

I. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS SESSIONS

- Five-Fold Offices
- The Help of the Body
- Demonstrate Satan's Defeat

II. DIVINE PROTECTION

- The local church provides supernatural protection for those who are connected to it.
- The number one way that God's protection is connected to the local church is through the pastor.

A. Types of Protection

The protection of the local church may be compared to a covering.

1. Doctrinal Protection

a. 2 Timothy 2:1

NLT "You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others."

AMP "The things [the doctrine, the precepts, the admonitions, the sum of my ministry] which you have heard me teach in the presence of many witnesses, entrust [as a treasure] to reliable *and* faithful men who will also be capable *and* qualified to teach others."

b. 2 Timothy 3:10-17

NKJV "But you have carefully **followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which** happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of *them* all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned *them*, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through

faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

2. Protection Through Prayer

a. The prayers of the **PASTOR** / the pastor’s jurisdiction

- *Paul* prayed for believers. *Pastors* pray for believers.
- When you receive a person as your PASTOR or as a SPIRITUAL FATHER, they have a place of authority in the spirit for you.

- **2 Corinthians 10:12-18**

NKJV “For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise. We, however, will not boast beyond measure, but within the limits of the sphere which God appointed us—a sphere which especially includes you. For we are not overextending ourselves (as though *our authority* did not extend to you), for it was to you that we came with the gospel of Christ; not boasting of things beyond measure, *that is*, in other men’s labors, but having hope, *that* as your faith is increased, we shall be greatly enlarged by you in our sphere, to preach the gospel in the *regions* beyond you, *and* not to boast in another man’s sphere of accomplishment. But ‘he who glories, let him glory in the Lord.’ For not he who commends himself is approved, but whom the Lord commends.”

- **Vs. 13**

NIV “We, however, will not boast beyond proper limits, but will confine our boasting to the sphere of service God himself has assigned to us, a sphere that also includes you”

AMP “We, on the other hand, will not boast beyond our proper limit, but [will keep] within the limits of our commission (territory, authority) which God has granted to us as a measure, which reaches *and* includes even you”

b. The prayers of the **CONGREGATION**

- Things happened when the church prayed together.
- **Acts 4:23-24**
NKJV "And being let go, they went to their own companions and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said to them. So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: 'Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them...'"
- **Acts 4:31**
NKJV "And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness."
- This was a CORPORATE experience as a result of praying together.
- In **Acts 12**, Peter is freed from prison through the prayers of the local church.
- These believers had **jurisdiction** in prayer for one another.

3. Impartation

a. **Romans 1:11**

KJV "For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established"

b. **2 Timothy 1:6**

KJV "Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands."

B. Safety and Protection are Connected to the Local Church

Don't be deceived into believing you don't need the covering of the local church.

1. God never called for us to be alone.

a. The prayer of Jesus

• **John 17:20-23**

NKJV "I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just

as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

b. Jesus prayed for the **unity** of believers—that we would be as **united as the Trinity**.

c. **Psalm 133:1-3**

NKJV “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious oil upon the head, Running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the Lord commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.”

PASTOR’S NOTE: *There is a divine supply that is released in the local church through the pastors and fellow members. That supply is a protective force against anything the enemy may send.*