

DO IT FOR A DAY

DAY 28 PROPHECY YOUR PRAISE

We do not know what to do! In you we have placed our hope!

2 Chronicles 20:12

In the spring of 1992, the Bosnian capital was under siege by the Yugoslav People's Army. The siege of Sarajevo would last 1,425 days. On May 27, innocent civilians were lining up to receive welfare when a bomb exploded. The explosion killed twenty-two people, leaving a crater in the center of the city. A moment after the explosion, a man named Vedran Smailović rushed to the scene, but he was not sure what to do. He was not a doctor. He wasn't a firefighter and he wasn't a soldier. Vedran Smailović was the principal cellist of the Sarajevo Opera. All he had was his cello. For most of us the story would have ended there. We let what we can't do stop us from doing what we can.

The day after the disaster, May 28, 1992, Vedran Smailović changed into his tuxedo, grabbed his instrument, climbed into the crater, sat on a charred chair, and played Albioni's Adagio in G Minor. For twenty-two straight days—one day for each victim—the Sarajevo cellist made music in craters, cemeteries, and the rubble of bombed buildings. The city of Sarajevo was besieged by shells and snipers, so why risk your life to make music? In the words of Vedran Smailović: *my cello was my weapon*".

And what is yours?

I know it sounds a bit military, but the truth is that we were born in a battlefield between good and evil. There are lots of craters all around us. **We do not fight against flesh and blood**; we are fighting against principalities and powers.² But there is good news: *"The weapons with which we fight are not of the world, but have divine power to tear down strongholds."*³

You are here for a time like this. In the 9th century B.C., King Jehoshaphat was in a crisis. The Moabites and Ammonites had declared war on Judah. Jehoshaphat called Judah to a fast, and then exercised his authority by saying a prophetic prayer.

"We do not have enough strength to face this great army that attacks us. said the king. He faced the facts, stark as they were, but he did so with determined faith. *"We do not know what to do; that's why we have our eyes on you!"*⁶ When Jehoshaphat finished praying, Jahaziel received a word from God: *"Do not be afraid or be frightened by that great army, because this war is not yours but God's."*⁷

*As soon as they began to sing this song of praise, the Lord set ambushes against the Ammonites, Moabites, and Mount Seir who had come against Judah, and defeated them."*⁹

There is nothing the enemy hates more than our praise. Why? Because when we praise, we are reminding him of who he was. Lucifer was leading the praise before the

times. When we praise, the enemy wants to be far away so as not to listen. Now let's look at the other side of the coin. Praise reminds the enemy who he was and reminds us of who God is. **When we worship, we reflect what is happening in heaven right now.** We align ourselves with the heavenly realm, and heaven invades earth. **Healings happen. Liberation takes place. There is victory. Praise is the seedbed for thousands of miracles!**

I think it's safe to say that Paul's missionary journeys started a chain reaction that turned the ancient world upside down. They were the catalyst for almost all the churches we read about in the book of Acts: Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi. What was the impetus behind those three mission trips? When, where and how did it happen? The genesis is in these words: **"while they were worshipping the Lord"**.¹¹ Go to the origin of each movement of God and you will find someone praising with total dedication.

There are two kinds of praise, and both are powerful. **worship in the past** it is thanking God after He does something. That's when we sing *"Great is your fidelity"*.

Regarding the latter, we can sing the same words, but each of us is singing a different song. Why? Because God's faithfulness is as unique as your fingerprint. **worship in future** is the second class. It's thanking God before you do it. It is prophesying our praise by faith.

While recovering from surgery, I heard a Darrell Evans song. Those lines stuck in my spirit: *"I will change my sadness, I will change my pain and my illness, I will give them up for the joy of God"*.¹³ I put the song on loop and sang it at least four hundred and thirty-seven times.

We have two main weapons at our disposal: confession and profession. **Confession** is to admit what is wrong with us, and **profession** it is declaring what is right in God. **The confession** catalyzes the healing process by identifying the problem. **the profession** seals the deal by pronouncing the solution. In a sense, this is imagining the payoff."

Prophesy your praise!"

Excerpt From

Do it for a day: How to create or break any habit in 30 days / Do It For A Day: How to Make or Break Any Habit in 3

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