

- **WARM UP** It was early 1993 in Cambodia. The country was being run by the United Nations and elections were set for the following month. The Khmer Rouge had not yet laid down their weapons and were making random attacks on villages in the countryside, and in the capital, Phnom Penh. One of their tactics in the city was to ride around on motorbikes throwing hand grenades into coffee shops.

There was much fear in the country regarding the outcome of the elections. A number of people (including some Christian prophets) had predicted a great bloodbath in the months ahead. One afternoon I was standing on the rooftop of a hotel in Phnom Penh and I asked the Lord if these prophecies were true. He replied, "Yes, they are true. They are the plans of the enemy for this nation, but it doesn't have to be like that - you can make a difference."

I can make a difference? One man? I started to pray, "Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done in Cambodia, as it is in heaven". That is all I prayed, and the more I prayed it, the more anointing power I felt. This went on for a good period of time until I felt the burden lift off me.

The elections went ahead the following month and there was no bloodbath. The United Nations administration then pulled out and handed over power to the elected government.

- **READ** James 5:16-18, Ezekiel 22:30, 2 Corinthians 10:3-4

## ● BACKGROUND

This scripture in James explains that the prayer of one man is tremendously effective. Elijah lived in a time of great evil - the prophets were in hiding, Baal worship was everywhere. But one man stood, one man heard a word from the Lord, one man acted and the nation was impacted.

In Ezekiel 22:30 we read about the Lord looking for a man to stand in the gap, someone who would intercede for the people, as Moses had done many years earlier for the children of Israel.

## ● QUESTIONS

- 1 What is the meaning of the scripture in 2 Corinthians, that our weapons are "divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses"?
- 2 How does understanding this scripture impact your response to the destructive forces we see at work in our society today?



What is God saying to me?

## ● LET'S PRAY

## REAL LIFE STORIES OF GOD'S POWER



I went to one of Bill's healing meetings about two years ago. He said, "lower back". I put the [prayer] cloth on my back and within a couple of days that was sorted. About six months ago I had a very bad cough. I'd been to the doctors twice, had antibiotics - they did nothing. Again I was given a [prayer] cloth and within a few days the cough cleared up totally so I thank God for that. Ian

True stories from the Dove Ministries files

## ● CONSIDER THIS

When we see evil how do we respond? Do we get angry and judgemental? Or maybe we withdraw, cut ourselves off from society and pretend it doesn't exist - "It's not my problem!"

There is a third option: not to judge or withdraw, but to engage. We are called to make a difference in society, to be a light in a dark place. Often we have started to protest, confront, get politically involved. These are not wrong responses, but we need to remember we have a greater option, the power and the authority of prayer. "The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much."

You can make a difference today that changes lives and has an eternal impact. Look at the issues around you, allow the Holy Spirit to put His concerns on your heart and start to pray. Don't just accept the plans of the enemy for this nation, **stand in the gap** - and find other men who will stand with you and pray, "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done" in this nation, and in our community.