

# ENCOUNTER

## Throne Room Confidence: The Centerpiece of Courage in the End Times

Gary De Pasquale

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### I. THRONE ROOM CONFIDENCE

- A. In these days of testing I believe the Spirit is teaching the church who we are to be and how we are to respond. The Father has been orchestrating a worldwide worship and prayer movement for the last four decades. One of the goals of having night and day prayer centers all over the globe is to instill confidence and strength in the midst of the challenge during the times of the “Mathew 24/Luke 21 Trouble” that will begin small but grow with intensity.

*For many will come in My name [messiah figure], saying, ‘I am the Christ, [deliverer] and will deceive many. <sup>6</sup> And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. <sup>7</sup> For nation [ethnos] will rise against nation [ethnos], and kingdom [government] against kingdom [government]. And there will be famines pestilences, and earthquakes [commotions among people] in various places. <sup>8</sup> All these are the beginning of sorrows.<sup>9</sup> “Then they will deliver you [church leaders] up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations [ethnos] for My name’s sake. <sup>10</sup> And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another. <sup>11</sup> Then many false prophets [with false messages] will rise up and deceive many. <sup>12</sup> And because lawlessness [not following the scriptures] will abound, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But he who endures to the end shall be saved. <sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matt. 24:5-14)*

*they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name’s sake. <sup>13</sup> But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony. <sup>14</sup> Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer; <sup>15</sup> for I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> And you will be hated by all for My name’s sake. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head shall be lost. <sup>19</sup> By your patience possess your souls. (Luke 21:12-18)*

- B. For the church to respond as the church yet also be conscientious within our societal responsibilities, and testimony of the Lord in our lifestyle and actions, it will take the reality of the Throne Room to stay steady and confident. Our position of full trust in His sovereignty must be evident in our responses to stay active in the work of evangelism and confident in the place of prayer. The revelation of how God delights in us and beautifies us even in the processes of tribulation is how we will be kept steady in love and faithfulness.

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*I will call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised; So shall I be saved from my enemies. The pangs of death surrounded me, And the floods of ungodliness made me afraid.*

*<sup>5</sup> The sorrows of Sheol surrounded me; The snares of death confronted me. In my distress I called upon the Lord and cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears... He took me; He drew me out of many waters. He delivered me from my strong enemy, From those who hated me, For they were too strong for me. They confronted me in the day of my calamity, But the Lord was my support. He also brought me out into a broad place; He delivered me because He delighted in me. (Psalm 18:3-19)*

- C. We need to understand that as the redeemed of the Lord, we are not those on the outside looking in. Our identity and steadiness as believers is through the fact that not only do we belong to the throne room but we are of the Throne Room of God! The knowledge of a real throne in a real place with substance keeps us from praying into the air and functioning as the world and using the world's devices against one another.
  
- D. We can avoid much unnecessary anguish and anxiety by deciding to not live in the futility of conformity of an unrenewed mind about situations and problems which will lead to an unproductive response. The way we evade worry is to be connected to something in our spirit and in our soul something bigger than ourselves and thus bigger than our situation.

*<sup>2</sup> Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. <sup>3</sup> And He who sat there was like a jasper and a sardius stone in appearance; and there was a rainbow around the throne, in appearance like an emerald. <sup>4</sup> Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones, I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns of gold on their heads. <sup>5</sup> And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. Seven lamps of fire were burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God. <sup>6</sup> Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal. And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come! Whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to Him who sits on the throne, who lives forever and ever, <sup>10</sup> the twenty-four elders fall down before Him who sits on the throne and worship Him who lives forever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying:*

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*11 “You are worthy, O Lord, To receive glory and honor and power; For You created all things, And by Your will they exist and were created.” And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals...And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. <sup>7</sup> Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. 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. <sup>9</sup> And they sang a new song... Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands...(Rev. 4-2-5:11)*

*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. <sup>4</sup> And the smoke of the incense, with the prayers of the saints, ascended before God from the angel’s hand. (Rev. 8:3-4)*

*Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:16)*

- E. The throne of God is the **glory** of God and the starting point of the end time pouring out of God’s Spirit. The pursuit of the holy gazing at beauty of God as King is essential to the fiery hearts of the End-Time prayer movement. It is from the fire of our hearts being touched by the fire of God that releases His glory confidence and power upon the earth (missions, evangelism, preaching, healing, salvation).

*When the Son of Man comes [to the earth] IN HIS GLORY, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His GLORIOUS THRONE. All the nations will be gathered before Him, (Matt. 25:31-32)*

*“I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; A fiery stream issued [river flowed] and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. (Dan. 7:9-10)*

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- F. The single issue that drives us towards anything is fascination. The desire to know Him and experience Him must outweigh the desire to know and experience sin. What we consider fascinating is what has the greater pull. We pursue what fascinates us when we feed that part of our interest. Pursuing to live holy comes from begin fascinated with God. When we lean our attention towards other things while pursuing God that back-and-forth pull will lead to an exhausting life of frustration and disappointment.

*now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day [of the Lord] is at hand. Therefore, let us cast off [move our attention away from] the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, **AND MAKE NO PROVISION FOR THE FLESH**, to fulfill its lusts. (Romans 13:11-14)*

- G. We are in very tumultuous days. We cannot afford to waste our spiritual inheritance on that which is fleeting, instead we need to concern ourselves with those things that make provision for the spirit.

*Now Jacob cooked a stew; and Esau came in from the field, **AND HE WAS WEARY**. 30 And Esau said to Jacob, "Please feed me with that same red stew, for I am weary...But Jacob said, "Sell me your birthright as of this day." 32 And Esau said, "Look, I am about to die; so what is this birthright to me?" 33 Then Jacob said, "Swear to me as of this day." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. 34 And Jacob gave Esau bread and stew of lentils; then he ate and drank, arose, and went his way. **THUS ESAU DESPISED HIS BIRTHRIGHT**. (Gen 25:29-34)*

*I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live (Deut. 30:19)*

*Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. (Psm. 1:1-5)*

## II. GOD REVEALING HIS THRONE BRINGS STABILITY TO THE HUMAN HEART.

- A. Almost all of the throne room revelations came from or led to a place of persecution and instability. The Lord empowers the church to whole heartedly walk through persecution in boldness, meekness and love connected to a reality of His position upon a throne. This is a patterned principal seen throughout scripture.

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1. Isaiah and Ezekiel: Worship in the midst of Confusion

***In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. 2 Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. 3 And they were calling to one another: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory. (Isa. 6:1-3)***

***...while I was among the exiles (God's people exiled to Babylon) the heavens were opened and I saw the visions of God...above the expanse over their heads was what looked like a throne of sapphire and high above the throne was a figure like that of a man. (Ezekiel 1:1-3)***

2. Jeremiah: Trusting His Ways

***Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, Whose heart departs from the Lord... A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary. (Jer. 17:5;12)***

3. Daniel: Intercession bringing Revelation.

***(while in exile in Babylon) As I looked, thrones were set in place and the Ancient of Days took his seat. (Dan 7:9)***

4. Paul the Apostle: Perseverance through Persecution

***I know a man in Christ (Paul) who fourteen years ago (when under threat of arrest in Damascus 2 Cor. 11:32-33) was caught up to the third heaven...to paradise (the throne room) ...and heard inexpressible things that man is not permitted to tell. (2 Cor 12:2-4 )***

5. John the Apostle on the Island of Patmos: Endurance by Expectation

***I, John, both your brother and companion in the tribulation and kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was on the island that is called Patmos for the word of God and for the testimony of Jesus Christ...Immediately I was in the Spirit; and behold, a throne set in heaven, and One sat on the throne. (Rev. 1:9;4:2)***

- B. Fascination of the throne room awakens the compromising and fuels the burning. It is no accident that the evaluations of the seven churches in Revelation 2-3 precede the vision of the throne room. The beauty realm of God of chapters 4 and 5 empowers the

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compromising church to triumph over the inferior pleasures coming from the futility of our minds.

- C. Believers that are “eternity minded” find steadfastness and unity by keeping the big things big and small things small. The concept of beholding His face in the throne room realm is the process that changes us from glory to glory. It gives us internal transformation.

***when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away... we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror THE GLORY OF THE LORD, (the Throne room) are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. (2 Cor. 3:16-18)***

### III. THE THRONE ROOM PARADIGM EQUIPS THE END TIME CHURCH

- A. The Throne Room beauty realm of God speaks of His great authority over the universe and great intimacy to the individual. His majestic love gives perseverance and stability in the difficulty of the task of the end time church. The church must be grounded in the Throne Room reality to be both *empowered and protected* while proclaiming the message of the coming glory and judgment. The message combined with the vision keeps end time messenger’s hearts without offense.

***And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples <sup>3</sup> and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” <sup>4</sup> Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: <sup>5</sup> The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them. <sup>6</sup> And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.” (Matt. 11:2-6)***

- B. The throne room scene of Revelation 4 is the entry point into the end time drama of judgment and restoration. One cannot properly handle the message of the end of the age without the scene around God the Father in His glorious beauty, as the Creator with all power. This is the context by which we can have confidence in the cross through the things that are about to come upon the earth.

***Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals.” And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth. Then He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him who sat on the throne. (Rev. 5:5-7)***

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- C. The throne room scene of Revelation 5, the Son of God is set forth as being the Lion of Judah. A lion, in this context projects the feeling of nobility and bravery (lion-hearted). The Creator who owns all things and all things are under His control, is now desiring to give the scroll (the unfolding of human destiny) to His son, a glorified human being who is also divine; the Bridegroom, the King and Judge.
- D. John's presence in the throne room helps him understand what he is seeing in regards to the Day of the Lord and also equips him to communicate it. The message of the judgment of God unrelated to the message of the beauty of God can become a dangerous and unsafe message.

#### IV. THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO THE GROWING CRISIS

- A. A crisis by definition is designed to bring about urgency in people. The urgency usually results in panic and the need for justice for those that live according to the world's standard. However, for those that face a crisis in the church should not cause panic but introspection that results in increased pursuit of the will of the Father and His ultimate plan of judging mankind.

***“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’<sup>44</sup> But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you,<sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.<sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?<sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others? Do not even the tax collectors do so?<sup>48</sup> Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. (Mat. 5:43-48)***

- B. The prophet Micah gives us 6 responses in Chapter 7 that we should consider as our primary thoughts when considering any crisis.
  - 1. ***<sup>7</sup>Therefore I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation... (Mic. 7:7).*** We must learn to respond to the Lord first and not to the crisis first. He is our primary source of safety, comfort, justice, etc. Jesus' primary exhortation to His people when teaching on the end times is to watch and pray.

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***“But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with [h]carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. 35 For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.” (Luke 21:36)***

2. ***...when I fall, I will arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord will be a light to me... (Mic. 7:8)*** The bible is not idealistic in assuming that the crisis and pressures of society would not touch our lives. We are not promised protection *from* crisis but a protection *within* crisis. Protection in crisis includes confidence in the sovereignty of God and trust in His faithfulness, His heart for us and His steadfast love towards us.

***For a righteous man may fall seven times and rise again... (Prov. 24:16)***

3. ***I will bear the indignation [discipline] of the LORD, because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my case and executes justice for me. He will bring me forth to the light; I will see His righteousness. (Mic. 7:9)*** Discipline is not punishment. Discipline teaches us to make our commitments to Him and to one another when we are at a disadvantage to learn properly from the situation. The discipline of the Lord ultimately trains His people in righteousness especially during a crisis.

***“Do not despise [regard lightly] the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged... For whom the LORD loves He chastens...” 10He [chastens us] for our profit...It yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it. (Heb. 12:5-6, 10-11)***

4. ***Shepherd Your people with Your staff...The nations shall see...they shall put their hand over their mouths (Mic. 7:14-16)*** The Church must respond with intercession in asking the Lord to intervene in power and leadership through the scriptures to fulfill His promises. It is in crisis that the Lord desires for the church to pray for healing, justice and deliverance and to be the agents of God upon the earth. Nothing comes about except by prayer and fasting.

***Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?”<sup>20</sup> So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.<sup>21</sup> However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.” (Matt. 17:19-21)***



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5. ***Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity...He does not retain His anger forever because He delights in mercy... (Mic. 7:18)*** It is especially in crisis that we are to live from a heart of gratitude. Worship and adoration to the Lord should be concentrated upon His unique kindness for His people.

***And they sang responsively with praise and thanksgiving to the LORD: "For He is good; for His loving devotion to Israel endures forever." Then all the people gave a great shout of praise to the LORD, because the foundation of the house of the LORD had been laid. (Ezra 3:11)***

6. ***...He will have compassion on us...and subdue our iniquities. (Mic. 7:18-19)***  
Our iniquities will be subdued by His overwhelming compassion on *us*. It within a corporate understanding of the great compassion He has for His church that will bring healing to our hearts and health to our souls.

***A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones. (Prov. 17:22)***