

I'm going to ask you to open your Bibles, first of all to the O.T. the prophet Ezekiel chapter 22, chapter 22 of Ezekiel, I'm going to read two vv, vs 30 and 31. Tonight the message is PRAYING FOR THE LOST, and I'm not as concerned about preaching to you a sermon as I am that we be instructed in the manner of praying and interceding for those who are unsaved. And so we are going to be reading, quite a few scriptures tonight and we're just going to take it slow and easy and not get in any hurry about preaching a sermon and going through a sermon because I am, I want us to be instructed tonight more than preached at. Ezekiel chapter 22, vv 30 and 31. ....

Now this scripture indicates that it is possible for a person, one person to stand between God and a nation and by his standing in that place to avert the judgement of God upon a people. This same thing was illustrated in the life of Moses when after Moses received the tables upon which the law was written ~~XXX~~ he came down, and the people, of course had relapsed into idolatry and God said I'm sorry I made the people, I'm sorry I delivered them, and I'm going to destroy them. And in that chapter, I believe it's chapter 33 of the book of Exodus, we have one of the most eloquent intercessions ever made by a man for a people, and Moses stood in the gap between the wrath of God and the people he loved. And by his intercession he averted the wrath of God upon that people. Abraham took the same position when God ~~XXXXXX~~ said I'm going to destroy Sodom and Gomorrah, Abraham, said, Lord if I should find fifty, or forty or thirty or twenty or even ten righteous people in that city would you spare the city? Ten righteous people within the city would have averted the

wrath of God from S & G. I think in James chapter 5 you have this same thing illustrated where he says if some one is sick you call for the elders of the church and let them anoint them in oil ~~xxx~~ in the name of the Lord and pray over him and he goes on to say the prayer of faith shall save the sick. The holy and terrible responsibility that God places upon his people. And I believe there are times in the lives of individuals when you as a Christian can take the position of an intercessor and by your intercession and by your praying ~~x~~ you can delay and avert the wrath of God from coming upon an individual. And God has ~~xxxxxxx~~ ordained that He work through His people. ~~W~~ You say, well could God save someone without human instrumentality, that's not the issue, God will not do it. It's not that God cannot do it, God will not do it. It is God's will that He save people through human instruments. And it is God's will that He move in answer to prayer. ~~x~~ And I am bold to say that prayer causes God to do what He otherwise would not do. Jesus said if you shall ask anything in my name, I will do it. If we don't ask ~~xx~~ in His name, He will not do it. This matter of intercession, of standing in that gap on the one side is the wrath of God that must, that must inevitably be poured out upon the unbeliever. On the other side is the bound and blind lost man careless, indifferent, ~~xxx~~ stubbornly rebellious against God. You can take the position of standing in the gap between those two opposing forces and you can avert the judgement of God. Now if ~~xxxxxx~~ we're going to be praying for the lost, and this is what we've been leading up to in this series of studies on intercession - as I said this morning this is where the water hits the wheels, this is where it all comes together, and all that we've been studying and preaching has led up to this moment when we come to learn how to pray for the lost. Now we're going to be going through the Word of God, we're going to be reading a lot of

Scriptures and so you listen carefully and as I said a moment ago we're going to take it slow and easy, we want to get the message tonight and learn how to do this.

Now there are certain things that you and I must understand clearly before we are qualified to pray for a lost person. The first thing is, we must understand the CONDITION of a lost man. What is the condition of a lost man? His condition is two-fold: first of all he is bound by the god of this world. He is bound by the god of this world. Listen to II Tim. chapter 2, verse 26..... or I'll begin with verse 25. II Tim. chapter 2, Paul is instructing Timothy, the servant of God, how to act towards those who are unsaved. He said you act towards them in meekness, instructing ..... Now notice verse 26.... Now that scriptures tells us something about the lost man. He is the captive of Satan. He is bound by the God of this world. But he can be freed. I John chapter 5 and verse 19, ..... the KJ ~~W~~ says wickedness, the Greek says it lies in the wicked one. And the picture is of a mother who holds a little baby in her arms, and that baby lies within the power of that mother. And God says this world, this unregenerated world lies in the power of the evil one. All right listen again in Eph. chapter 2, Paul says and you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins wherein in time past you walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience. Now Satan is the prince of the power of the air and before a man is saved his walk, that ~~xx~~ indicates his daily life, is ~~xxxx~~ dictated to by that Satan, by that prince of the power of the air. So the first thing you need to understand about the lost man is he is a slave, he is bound by the god of this world. Over in Luke chapter 11, we'll not take the time to read it, but you read vs ~~xxxx~~ 21, and ~~xxxxxxxx~~ Jesus says that that lost man is in the house of Satan and Satan has him bound and has him



captive and before you can reach that lost man first of all you have to disarm Satan. So the Bible makes it very clear that if you're present tonight w/o Jesus Christ, you've never been saved, that you are bound by the devil, you are his property, you belong to him, you are his captive and you do his will, and you live according to his will in your life. That spirit of disobedience works in you. And that word work in the Greek means it energizes. Where does a lost man get his energy for living? He gets it from the spirit of Satan which dwells in him. His very life, his every day walk is energized by the devil.

All right, secondly, the lost man is not only bound by the god of this world, he is blind to the gospel of Christ. He is blind to the gospel of Christ. Have you ever wondered why it is people aren't saved? I don't know how many times we've come away from a service that was especially empowered of God and people have said, I just don't see how people could sit there and not be saved. But they did. Have you ever been perplexed as to how some people just cannot see the simplicity that's in Christ? They are blinded to the gospel, listen II Cor. chapter 4 vv 3 and 4. ... lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God should shine into them. They are blind to the gospel. And the god of this world, who has bound them, has also blinded them lest they should see and perceive and be saved by the gospel of Jesus Christ. So you have this two-fold condition of a lost person. He is bound by Satan, and he is blinded by Satan so that he cannot understand and receive the word of God. Now before a man can be saved, two things must happen. There must be first of all emancipation and secondly enlightenment. Jesus said, first of all when you go into a strong man's house you have to first of all bind that strong man before you can spoil his goods. First of all that lost man must be emancipated, he must be freed from the bondage of Satan, and the blindness of his eyes must be removed.



Now. This is a spiritual victory. I want you to listen very carefully. This is a spiritual warfare. If we're going to reach people for Jesus we must meet them, we must meet Satan on his own ground and that ground is spiritual. The primary target in evangelism is not the sinner, it is Satan, and where we have missed it in evangelism is we have bombarded the sinner, bombarded his senses trying to convince of his lostness and trying to bring him to a saving decision and we've missed it because the power that binds him must first of all be broken. In praying for God to save people we are not trying to force the will of man but we are trying to free the will of man from the bondage of Satan so he can choose to be saved. We must meet the devil on his own grounds. This is a spiritual warfare and the only weapons that we have to reach people for Jesus are spiritual weapons. Listen to what Paul says in II Cor. chapter 10. verse 3 and 4. .... for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but they are mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. ~~Now~~ Now, listen in the New American Std Bible, listen to this verse: ~~XXXXX~~ for the weapons of our warfare are divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses." What have we said? A lost man is held in a fortress, he is bound and he is blind. How are we going to free that man? How are we going to win that man to Jesus? Before you can win that man, before that man can be saved, that fortress in which Satan holds him must first of all be destroyed. What weapons are we going to use? Paul says not the weapons of flesh. But the weapons of spirit. Spiritual weapons. Now we have in our day what I choose to call sensual evangelism. Do you know what sensual evangelism is? Sensual evangelism is evangelism that appeals to the senses. It is evangelism that says, if I ~~can~~ can just bombard this man's senses, his sight, his hearing, his feeling, his touch, his taste, if I can just bombard that man and I can just pressure him and pressure him and pressure him,

one of these days I am going to get him, I am going to convince him that Jesus Christ is where it's at and he's going to be saved. We appeal to the senses. And we have happening today what some people call a soulish conversion, or what we might call a sensate (?) conversion. Everybody comes and they're part of the group, be a part of the group, ~~xwxx~~ the group's going to sing now, the group's going to stand up, the group's going to shout. The group's going to take an offering. All right, the group's going to listen to ~~the~~ the preacher preach, now the group is going to make a decision and be saved, everybody's doing it, why don't you do it? And so a fellow comes down and he says, hey, I think I'll join in the group this sounds like a good thing, because I am mentally convinced, emotionally I want to do it, so I just by my will choose to do this, and he goes through the motions, we say it's simple, if you'll just pray the prayer and do this then you're all right. Now I want you to know why it is then that day after day week ~~we~~ after week, Sunday after Sunday, we have people coming in this church, and every church across the land, saying, I was baptized when I was seven - when I was ten - when I was fifteen - and it didn't make any difference, I've never been saved, I need to be saved. Because we are having soulish conversion, we are having sensual evangelism that merely says, if I can just bombard your senses long enough, you'll break down, I'll wear you out and you'll be saved. The weapons of our warfare are spiritual and the battle is spiritual. You know, it's interesting to notice that when Jesus rebuked Simon Peter in Matth. chapter 16 he did not speak to Simon Peter. He spoke to the power behind Simon Peter - he spoke to Satan. ~~And Jesus~~ When ~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus said ~~XXXXXX~~ I'm going up to Jerusalem, and I'm going to be crucified, Peter said, no, Lord, not you, don't ever let that happen to you - ~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus said, get thee behind me SATAN. He spoke to the power,

He dealt with the power behind Simon Peter. Acts chapter 16, I believe its' verse 16 or verse 19, when Paul & Silas were going through Phillip and they were preaching, they had this fortune teller, this woman who had a spirit of fortune telling dwelling in her, she kept following them and some of you have some idea that there's nothing wrong with fortune telling - listen it's of the devil, it's a demon that possessed this woman and she went along she was saying, listen to these boys they're God's preachers, ~~XXXX~~ you' better listen to them. You know what I get from that? Paul got angry and annoyed and after a few days and he turned and he said, he spoke to the spirit within her. He didn't try to convince her intellectually that fortune telling was wrong. He didn't bombard her senses and try to convince her that she ought to be saved. First of all, first of all he dealt with the power that bound that woman and he spoke to the spirit and he said, in the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out. Now let me just put a little by the way here - hold my place- You know I was not at all thrilled when Amazing Grace became #1 on the hit parade. Now some people think that's just great. But I want you to know they've got no RIGHT to sing Amazing Grace. And God never ~~XXX~~ wants the world witnessing for Jesus. Here was this woman possessed of the ~~XXXXXX~~ devil, going around giving good publicity, and saying you people better listen to these people because they are from God and it was the devil speaking and Paul said, you come out of her and that's just by the way - that's free for nothing. But I think we ought ~~XXXXXX~~ not to get all excited and think man, we've got revival, the world is turning good, because everybody, the world people, the godless people are singing songs about Jesus, I don't think that glorifying to the Lord. Not at all. In Eph. chapter 6 verse 10, he says, we wrestle not w/ flesh and blood but w/ the powers of darkness - so here's the thing we need to understand, in



~~XX~~ the matter ~~XXXXXX~~ of evangelism, in the matter of reaching people for Jesus, the primary target is not the sinner, but it is Satan who binds and blinds the sinner. And the only way that we can ~~XXXX~~ emancipate and enlighten that sinner is with spiritual weapons, and the only spiritual weapons I know anything about in the word of God are two: that's prayer and the Word of God. Over in Eph. chapter 6 when Paul describes that spiritual conflict and he says don't ~~X~~ you believe that in evangelism you are struggling w/ the flesh and blood of that lost man, ~~X~~ no, you are struggling w/ the power behind that lost man, he says you take the only two offensive weapons, you take the Sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God and you pray always , and what was it in ~~X~~ Acts chapter 6 and verse 7, the disciples said we will give ourselves continually to prayer and the ministry of the word. The two spiritual weapons that God has given to us in reaching lost men for Jesus is prayer and the Word of God. And our praying, and our intercession~~X~~ , enables , enables the lost man to be free from the bondage of Satan. So we need to understand first of all the condition of the lost man. He is bound by the god of this world and he is blind to the gospel of Jesus Christ. ~~XXXX~~ And in intercession we are not forcing that man's will, but we are freeing his will from the bondage of Satan. Paul said in that II Tim chapter 2 verse 25 and 26~~4~~ passage, he said that that man is held captive by Satan to do his will but there is the possibility that that man can come to his senses and free himself from the snare of the devil. Now when will that lost man ~~XX~~ come to his senses? When God, Paul says, grants repentance to the knowledge of truth. God must intervene in the life of a lost man and ~~X~~ grant to that man repentance so he can free himself from the bondage of Satan. God acts in answer to our prayer, in ~~XX~~ answer to our intercession. All right, the devil has a lost person completely, absolutely in his power. So in the

second place, you need to understand not only the condition of the lost man, but you've got to understand that Satan has been conquered. You've got to understand the CONQUEST OF SATAN.

Satan has been absolutely defeated. Absolutely defeated - I JChn chapter 3 verse 8 ..... that he might destroy the works of the devil. All right, now listen to Hebrews chapter 2, beginning with verse 14 - "..... that ~~XX~~ through His death He might destroy him that had the power of death that is the devil and deliver them who through~~XXXXXX~~ fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. All right what about the conquest of Satan -- it is an absolute conquest, Jesus has completely vanquished the devil. I thrill every time I read these vv in Col. chapter 2, vv 14 and 15, the apostle is describing what Jesus did on the cross and he said that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Jesus on the cross blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us which was contrary to us and took it out of the way nailing it to his cross. Now listen to vs 15, "and having spoiled principalities and powers he made ~~X~~ a show of them openly triumphing over them in it." Let me read that vs again and translate some of those ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ words for you. And having spoiled -- that word spoiled is a military word that means to disarm or to strip of all power. When Jesus died on the cross, what did his blood do? His blood stripped of their power and made a show of them openly by his resurrection. And when Jesus came out of that ~~x~~ tomb on the third day, the Bible says that He conquered death and hell, he conquered Satan, and he made an open display that he had stripped the devil and all the demons of all their power, He had absolutely disarmed them. So Satan, who binds and blinds a lost man, is defeated. It is an absolute conquest. You say then why aren't they free? Because in the second place, it is to be an APPROPRIATED CONQUEST. You've got to appropriate it. You've got to make it real.



Listen to James chapter 4 verse 7, "Submit yourselves therefore to God, resist the devil and he will flee from you." Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Listen to what ~~XXXXX~~ Jesus says in Matth. chapter 18 --- well first of all Matthw chapter 16 -- and he repeats it in Matthew chapter 18. In Matt.16 vv 18 and 19 , he's speaking to Peter, and I say also unto thee that thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates ofhell shall not stand against it. and I will give unto thee the keyes of the kingdom ofheaven, now notice this next statement: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth will have already been bound in heaven." Now in the KJ it says that whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven - the Greek text and many of your newer translations bring this out, that whatever you bind on earth will have already beenbound in heaven, there's the principle of appropriating. And whatever you loose on earth shall have already been loosed in heaven. All right, now in case some people think that just applied to Peter, listen to what ~~XXXXXXXXX~~ Jesus says again in Matt. 18:18, he's talking to the church, talking to all believers, now, verily I say unto you, whatsoever you shall bind on earth will be that which is already bound in heaven and whatsoever you shall loose on earth will be that which is already been loosed in heaven. There again is the principle of approrpriating the power. When Jesus died on the cross, He bound Satan and He loosed all men from the bondage of sin. ~~XXX~~ Now He says I leave it with you. I leave it with you and I give to you ~~K~~ the keyes of the kingdom and you're to go out and your'e to dotwo things, you're to bind and you're to loose. I've already bound itin heaven now you are to bind it on earth. I've already loosed it in heaven, now you're to loose iton earth. And ~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus has committed to us the ministry of binding and loosing, this power that ~~XXXXX~~ Jesus effected when He died on the



cross must be appropriated in the life of the believer. So the devil is free to run and free to do at will, it seems, but he's really a defeated foe, he is vanquished, he has been utterly, absolutely conquered, but you and I must appropriate that in our every day life. All right. You say well/<sup>if</sup>all of that is ~~XX~~ so, then how do I pray for a lost person?

Now we're going to be just practical. Here's a lost person that God has placed on my heart. And I want to pray for him. And I am willing to take the place of intercession and intercede for him. How can I do it? First of all - the first thing is you must deal with the power behind that lost person. In Matthew chapter 12 you remember Jesus was casting out devils and some of his critics said you're casting out devils by the power of the devil. And so Jesus says in vs 27 ..... now how did Jesus cast out devils? He did it by the Spirit of God. Now notice -- or else - in vs 29 how can ~~we~~ one enter into a strong man's house and spoil his goods except he first bind the strong man and then he will spoil his house. In Matthew 12:29 Jesus said before I can go into Satan's house and ~~XXXXX~~ spoil his goods and plunder his captives, the first thing I have to do is to bind Satan, and when Jesus ~~XXXXX~~ died on the cross and shed his blood that bloodshed on Calvary affected the binding, the defeat of Satan. But what has been bound in heaven must also be bound on earth and what has been loosed in heaven must also be loosed on earth, and so a few chapters later he says ~~XXXXX~~ now you are to go out and whatever you bind on earth will have already been bound in heaven. Jesus said before I can go into that strong man's house I have to first of all bind the strong man. Doesn't that just make sense? If you're going into a man's house to rob him, to burglarize him, the first thing you've got to do is to overcome him. Luke chapter 11 tells us

that what Jesus did. You've got to overcome, you've got to disarm first of all that strong man. ~~XX~~ A stronger man has to come in -- now get this, let's look over in Luke chapter 11. Verse 21 ..... ARMED -- now notice that word -- armed .... now notice two things: this strong man, talking about Satan, this strong man is armed and the first thing that you can do, must do, before you can spoil his goods is disarm him. Col. 2:15 says that when Jesus died on the cross he disarmed Satan, but you and I have to make it real, we have to appropriate it. But when a stronger than he shall come in and overcome him. I think of what John says in I Jn chapter 4 and vs 4, ..... because STRONGER is he that is within you than he that is within the world. And so the first thing, the first order of business in winning and interceding for a lost man to be saved is first of all, you must ~~XXXXX~~ deal with the power behind that lost man. The first thing you have to do is to bind Satan, by prayer. Now let's go back to II Cor. chapter 10 and read again that passage. Paul says for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal ..... our weapons, our weapons are divinely powerful to destroy fortresses. Now what are our weapons? The Word of God and the power of prayer. And the first thing that you are to do when ~~X~~ you pray for a lost man is to stand against Satan in his life. Now some of you have asked why it is necessary that we persist in prayer? Must we persuade God to save that lost man? No Sir -- you don't have to persuade God to save that lost man. The persistence in prayer is your standing against the devil. Standing against Satan. And the part that the intercessor plays is that he opposes the devil and enters into conflict with the devil over this man's life. You stand against Satan, you rebuke Satan, you bind Satan in that man's life and ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Jesus says whatever you bind on earth will be bound ~~X~~ by heaven. You say, how do you do that? You do it with the word

of faith. The word of faith. You don't work it up, you don't struggle you don't strain, just the word of faith. You go into the throne of grace in Jesus' name and you have all the authority of Heaven to bind Satan from operating in a man's life. Matth. 17 says if you shall say to this mountain, be thou moved into the sea, it shall be moved. This is a command of faith. Just the word of faith. And we'll say more about that at a later time. The word of faith - the power of a Christian speaking something in faith, the confession of faith.

All right, first of all you must deal with Satan and stand against Satan, the enemy, all the works and the fortresses of the enemy, shall be, must be torn down in that persons' life. And I've noticed as I have prayed and this is another thing -- you must always be sensitive to the leadership of the HS in this praying, and I have noticed as I have been praying for lost people to be saved, and I bring them to the throne of grace, and I just allow myself to be led and impressed of the HS, all of a sudden it will seem the HS ~~XXXX~~ will impress upon me a problem in that man's life. Perhaps the stronghold that the devil has in his life is maybe fear. Or maybe it's pride, or maybe it's some sin of the flesh, and that's the stronghold. Did you know there are many people that will not be saved because they are clinging to some darling sin? And many times as I have been praying, not only for a lost person, for also for a carnal Christian, the Spirit of God, the intuition of the HS, has just said you need to pray that Satan's fortress of pride, or impurity be cast down, and then I begin to pray in that direction. Because first of all the strong man must be bound.

All right, second -- after you deal with Satan and you stand against him, claim that person in the Name of ~~XXXX~~ Jesus. And to pray in the Name of Jesus is to ask for and to claim the things which the blood of Jesus Christ has secured. And when you go to



the throne of grace, and in the Name of Jesus you take that lost person, you are claiming that person for whom Jesus Christ has died and His blood has paid for. I have this quote from a book by S. D. Gordon, one of the greatest books ever written on prayer, "The Power of Prayer" listen to what S. D. Gordon says: "Without any doubt we may assure the conversion of these laid on our hearts by such praying." The prayer in Jesus' Name drives the enemy off the battlefield of man's will and leaves him free to choose aright." Do you believe that? That's the weapons of ~~XXXXX~~ your warfare. My intercession enables a man to believe. My intercession frees a man's will from the binding and blinding of Satan. The prayer in ~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus' Name drives the enemy off the battlefield of man's will and leaves him free to choose aright. You see, we don't realize the tremendous power that God has placed in our hand by using the Name of Jesus. Because when I speak, when I pray in the Name of Jesus it is as though Jesus Himself spoke. And you read through the gospels and every time Jesus spoke to the devil he listened. And every time Jesus spoke to the spirits and to the demons, they obeyed and they listened. And to pray in the Name of Jesus is to drive the enemy from the battlefield of a man's life. The third thing -- praise God for the victory. Thank God for the victory. Thank God that he's going to save him, thank God that it's done. That man may not in actuality be saved for a long time, listen you cannot dictate to God when He's going to save somebody, when allof this is going to happen. You know I have great liberty in praying for lost people but when I begin to say, now, Lord would you do it this Sunday? All of a sudden the Spirit of God just resists within me, I ca-not dictate to God how He will do it. You say, well I don't understand about man's will -- a man has to choose for himself. Listen

that's between that man and God that's none of my business. That's none of my business. That's between that man and God. All God asks me to do is to intercede for him, and you leave that man's will and God up to them, that's their business, don't you try to figure that out. You just do your part, that's all God asks you to do. You do your part, God'll take care of the rest. Paul says it may be that God will grant them repentance and they'll free themselves from the snare of the devil. That's what I want God to do. I want to pray that God would grant that person repentance. And after you've done that, then you thank God for it. You thank God for it. I'll tell you that's the reason you find so often when Paul talks about prayer he always ~~XXXX~~ links it up w/ thanksgiving. Why do you suppose that? Phil. 4 -- be careful for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication joined w/ thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God. Col chapter 4 vs 4 watch in prayer and he goes on and says with thanksgiving. Why do you suppose that? Because when you come to God and you ask him for something, you are supposed to thank him for it at the same time. You say, well if I believed that, man I could just pray for the whole world and the whole world would be saved. Well, as your faith so be it. According to your faith. According to your faith. According to your faith. I'm going to read one more verse --- I John chapter 5 vv 14 and 15. And this is the confidence that we have in him -- I like to pray w/ confidence, don't you? --- and this is the confidence that we have in him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. Well, it's God's will that a lost man be saved, isn't it? -- We've already seen that. Then that means that if I ask according to his will, he hears me. Does that mean that that lost man's going to be saved? Read that next vs. And if -- there's the condition -- if we know that he hears us whatsoever we ask we know that we have the petitions that we have

desired of him. Now vs 14 ~~he~~ talks about praying according to his will. Verse 15 is praying according to faith. Did you know you can ask for things according to God's will and not get them? Because you really don't know that he's heard you. But when you pray according to his will and you go away saying thank God he heard me, then you have the petitions that you have desired of him. But if you pray and pray and pray according to His will and say, well, I sure hope it happens. You don't that he's heard you. If we KNOW that he heard us, then and only then do we have the petitions that we've desired of him. According to your faith, so be it.

I'm anxious to see what God will do with a bunch of people committed to intercession and praying for the lost. I'm going to read that quote from S. D. Gordon again, that's just great. "Without any doubt we may assure the conversion of those laid on our hearts by such praying." Amen. They 're people that I've been praying for -- I just know, without a shadow of a doubt that they're going to be saved. I just absolutely have no doubt.

Now I want to go one step farther, and I'm going to tell you something that I believe - I cannot give you a verse for this and I always try to tell you when I ~~am~~ am speaking and I cannot quoteing from the book -- I cannot give you chapter and verse, but this is a conclusion I have come to on the basis of all of this that we've been studying about intercession -- I believe that when a Christian has laid on his heart a lost person and that Christian takes the place of true intercession, I believe that God will allow that man to live until he is saved. I believe it is the conviction of my heart, that when God ~~XXXX~~ through His Holy Spirit having laid a lost person on my ~~my~~ heart and I begin to pray and intercede and I claim that person in ~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus' Name, and I stand against the devil, I believe God will not allow that man to die until that



prayeris answered. And I believe that on the basis of all of this that I've been studying. And I believe that there are times when someone is seriously ill that you can take the place of intercession as Ezekiel 22:30 says and stand between that person and death long enough for them to have a chance to hear the gospel. God has delegated to us awesome power in the Name of Jesus. And you need to pray and intercede for lost ~~people~~ people and stand against Satan in their behalf, praising the Lord for the victory. You see, the devil holds them, but he's defeated and he must release them in ~~the~~ Jesus' Name, when you command him to do so.

Now there's one final word -- Jesus said "A house divided against itself cannot stand" - He said if I have a part with Satan, I cannot cast out Satan, now Christian if the devil has a place in your life and there is an area of disobedience in your life, your powerless, you're powerless. I think it would be good for me to read to you II Cor. chapter 10 and vs 6, Paul says~~XXXX~~ and havingin a readiness to revenge all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled." You say, what's Paul talking about? Paul is saying I want to come to Corinth and I'm going to set everything right that's wrong. But he said I cannot do it until first of all you are right. He said there's a lot of disobedience but he said I cannot punish, I cannot take care of the disobedience of others over your own disobedience. I am ready I am ready to take care of the disobedience of others, when your obedience is complete. Now that simply means that my disobedience keeps God~~X~~ from doing His work, through me, into the lives of others. And if Sstan has afoothold in your life, if there is an area of disobedience in your life, then God cannot move through

your praying and through your intercession to take care of the disobedience of others. And so, what you and I as intercessors, as Christians, must do is first of all make certain that our obedience is complete.