

Saturday 7 March 2009

At the beginning of the meeting, Ruth reminded us that this is His meeting, and His table. She took us back again to Revelation 4, and also shared some recent words and visions from people around the East Midlands that show Nottingham as a key 'domino' in God's strategy for taking the nation.

The trumpets sounded, and we flung wide the gates of our hearts to welcome the Lord in. After spending a long time in worship, the leaders felt that we had come to the West Gate of the city, the stronghold of witchcraft, and it was starting to creak open. But before we could move on we needed to be purified by fire. The flame was brought forward as a symbol of the refining fire of God, and we were encouraged to bring any hindrances to it to be burned up by the Lord. There was a prophecy in song about the refiner's fire producing men who will be offerings in righteousness to prepare the way of the Lord.

A word was shared: "The time is now. We need to rise up with Him. This is not our battle, Jesus is going in to battle. We mustn't think it's our battle. It's a dangerous time, but if we surrender and let Him pierce our hearts with the sword He has given us, the very piercing will be our equipping."

A picture was shared: Jesus on a white horse with angels behind Him, and silver gates in front. First He said, 'Open the gates,' then He said, 'I will open the gates.'

Then we shared communion, which was seen as a kind of protocol for welcoming the King. We were reminded of the need for watchmen, and the importance of waiting for the Lord rather than rushing forward by ourselves.

Representatives from the cities around Nottingham, namely Lincoln, Leicester, Loughborough and Derby were called forward. We recognised that we need help to push the gates open. Everyone from Nottingham gathered around these cities, and as we did so, a cry of grief started to rise from Derby. This led to a time when all the cities prayed blessing over Derby.

The meeting ended with a strong sense that all five cities are coming together in love and unity, and an expectation for what is to come when we meet again. The children were gathered and their parents spoke scriptures over their lives. Others also spoke scriptures they had received for their children and for the children of the city. These included Psalm 128, Psalm 8, Numbers 22, Isaiah 44, Isaiah 61, Ezekiel 'you will no longer be bereaved of your children.'

At the end we declared Matthew 8:7 ... 'He heals all our diseases' and sang 'You are great, You do miracles so great, there is no-one else like You.'