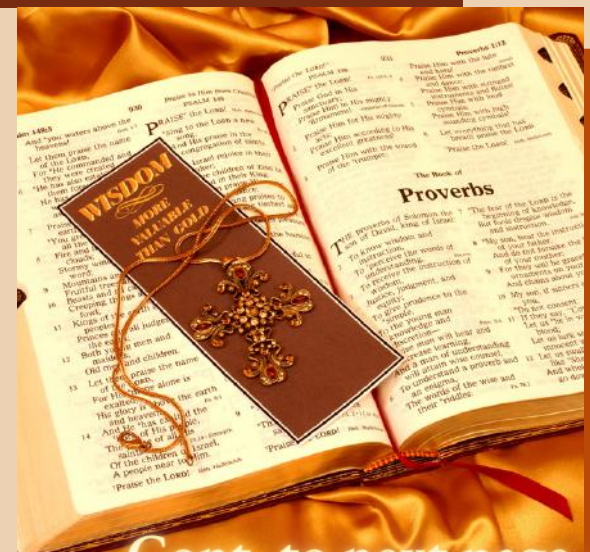


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Unfortunately, far too many of us go through life without VISION and proper perspective. We spend our days walking a crooked path, believing that every obstacle in the road is a problem and something to be avoided. But notice what the second part of this Proverb says, “But happy is he who keeps the Law.” The law isn’t just something God gave to Moses. It is also the restraint, boundaries and disciplines we develop around our life to help direct us through obstacles instead of around them. These obstacles become part of the plan of God to help develop our character, so we can ultimately make our VISION reality.



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AS A CHURCH, OUR VISION IS “BEING A FULL TIME CARING CHURCH THAT SEARCHES FOR THE LOST”. ARE YOU WILLING TO ENDURE THE CHALLENGES, THE EFFORT, AND YES, SOMETIMES DISCOMFORT, TO HELP US REACH OUR GOD GIVEN DESTINATION OF REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITY WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST IN 2018?



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