

# HEAR THE *Sound*



## Sunrise Strength

November 1, 2014

Dear Friends,

**"But may they who love you be like the sun  
when it rises in its strength."**

Judges 5:31

I heard the words clearly: **"strength to strength"**. Those were good words to hear from Psalm 84:7 in the middle of the night for my own personal application. I had no way of knowing what was about to happen in our nation. Two days later the Lord added to the word from Judges 5:31. And now, after our own nation was ushered into a new reality through the terrorist attack in our capital, these words have risen from very meaningful personal encouragement to a declaration for our now season: **"sunrise strength."** That is reinforced by the fact that I originally heard the "strength word" while in our nation's capital.

The Judges 5:31 declaration is given against the backdrop of the boasting of the enemy. Such boasting and any other potential intimidation need not necessitate us drawing back, shrinking back to presumed safety, or focusing on self-preservation rather than on pursuing His purposes. Rather, the promise of the Lord begins by saying that those who love the Lord are **different**. We do not give in to "sunset faith". Rather, in the face of any threat or even personal demand and trauma, we are being granted **sunrise strength!**

Flowing out of this declaration have been very meaningful confirming references to "strength". Suddenly the word is all over the landscape! In Hebrews 11:34 (KJV) there is a descriptive phrase of a company of overcomers who "...out of weakness were made strong". That opens up the possibility for all of us to be **empowered**. Triumph is not reserved as a trophy for a few supermen and superwomen. Rather, those who love the Lord are **empowered for victory**. The Amplified Bible gives a confirming description to Psalm 84:5 which is just before that original phrase "strength to strength". The "strength" of verse 5 is the delightful Hebrew word "chayil": "...strength to strength [increasing in victorious power]." We are not declining but rather gathering strength. Our forward commitment may feel fragile but by it we are propelled forward with **His** commitment to us of empowering strength. Shrinking back or self-preserving retreat is not necessary! We can reject any such response. It is the hour of sunrise at any age and in any circumstance and in every assignment. Our Triumphant God is announcing "sunrise strength". We are being empowered by our faithful God into a very fruitful day of divine activity! Rise and shine!

With rejoicing,  
Rev. Peggy I. Kennedy

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