

Week #:	71	Text:	(various)	Title:	Secrets of the Holy Place: 5 (A)
Songs:	Better Is One Day – Chris Tomlin (4:11)				
	Blessed Be Your Name – Chris Tomlin (3:49)				
	Victor’s Crown – Darlene Zschech (7:25)				
Video:	Perry Stone – Secrets of the Holy Place #5				

Secrets of the Holy Place, by Perry Stone (begin DVD #5 at 00:00:00)

Prayer Power: Sending Up Holy Smoke:

- When I was a child and I would think about people praying, the first thing I would imagine is that my prayer is getting lost in all those other prayers that are being prayed.
 - I know the Catholics sometimes have a tradition of praying and having Mary do the intercession. Why is that? It is a Catholic belief that Jesus is so busy that they believe that if you go to Mary, that Mary is close to Him and she’ll get your prayer through faster. One has to wonder – if there are that many Catholics praying to Mary, then she’s busier than Jesus is.
- Jesus is the high priest and the profession of our faith in heaven and we know that the amazing thing is He is able to hear everybody’s prayer (Hebrews 3:1). That’s because He’s God. He has an ability to do what you and I cannot do.
 - I could tell everyone here to give me your testimony. I could hear all of your voices at one time, but I could not understand what’s being said.
 - God is that way. He can hear all the voices at one time, but He can filter through each individual word that’s being said and spoken.
- As a kid, the question is: when I speak word, I’m here on earth. God is billions and billions of lightyears away in a place called heaven. How in the world can my words get there?
 - If I’m speaking through a PA system you can hear me. If I have a relay out there, they can hear me in the yard. I could go around the world as long as I have a way of relaying the system. Short wave radio is the same thing. Short wave radio is very unique. As long as there is a relay, you can carry signals (radio, television, etc) around the world.
 - ***If human men can do that, how much greater is God able to hear you the moment that the words are released out of your mouth?***
- Does God pick and choose prayer? Does He decide on a certain day to answer this group and not another group? How does He decide when a prayer is answered?
- Does your prayer ever get forgotten in heaven?
 - Words can live on – they can be eternal. Words can be carried on as long as there’s a relay system to do that.
 - But do our words ever die? The moment you breathe your last breath, all the prayers you’ve prayed at that moment, are they stored somewhere in heaven totally forgotten at that point? Are the only prayers that can be answered the prayers while you are living?
 - This is a question many people have, especially when they have prayed for their sons and daughters to be saved and they have not seen the results of the answered prayer.
- We first go back to the **Golden Altar**.
 - There were 11 different types of incense that can represent the 11 different types of prayer in the New Testament. (Previous lesson# _____)
- Incense was very important in every religion. In Tobit 6:1-7 in the Apocrypha, it says that incense was burned to create an atmosphere to ban the presence of demons. Jewish teaching indicated that as long as the incense was filling the room that it restrained demonic power from penetrating the holy incense, thus about prayer, it protected the very words of the prayers that were incensed in that incense.

- When your words go up, satan cannot stop that word from going up, he cannot pierce that word, he cannot steal those words once they've come out of your mouth. That's why confession is so important in holding fast to the confession of your faith and not giving up after you pray (Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 10:23). And in not contradicting your prayer once you've prayed it – don't say to God that it's going to happen then the next day say you don't know what's going on. When you contradict your prayer you can void your prayer from being answered.
- According to history, Ramses II in Egypt during his 31 year reign used 368,461 jars of incense and 1,933,766 individual pieces of incense along with honey and oil.
- In Babylon at the yearly festival of Ba'al, history records that they used 1,000 talents of incense to be burned in the temple of Ba'al in Babylon. At the temple, 386 minas of incense was used during the time of the offering of prayer.
- In the early history of mankind, when altars were built to every religion, incense was offered. This became a custom from the very beginning of time that incense was connected somehow to the prayers of the people. Even in orthodox churches today, if you go to the holy land, you'll find the priest burns incense as he walks in that fills the entire place with the presence of God.
 - A friend at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem was fighting demonic powers in his mind and went to the priest to ask what he should do. It's going to sound odd to some, but this man said it worked. He was told to curse the devil 7 times and every time he cursed to spit on the ground. So you say, "Satan I rebuke you," and spit on the ground. I don't know what the spit had to do with it, but it must have helped it. The second thing he had to do was when he came to church, sit where the incense was because when the incense is being burned God created this formula of incense to clear the mind. Certain kinds of incense which is burned, and the reason people who aren't even saved meditate and burn incense, is it is a fact that certain kinds of incense clears the neurological part of the brain so the person can think more clearly.
 - Do you understand that God who created the human body would have known by the high priest that this 11 combinations would clear the entire tabernacle up, would clear the entire area, and not only fill it with the sweet, sweet savor, but also the spiritual connection on how goes up and your prayers go up in holy smoke.
- In order to create the incense it was formed and compacted together in a bowl and two fistfuls of it was grabbed and was put in the chalice that was put on the golden altar.
- We go back to the brass altar – it is more important than a lot of people think. When the wood was being burned, wood is embers that burned. The priest would take a doe and he wanted to burn incense, and he would have to take burning embers out of the golden altar and carry them all the way into the holy chamber (Inner Court/Holy Place), and he would put those burning embers on the gold bowl on the golden altar. He would put it in the bowl, and then that chalice that he had with the incense in it, it would be poured in the bowl and it would begin to burn with fire.
 - Notice: you had to have fire in order to produce the smoke.
- Remember: Jewish teaching – 11 different types of incense that was used in the formation of the incense that was placed in this bowl. The New Testament identifies 11 major types of prayers that every believer can pray. (Lesson #___)
- Whether you're praying a prayer of thanksgiving, a prayer of petition, a prayer of repentance, a prayer of binding, a prayer of losing, a prayer of faith, in the Holy Ghost – whatever prayer you put in this prayer bowl, it takes fire – fire being the energy and the zeal of God – mixed with the type of words that you're saying to produce the holy smoke that comes from the earth all the way up into the heavens.

- It's significant that we understand that it takes two things: Fire in combination of the words being spoken in those 11 types of prayer together to get those prayers up to heaven where God is.
- The priest always took two fistfuls of incense. Many things can represent something, and remember the compound was mixed together. We say, let us pray – ***pray is everything coming together in one.*** Somebody might be praying for healing, another praying for salvation for a loved one, someone else needing deliverance.
- Two fistfuls of incense – some say one is ***faith*** and the other is ***hope***.
 - You have to approach God by faith, but you have to hold onto your prayer by continuing to hope.
- Abraham against hope believed in hope that he would be the father of many nations (Romans 4:16-21).
- ***Hope is an expectation of a good outcome.***
- ***Faith is believing in those things you can't see.***
- Once my words go up, for me to believe I've got to continue believing, and when I feel like my faith is wavering I have to rest in hope. Hope being an earnest expectation on the inside of me.

James 5:16

¹⁶ ...The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

- The Greek word used for ***effectual*** in this scripture is the word that we use for ***energy / energetic***. An energetic prayer, prayed fervently (boiling hot, with hot energy from God) will avail much in the sight of God.
- To you and I fire is the zeal of God burning in us.
- The Altar of Incense that was built by Moses in the Tabernacle was copied after the one in Heaven.
 - How do we know there's a golden altar in heaven?
 - Revelation 14:18
- Significant things in the book of Revelation:
 1. The Bible says there is an angel over fire (Revelation 14:18).
 - God is very much into fire:
 - God is a consuming fire – Hebrews 12:29
 - Ezekiel saw God and He looked like a fire from the loins up and a fire from the loins down (Ezekiel 1:27; Ezekiel 10:1-7)
 - The word ***seraphim*** comes from the word ***seraph***, which means ***to burn*** – it's a copper color, a copper burning. So seraphim are angels (Isaiah 6:2-6)
 - God said His ministers are like a flaming fire. Elijah was taken to heaven in horses of fire and a chariot of fire. (Psalms 104:4; II Kings 2:11)
 - Fire is seen on top of Mount Sinai when God gave Moses the law. Moses was there and fire was on top of the mountain (Exodus 20).
 - Fire is consistently a concept and a part of God's heavenly kingdom and a part of God Himself.
 - In the beginning when they were creating the new Jerusalem, satan walked up and down in the midst of the stones of fire (Ezekiel 28:14-16).
 2. Fire produces light. Fire produces warmth. Fire purifies
 - The idea of God being connected with fire is – He is pure light and in Him there's no shadow of turning (James 1:17). When you get near God you're going to get a warm feeling, you're going to get life on the inside of you.

3. “You shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost and with fire...”

- Fire represents the zeal of God, but the fire of God also burns out of you those things that can be hindering you.

Revelation 8:3-4

³ Then another angel, having a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense, that he should offer *it* with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne. ⁴ And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel's hand.

- We pray on earth, but what's going on in heaven when we pray?
- At the thrown of God there are 24 smaller thrones (Revelation 4:4) – 12 and 12.
 - The 12 on one side are the 12 sons of Jacob and the 12 on the other side are the 12 apostles of the lamb. So 12 and 12 is the 24 thrones with the 24 elders.
 - We know this because on the city of New Jerusalem you have the names of the 12 apostles on the city, and you've also got the names of the 12 tribes of Israel (Revelation 21:12-14).
 - Why are they there?
 - Because the sons of Jacob are going to judge people from the Old Covenant. People that didn't live in the New Covenant can't be judged by the gospel of Jesus Christ because it didn't exist in their day. The saints of God that will be judged from the Old Covenant will be judged by the sons of Jacob, by the law, by the teaching, by what they knew.
 - When you stand at the judgment, you're going to be judged according to the Bible (Matthew 19:28). Jesus even told the 12 apostles that they would sit on 12 thrones and judge one day. We're going to be judged by what we believe, how we acted, and what we knew. They will have books opened – it could be books of our life, books of records, we do know that the Bible says there are records being kept in heaven. That's exciting...and that's scary.
 - That's the reason why, before you leave this world, you'd better put everything under the blood, you'd better forgive everybody, and don't wait until you're dying to do it. Going to hell over not forgiving a bunch of people is not worth it. So forgive that crazy bunch and go on with life. Whatever you have to do, get right with God, because we all want to go to heaven, don't we.
 - These 24 elders have golden vials full of odors which are the prayers of the saints (Revelation 5:8).
 - There are 24 hours in a day. Could it be possible that every elder is responsible for a certain hour of the day? This is not in the Bible, but it makes you wonder.
 - In the Bible, they prayed two times a day, and Daniel added a third time (II Chronicles 16:40; Daniel 6:10).
 - 3rd hour of the day – 9 am
 - 9th hour of the day – 3 pm
 - When Cornelius got a visitation from God, he was praying at the exact time that they are offering incense at the temple (Acts 10:1-4).
 - There were specific hours assigned when they burned the incense in the temple, and even after Jesus' resurrection the apostles were still following the pattern of the prayer time at the temple.

- They pray at those times because they believe that as they're praying their words are going to that altar and the incense is going up to God.
 - Jesus didn't do away with the Old Testament. 1/3 of the Old Testament hasn't even been fulfilled prophetically. The moral law of God that was in the Torah is still in existence all through the New Testament. What Jesus fulfilled were the sacrificial offerings that were a picture of Him.
 - Even in the book of Acts they're still going to the temple, and they're still going to the synagogues preaching, they are still praying during the time that the incense is being offered.
 - During the prayer times in the book of Act and throughout the Bible (9 am and 3 pm) is when angels start showing up visiting people.
- There's a difference on earth with praying by faith and praying in the anointing.
 - Elijah went to the top of Mt Carmel to pray (I Kings 18). He prays a 63 word prayer (in Hebrew) and bam, the fire of God falls and consumes the offering and the sacrifice.
 - Later Elijah goes to Mt Carmel and prays 7 times looking towards the sea to see if there's a cloud coming, because there's been a three and a half year drought (I Kings 18:42-46).
 - Elijah could call fire down from heaven in 63 words – but it took him 7 times of praying to break a drought that had been going on for three and a half years.
 - The theme being, Israel didn't get into the mess overnight and they weren't going to get out of it instantly.
 - Sometimes you get yourself in a mess and you want God to get you out instantly. It's going to take more prayer and intercession to break that that you got yourself into than it would be normally in just dealing with a regular situation.
 - One of the differences in these two accounts could be that the first time he was under the anointing – mocking them, making fun of the – and he prays under the energy of God. then he has to go from praying under that anointing to raying a more intercessory prayer. ***Intercessory travail is not quick.***
 - It is easy to pray under the anointing of God. It is easy to lay hands on people and expect a blessing under the anointing. It is easy to anticipate a breakthrough under the anointing. But when you're not praying with an unction of the Spirit, and you have to pray by sheer faith because someone asked for prayer, and you don't have an anointing, you don't have an energy, you don't have a zeal, you don't even feel like praying, but yet you pray anyway. You need to understand that ***some things break only under the anointing.***
 - The yoke will be destroyed because of the anointing (Isaiah 10:27).
 - Jesus said some prayers aren't answered except by prayer and fasting (Mark 9:19).
 - There are some demons you deal with that are higher level demons because they are more stubborn and they're more rebellious. There are some with more authority than others.

Luke 11:24-26

²⁴ “When an unclean spirit goes out of a man, he goes through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he says, ‘I will return to my house from which I came.’ ²⁵ And when he comes, he finds *it* swept and put in order. ²⁶ Then he goes and takes with *him* seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter and dwell there; and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first.”

- His condition when the 7 demons come is more severe than when he had just 1 demon working in him.
- If you’ve ever seen anybody who really followed the Lord and they totally went back on God, you know they are harder to win the second time than they were the first time. Not always, but it can sometimes be because of the level of demons that they are now under the control, possession, or influence of. A spirit that has more authority over them than the previous spirit that they had to deal with.
- Prayer is interesting because there are times that you feel an unction of God and you pray under the anointing, and it just happens.
- The anointing breaks the yoke. Jesus was anointed with the Holy Ghost and with power to heal all that were oppressed of the devil (Acts 10:38).
- God knows the thoughts and intents of the heart, and He can know what you have need of
- before you even ask it (Hebrews 4:12; Matthew 6:8)
- There’s a law of the Spirit and it says that God will do nothing for you until you first ask.
 - If we did not pray we get passive. We say everything that happens was the will of God.
 - God does not want us to think that way.
 - If all we did all of our life was just say that God knows my need and He’ll just answer it, we would get so lazy we would never pray.
 - There are a lot who would have never accepted the Lord until hell broke out in your life. God uses circumstances many times to reach people, but a lot of times men and women get upset at God and they just say whatever God wants, He’ll just do. The Bible says you have to pray.

Luke 11:9

⁹ “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

- God does nothing until you ask.
- Why does God want us to ask for it?

John 16:24

²⁴ Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, ***that your joy may be full.***

- A lot of Christians don’t have any joy because they don’t have/see any answers.
- The greatest joy in your life is to pray for a family member then watch them get saved. You then know that your hard prayers seeking God, binding devils, is what got them in there.

- The greatest thing is to see someone who is dying with cancer, and all of a sudden you pray and fast and the doctor says they can't find the cancer anymore, the cancer is gone.
- When God answers your prayer:
 - It builds your faith.
 - It builds your confidence.
 - We shouldn't be so shocked when we pray and God does it, but we are.
 - **When we believe it we aren't surprised when it happens.**
 - We pray, a miracle happens, then people say they can't believe that it happened. This happened with Peter – he was in prison and they were having an all-night prayer meeting because he's going to be beheaded the next day. There's a knock on the door, he says it's Peter, and they said it couldn't be because they were praying for him to get out of jail. Then they said it was his spirit – meaning they thought that Peter had already died and the guardian angel was knocking at the door to tell them what had happened. They're praying prayers, and when the prayer is answered they are so shocked and they act like they can't believe that God answered their prayer. (Acts 12)
 - May God help us to get to a faith level when we're praying that when it happens we are overjoyed and we give God the glory, but we're not in shock that God did it.
 - Your words cannot be hindered going up to God unless you pray against the will of God.

James 4:3

³You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

- Asking amiss according to your lust, God does not hear.
- If you're praying prayers that are outside of the Bible, and outside of the will that is revealed in the Bible, or totally for selfish reasons, then these are amiss.
- The Bible teaches that money gotten fast is lost fast (Proverbs 13:11)
- When you're praying prayers, line it up with scripture. Healing, baptism with the Holy Ghost, salvation, deliverance, prosperity (in the right sense) – all are in line with the Word.
- When you pray the will of God you know your words are going up and they cannot be stopped

Daniel 10:12

¹²Then he said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for **from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard;** and I have come because of your words.

- Your prayers are placed in those bowls in heaven.
- Aaron had a bowl (Leviticus 17:11-12), his sons had bowls (Leviticus 10:1), and all the Levites were given bowls (Numbers 17:4). These bowls were filled with different things, but every priest had a bowl.
- You have a prayer bowl. You have the ability of offering your own personal incense off of your own golden altar before God. Every time you pray, picture it as not just saying a bunch of words that go out into the universe somewhere. Every time you pray from here on out see yourself standing at the golden altar of God with your own personal bowl – speaking to God and

- throwing those prayers up to God. What's happening is that the words are instantly leaving the bowl to God. Distance is insignificant with God. Because God travels the speed of thought and not the speed of light, He is able to instantly that moment receive that prayer. This is why when you are traveling in a car and someone pulls out in front of you and you say, "Jesus..." or "God save me," and instantly you are saved.
- Peter found out that when you're drowning you don't have time to pray a long prayer. He's in the middle of the lake sinking and he said three words, "Lord save me!" Jesus shows up and picks him up out of the water. (Matthew 14:23-32). Sometimes you can pray long prayers. Sometimes you can pray short prayers. God hears short prayers and God hears long prayers at the same time.
 - Your words are your incense. You are the golden altar in the sense that you are the high priest presenting your prayers up to God, and every word you speak is like incense.
 - Just like the priests had that tray and chalice bowl – they did that because they didn't want one piece of incense to fall to the ground. They made sure that every little significant piece of incense was placed on that altar and went up before God.
 - The time comes when an angel of God will step over to that golden altar in heaven. The Bible says the angel offered **all** the prayers of the saints before God (Revelation 8:3). All the prayers of all the saints went up to God from that golden altar in heaven at one time.
 - Why all the prayers all at one time:
 - The book is called the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the lamb slain from the foundation of the world.
 - In the book of Revelation there are places where it speaks of an angel of God – Greek word is messenger – but it's Jesus. Only the priest could offer the incense on the golden altar. There is an angel of fire in heaven, but that angel that John saw standing there offering the incense has to be Jesus who is the only high priest in heaven.
 - It's all being offered at one time because that's the time when the rapture has already taken place and all the saints are in heaven and there are no more prayers to answer. You're healed, you're there, you're not going to be sick or depressed, you don't have to worry about money (who worries about money when you're walking around on gold?).
 - What happens is that in heaven all those prayer bowls that the 24 elders have, everything left in there, is presented at that golden altar at one time and it is offered up with holy incense in heaven before God, because when we get to heaven there are no more prayers for us as resurrected saints to have to pray.
 - What about the prayers we pray right now? What about the intercession we make right now? How does all of that fit into what we're talking about?
 - Cornelius is the answer. He feared God and gave charity often. He's praying during that prayer time when they're praying in the temple in Jerusalem, and all of a sudden an angel comes to him and says:

Acts 10:1-4

¹There was a certain man in Caesarea called Cornelius, a centurion of what was called the Italian Regiment, ²a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. ³About the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!" ⁴And when he observed him, he was afraid, and said, "What is it, lord?"

So he said to him, “***Your prayers and your alms [charity / giving] have come up for a memorial before God.***”

- The word memorial in Greek is the same word used in Hebrew ***zichron*** called the book of remembrance (Malachi 3:16). It means your giving and prayers have come up as a remembrance to God in heaven.
- When Cornelius was giving, his charity was being recorded in this book of remembrance.
- Every time you tithe, every time you give an offering, every time you give to the poor, God has recorded that in heaven – even if you drop a dollar in and that’s all you had. God has a record.
- You’re praying consistently for your needs. You’re giving. You’ll go months at a time and not get an answer, not get a breakthrough. Some new convert will stand up and have the answer they prayed for only once, when you’ve been praying for month. Don’t doubt God! Hang on to your prayer!

Acts 10:4

“Your prayers and your alms [charity / giving] have come up [from the prayer bowls around the throne of God] for a memorial before God.

- Cornelius’ story teaches us that his happens:
- When the answer comes they come in succession, usually in sets of threes.
- When the prayer bowl of your life and your name gets opened before God it won’t be just one little prayer getting answered, it’ll be like all of a sudden God will pour out answers all at one time.
- Then you’ll go through a spell where three or four months where you’re just holding on.
- Then all of a sudden it will again come in a series.
- We don’t know how long Cornelius had been giving and praying – it could have been years.

Hebrews 7:8

⁸ Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he *receives them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

- Heaven recognizes your giving.

Psalms 56:8

⁸ You number my wanderings; Put my tears into Your bottle; *Are they* not in Your book?

- God knows every tear you’ve prayed and He has a record of them.

Revelation 5:8

⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, ***which are the prayers of the saints.***

- **Your prayers are stored in heaven. Your words are stored in heaven before the throne of God. God doesn’t lose them. God doesn’t miss them. They’re still there.**
- For whatever reason certain things trigger the bowl being opened.

- Usually if you will watch, when answers start coming, especially after a fast is over, answers start coming to everybody, everybody starts getting breakthroughs like crazy. That's because prayer bowls are being opened.
- So I want to build your faith that your prayers have not been forgotten. No matter if you have been hanging on for a long time, it doesn't mean God hasn't heard your prayers. Sometimes God has to work through the circumstance on earth in order to do it. God doesn't give us a report because then we'd step into the middle of it and try to make it come to be before it is time.
- (Genesis 21:9-18) Abraham waited 11 years to have a son – he got a promise at 75, at 86 he still didn't have a son so Sarah was convinced it wasn't going to be her because she was old, so she told her husband to go and lay with Hagar and have a baby through her. He goes into Hagar and has a baby, and then when the baby's born and gets to be 15 years of age and starts mocking, she wants to throw out Hagar and Ishmael to get rid of them. The problem is this: she got impatient in waiting, so she decided to help God out.
- You may already know in your spirit things God has told you, but you've got to let God work it out in timing.
- When Abraham thought he was dying, he had them find a wife for his son, then when his son married he ended up getting married again and having 6 more kids and lived another 30 years (Genesis 27).
- If you're in the will of God and you haven't seen what God has promised you yet, you just might as well tell death it can pass your house up for a while because you're not going anywhere until you see what God has promised you.
- When Cornelius' words came up, 4 things happened:
 1. 1. He received an angelic visitation
 - Angels can be released to you when your prayer bowl is opened.
 2. 2. He received a kingdom connection
 - God told him who to hook up with to get his whole family saved.
 - God will hook up kingdom connections to you, show you where to be at the right place at the right time when your prayer bowl is opened.
 3. 3. He received a message that brought the Holy Spirit to his entire household
 - God can release the power of the Holy Spirit to everybody in your house.
 4. 4. He was the first gentile to be in covenant.
- Just because you pass away from this earth and never say another earthly prayer does not void all the prayers you prayed while on earth.

Luke 15:10

¹⁰ Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

- We've had that verse wrong for years. We say angels rejoice when a sinner is saved. Sure they rejoice, but that's not what it says. There is rejoicing in the presence of angels. Who is rejoicing in the presence of angels? God informs your loved one who has prayed and they are rejoicing in the presence of the angels knowing that you've come into the kingdom.