

# Night and Day Prayer According to David

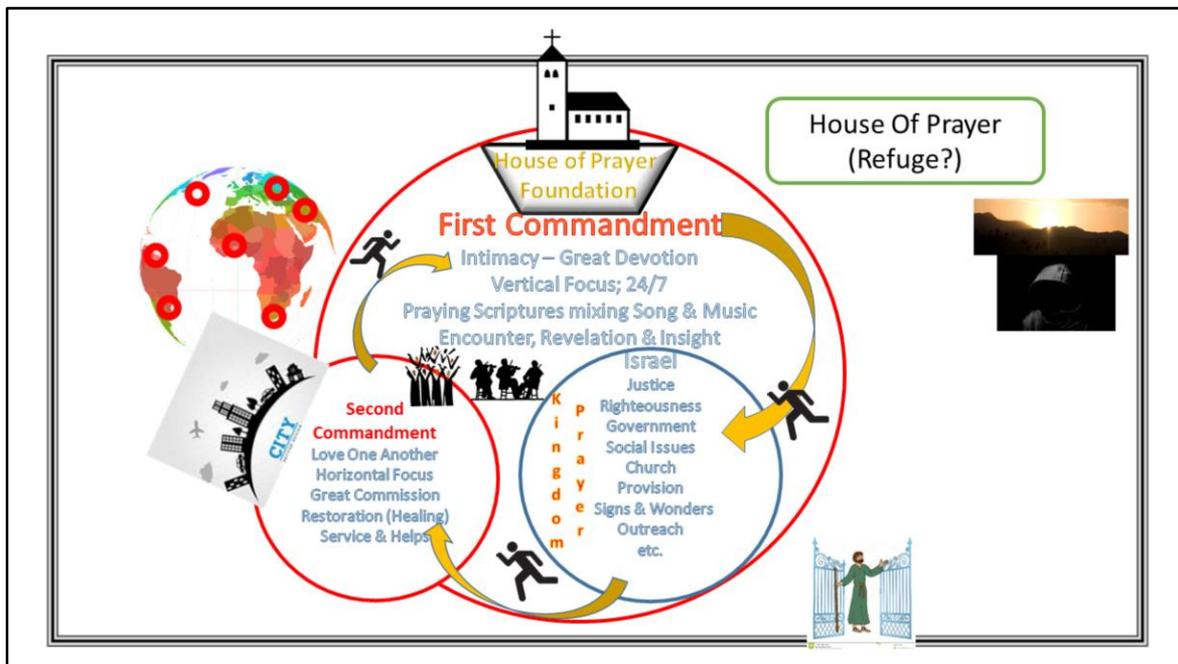
The HOP – City of Refuge

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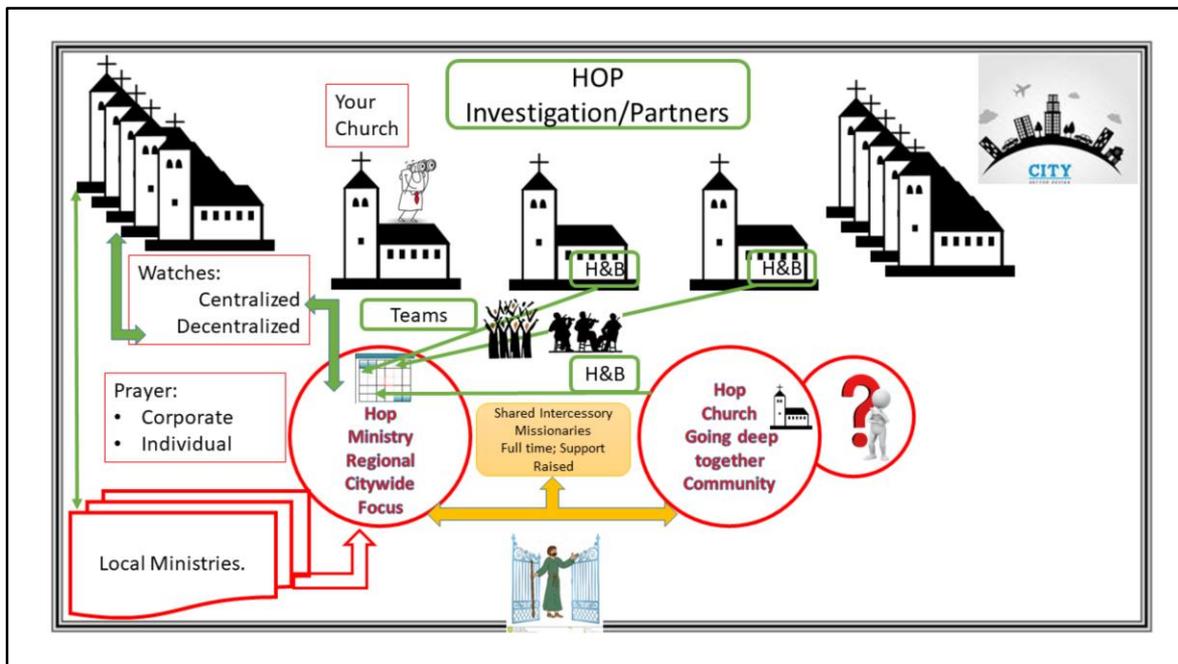


***Why the House of Prayer?*** The House of Prayer (HOP) will be the foundation for Church life at the end of the age and probably the foundation for a place or city of refuge. It is uniquely designed for cities. It operates day and night and provides a spiritual wall for the watchman (intercessory worshipers) and acts as a spiritual gatekeeper for the city and region. King David was given this divine idea of 24/7 worship and intercession and first modeled its development and operation in Jerusalem. The prophets, Ezra and Nehemiah rounded out our understanding of this coming provision. God will restore David's fallen tent of intercessory worship at the end of the age. It will be needed to save Israel and the church.



**What is the HOP's top priority?** The first commandment is the HOP's top priority. It focuses on God and His experience not on us. He is the audience of One. The good things of His kingdom flow out of our first commandment devotion or what David called the "sharath" of the Lord – the pleasant, joyful experience of the master when His servants minister to Him in song and intercession, agreeing around the clock with who He is and what He does. Our first commandment pursuit fuels up intimacy and our devotion drives our intercession for Kingdom purposes including our 2<sup>nd</sup> commandment love of one another and the nations. We find ourselves constantly running in and out of the HOP and into the city and into one another's lives. Just like David, God's gold standard for fallen yet redeemed men.

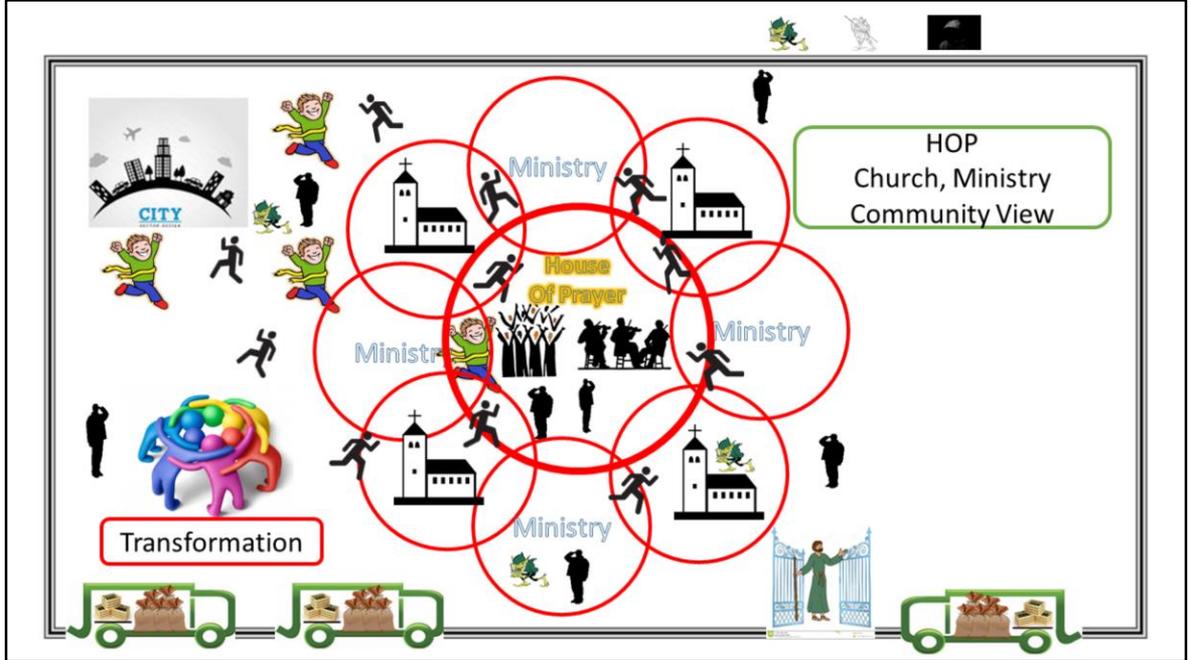
**Why a place of refuge?** As the name suggests, a future season of unparalleled difficulty is coming and a place(s) of refuge will be needed. The final day of the LORD will be terrible because of the convergence of the rage of Satan who knows his time is short (Rev 13:5-7), the travail of the physical earth (Rom 8:18-21), the ripening of the sin of men (Dan 8:23) as well as the judgments of God in the land (Rev 6). By place or city of refuge, we don't mean a place that sees no evil or has no struggle. Rather, it is a place of unusual provision. All the nations came to the patriarch Joseph for help in that season of world wide famine. Israel and the nations received heavenly provision that saved them. Another example might be the area of Goshen during the plagues of Egypt. A measure of struggle was allowed in Goshen during the Exodus yet the full measure of God's disciplining judgments did not fall there as it did over the rest of Egypt. A final example might be the five cities in Egypt that will be loyal to the God of Israel even though the central government of Egypt will be under the enemy's control. The HOP is God's ideal tool for governing such a place



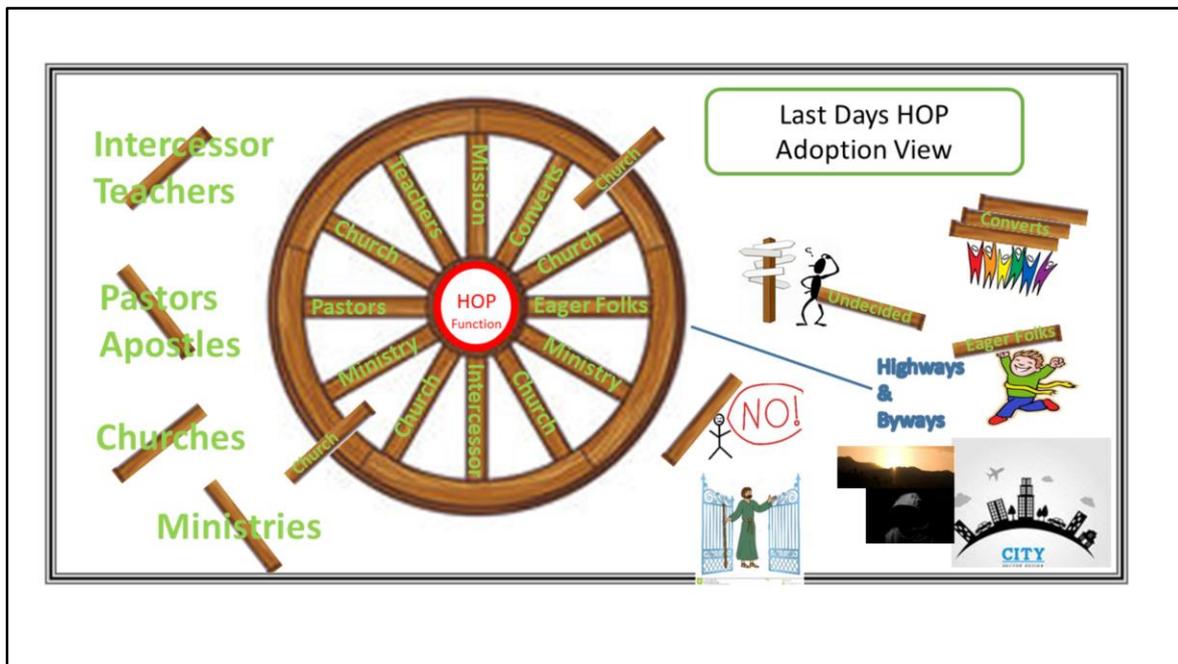
**What would a HOP look like in a city?** The congregations and ministries in a city are watching for what God is doing. The revelation of the HOP is a *last days* provision *for* and sign *of* those days from God. It is His plan to drive the last days through the place of prayer and the flagship enterprise of prayer is the House of Prayer. This is God’s name for His house and describes its fundamental operation. It is not a replacement for the Church – the collection of local congregations and ministries, but a thoughtful addition. It is not new to scripture but a restoration of David’s commanded practice. It is not a familiar structure in the modern period and application of this truth may differ from location to location.

**How does a city develop a HOP?** The Church will need to embrace this revelation as God provides illumination and they will determine how best to align with it. The Church is diverse, and God gives different assignments to different parts of His body. So the application of the HOP in any location will necessarily be unique. How much “time, treasure and talent” each believer devotes to the HOP will be different. The regional HOP will be a clearing point for the participation of the Church in an area. The city needs 24/7 to maximize the HOP’s impact. Some of the Church will fully adopt a 24/7 lifestyle and 24/7 will become those members’ dominant activity. Most of the Church will participate in the ministry of the citywide (regional) HOP in some measure to create the HOP impact. And the Church will continue to pursue the full compliment of assignments that God has already given them.

**How will a HOP operate?** The citywide (regional) 24/7 may be distributed among the congregations with a master schedule or calendar directing people for the time and place of intercession. More likely, the citywide (regional) HOP will be a gathering place for citywide intercessory worship. Pastoral issues will be managed by the congregations as they are today. The citywide (regional) HOP is free to pursue its sole purpose – night and day prayer according to David.



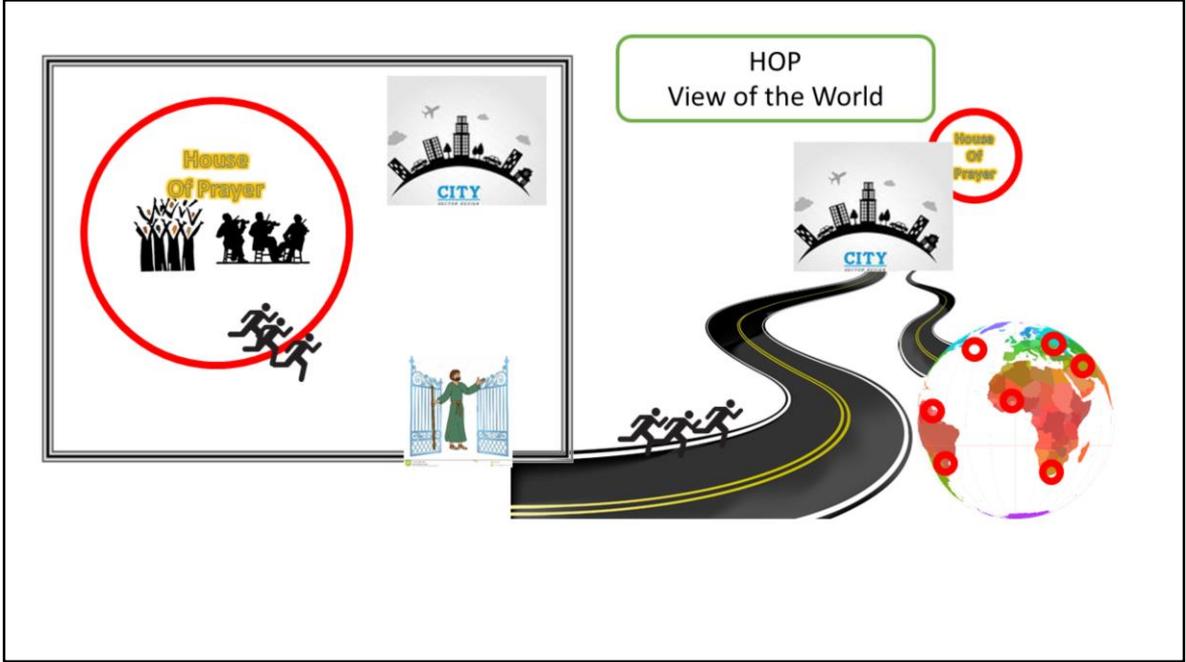
**How might congregations and ministries align with the HOP?** In our understanding, we imagine the following. A congregation may add an intercessory worship watch (typically two hours of Harp & Bowl, musically assisted prayer) to their own activities but for the sake of community welfare they will share their resources with the city-wide House of Prayer. Believers run in and out of the House of Prayer and in and out of ministry centers and in and out of the city where they pray for the lost and broken and meet needs. People from the city get saved and touched and run to church and run to the House of Prayer. Meanwhile the House of Prayer watches to ward off external evils that are attempting to enter the city and watches for evil that has already slipped into the city to pray out its influence while praying in provision and blessing for the city and constantly maintaining a 24/7 focus on the Lord – the audience of one. Jeremiah counsels, “(Jer 29:7 NAU) <sup>7</sup> 'Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.'” The fundamentals are the same regardless of location.



**How will current expressions of Christianity transition to the HOP?** The local house(s) of prayer form the hub of the operational view of the Church in a city. The Church will connect to a HOP or be a HOP to some degree and form a “spoke”. Individuals, ministries and churches will invest in the HOP based upon their assignment from the Lord. It may be a small investment or large. God will determine the measure of engagement and support and bless the investment in His house.

**How will God coax the church into this new wineskin?** In the last days, new believers, prodigals, churches, ministries and long time believers will need to realign their priorities to match what God is doing at the end of the age especially His restoration of the HOP (Acts 15:16-17). Positively, God will draw the saints. Realignment to the HOP will have a direct impact on the experience of intimacy, maturity and power in gifting. Negatively, His judgments will be in the land and the Church will be driven to the refuge of His House. When we ignore what God is doing we experience a sense of loss in some degree and when we agree with God and give ourselves to what He is doing we experience a sense of gain in a measure. This has always been true. God will personally confirm His strategic last days purposes. That confirmation may be quick or drawn out over time but God blesses what is His. Clarity will grow. **Skepticism will either soften or harden.**

Individuals, ministries and Churches will adopt or reject over time in just the same way that they react to God’s plan for the end of the age or any of His words. In the end it will be a heart issue. External pressure from the world and internal pressure from the Spirit will polarize “everyone”. There will be no middle ground. We will either be in love with the Lord and fascinated or won’t. Only lovers will remain with the Lord, know and embrace His agenda.



**Prayer:** Lord give us a House of Prayer in every people group and every city around the world to intercede for your provision, for the salvation of Israel, the completion of the great commission and your return.

## Current Trends

In December 2012 at the OneThing conference, Mark Anderson from YWAM summarized the latest commitments of the major mission and prayer leaders. This was the world wide prayer plan to complete the great commission by 2020:

- Add 6.8 million churches to today's existing 7 million
- Add **740,000** houses of prayer to drive this result

In December 2013 at the OneThing conference, Wycliffe bible translators called for a HOP in every people group to pray for bible translation and winning unreached people groups.

- 1. ONETHING 2012 SESSION 11: DEC 31 7PM: CORY ASBURY, GEORGE OTIS JR; Mark Anderson**
- 2. 174 nations; 35,000 leaders through various congresses have committed to these goals.**

God will create houses of prayer in the locations of His choosing. Yet the first HOP and most famous one was built in the city of Jerusalem. Most farming communities around the globe relate in some measure to a local city where various provisions can be obtained and products sold. Although the ancient world was an agrarian society, it is no longer. In 1950, 30% of the world lived in urban areas. In the modern period that number has grown to 54% and that is expected to grow to 66% by 2050. The HOP is a citywide solution.