

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Word of The Lord Is At The Gates April 23, 2024 Suzi Armstrong

It is a brand-new day in Detroit! First and foremost, **the gates of Detroit are open to the King of Glory** who is mighty in battle. **God is enthroned over our City.** His Name is higher than any other name. There are other names over our City, but they are all subject to the Name of Jesus which is higher than any other name that can be named. There is much yet to be accomplished in rebuilding Detroit for this time, but there is no doubt about it – the King is here, and He is alive inside our City. **Detroit belongs to the Lord.**

This week a million visitors will pour into Detroit for the 2024 NFL draft – we are hosting the nations. New signs have been put up in 6 key areas where people enter Detroit. 5 new “Welcome To Detroit” gateway signs that have the Spirit of Detroit on them stand 7 feet tall. They are located on Southbound M-39 at 8 Mile Road, Northbound M-39 at Ford Road, Southbound I-75 at 8 Mile Road, Eastbound I-96 at Telegraph Road, and Westbound I-94 at Moross Road. The last sign is 7 letters that spell “D-E-T-R-O-I-T” and it is located on Eastbound I-94 near Central Street.

Each of the 5 welcome signs with the Spirit of Detroit is declaring to those entering the City that **the Spirit of the Lord and liberty is here.** In ancient Hebrew, numbers were very significant – and they were pictures linked with the Hebrew letters. **The 5th letter is called HEY.** The way it was drawn is of a **man with his hands lifted up and it meant BEHOLD! Show or reveal.** It is a picture of worship, exaltation, and surrender – as in God revealing His heart. To those entering our City we say that the sound and posture of worship to the One True God covers our City and land and that all other gods are only idols.

This morning, we set **5 banners shoulder-to-shoulder** here in the altar area. Moses built an altar and called it ‘the Lord is my banner’. A banner represents a standard. As gatekeepers to the City and stewards over the sound of Detroit, we declare God’s standard is here. **We release the sound of these 5 banners at the gates of Detroit.** This is the declaration that is resounding in the Heavens as you enter the gateways. We speak this over our City, the land, the waterways, and the people. We speak this to those coming into Detroit this week. **The Lord God reigns in Detroit, let the nations that are in the gates of Detroit tremble. Our God sits between the cherubim, let the whole earth shake. Great is the Lord in Zion; He is exalted over all the nations. Praise His great and awesome Name – He is Holy.**

- **Jesus** is the center banner. We declare that **Jesus is front and center** and central to everything. All things were made through Him, by Him, and for Him. He is before all things and in Him all things hold together, in Detroit and in the earth.
- The **Lion of Judah** banner is next to Jesus. **The sound of Heaven is in the mouth of Detroit. Listen! Listen to the roar of His voice,** to the rumblings that come from His mouth. Listen to the sound of His roar; He thunders with His majestic voice. When His voice resounds over Detroit, He holds nothing back. His voice thunders in marvelous ways, He does great things beyond our understanding!
- On the other side of Jesus is the **Detroit Brand New Day** banner. **Detroit, hear the word of the Lord,** it is a brand new day and a brand new era! We say to Detroit, you are under the jurisdiction of Heaven. We declare ticktock, align to Heaven’s clock for this is your time – everything not in the timing of God is being reset. Detroit is a birthing center; new blueprints and technologies are coming from Detroit that will touch and bless the nations.

- The next banner is **Arise Bright Morning Star**. **Detroit, you carry a prophetic message and you will do well to pay attention to it, as you are a light shining in a dark place.** There is a revelatory gifting in this land and upon the peoples. Arise and shine Detroit, for the glory of the Lord rises upon you. His favor and grace are upon you so take your place among the great cities of the world and walk out your destiny. Release the sound of freedom, for the Spirit of Lord is in Detroit and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom and liberty.
- The last banner is the **Tree of Life**. We say to Detroit and to its communities: you will live and not die. **Your ancient ruins are being rebuilt and the places long devastated restored.** God is renewing what has been devastated for generations. The reproach upon Detroit is being rolled back. **New life has come into the communities and into the land – a fresh wind of the Spirit of God blows through the City and the life of God is in the streets. We set the word of life at the gates of the City and that word has the power to continually bring deliverance in our communities.**

Galatians 5.13, 16-18 TPT reworded for Detroit

¹³ Detroit, **God has called you** to live a life of freedom in the Holy Spirit. But don't view this wonderful freedom as an opportunity to set up a base of operations in the natural realm. Freedom means that Detroit becomes completely free of self-indulgence – that it becomes God's servant, expressing love in all it does.

¹⁶ Detroit, as you yield freely and fully to the dynamic life and power of the Holy Spirit, you will **abandon the cravings of your old self-absorbed life.** ¹⁷ For your self-absorbed life craves the things that offend the Holy Spirit and hinder him from living free within you! And the Holy Spirit's intense cravings hinder your old self-absorbed life from dominating you! So then, the two incompatible and conflicting forces within you are your self-life of the flesh and the new creation life of the Spirit. ¹⁸ But **when you are brought into the full freedom of the Spirit of grace, Detroit, you will no longer be living under the domination of the old Detroit but soaring above it!**

Philippians 3.12-14 TPT reworded for Detroit

¹² Detroit, you have not acquired the absolute fullness that God has for you, so **Detroit, run with passion into His abundance so that you may reach the purpose that God has called you to discover.**

¹³ Detroit, don't depend on your own strength to accomplish this; however Detroit, keep this compelling focus: **forget all of the past and fasten your heart to the future instead.** ¹⁴ Run straight for the divine invitation of reaching your full God-given potential and destiny.

1 Thessalonians 1.8a NIV reworded for Detroit

⁸ **The Lord's message will ring out from you, Detroit,** not only in your nation but into the nations of the earth – your faith in God will become known everywhere...

2 Corinthians 4.18 NIV reworded for Detroit

¹⁸ So **Detroit, fix your eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen,** since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

Proverbs 4.20-22 TPT reworded for Detroit

²⁰ **Listen carefully my City, Detroit,** to everything that I speak to you, and pay attention to all that I have to say. ²¹ For **I am filling you with my words** until they penetrate deep into your land and the structures in this City. ²² Then, as the reality of my words bring new life, **they will impart true life and radiant health into the very core of this City.**

Everyone who comes through the gates of Detroit is being examined by God. The Spirit of the Lord is at the gates. The power and glory of God are here, and the works of God will subdue darkness. Repent and turn your face to God for the Kingdom of God is here, and crooked paths are being made straight. Jesus is the way, the truth, and the life. May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance. Detroit is a light to the world; a City that cannot be hidden. The Lord is speaking out of Detroit.