

Conquering a City
By June Criner

“A wise man scales the city of the mighty
and brings down the stronghold in which they trust.”
Proverbs 21:22

“If the foundations are destroyed by the wicked (or have dominion),
then the righteous suffer.”
Psalms 11:1-7

Historical Perspective for Austin:

Austin and the surrounding area of Central Texas was bought from the Mexicans by Moses Austin in 1820. During the worst time of racial hatred between Mexicans and Americans, Austin had the courage to go to the Mexican Consul and ask for this land. Through many strange experiences and coincidences, he was the only American to succeed in acquiring land and, in doing so, opened the door of colonization that changed the face of North America forever.

On his return trip back to Texas, Austin was abandoned by his companions and nearly starved to death. He never really recovered from the difficulties of the journey. He died soon after his return to Texas.

The mandate and vision was handed to his son, Stephen F. Austin, after whom our city is named. Stephen F. Austin spent every waking hour of his short life fulfilling this dream his father had given him. He was a brilliant lawyer and the first lawgiver in this area. He prepared laws for the colony to be governed by, and he established the military and its laws of defense. Added to these achievements, must be added that everyone who knew him deemed him to have the most astounding moral character and genuine zeal for justice.

This first colony was established by 300 men, hand-picked by Austin. They were said to have “a sturdy virtue that was not excelled by that of any like number of men in any land.” They were “never convicted, or even indicted, for a felony.” Some detail above was needed to complete the picture of those who founded our area. They were God-fearing people and many miraculous events happened to enable them to establish this area. Stephen F. Austin died before the vision was finished and left the charge to his best friend, Mirabeau B. Lamar.

Lamar selected the site for the seat of government for the new State of Texas. He called the area Austin, after his best friend who had given his life for its establishment. Lamar commissioned several men to “prepare a town to house the government archives.” On October 17, 1839, the architects, commissioners, and the city’s founders and their families escorted into the new city, the president of this state, none other than Mirabeau B. Lamar. All the government archives, which filled

50 wagons, were in the procession. The citizens gaily danced to the music of several bands from the outskirts of the city to the new building that would be the new government's resting place.

This is a whirlwind synopsis of the colorful history of our Central Texas area, but very important when understanding the words that God has given to us about our city. For brevity's sake, the list below contains some of the important ones:

1. Jesus wants to reclaim the Central Texas area for the glory of God.
2. The Lord wants to begin a move in Austin that will be unique, but will influence the nation.
3. Justice needs to be reestablished in this area.
4. Our enemies have overrun our city with witchcraft, perversion, dead religion, political influence of the world system, and intellectualism that cuts down anything that looks remotely like the Spirit of God. The church needs to arise.
5. Homosexuality is an excepted lifestyle here. We are ranked 2nd in the nation with the highest population of homosexuals. God wants to heal and restore these individuals.
6. "A wise man scales the city of the mighty, and brings down the stronghold in which we trust." Proverbs 21:22
7. "If the foundations are destroyed by the wicked (or have dominion), then the righteous suffer." Psalms 11:3
8. Jesus wants a work to be established on the foundation of the city (6th street area) that will be a light of evangelism and revival.
9. Establish two keys in this city: Praise and Love. Praise to establish God's Throne here and love to heal all who seek Him.
10. Jesus wants these words of prophecy fulfilled in Austin:

"So do you believe I can change the face of a city? Is my power great enough? Yea, I tell you I can move any mountain. I have chosen this place as I have chosen Zion, and I will dwell in it, and many will come and say, 'Let's go to Austin. You can see God there. He lives there. You can be healed there because God lives there. You can rejoice and praise there because God lives there.' I will touch all areas of this city. None will be untouched. My children will rise up by My Spirit and by My Wisdom and take this land that is close to My heart. I will sweep away all hindrances, not because of anyone, but because of My Name, and I choose to show Myself strong. Stand at attention. Wait for the battle cry and then proceed. It will be beyond your wildest imaginings. Multitudes of souls will cry out unto My Name from one end of this city to the other, 'JESUS IS LORD!'"