

# A STUDY ON PRAYER

**Luke 11:1**

“And it came to pass, as he was praying in a certain place, that when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, even as John also taught his disciples.”

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS SEEN IN PRAYER

- There is a God. cf. Heb. 11:6
- Man needs God. cf. Jno. 15:5
- God hears prayer. cf. Jms. 4:8
- God answers prayer. Mt. 7:7-11
- God cares for man. 1 Pet. 5:7

# WHAT IS PRAYER?

- Prayer is more than wishful thinking. It is the *"heart's desire* (praise, adoration, thanksgiving) *expressed to God."* Rom. 10:1

# Kinds of Prayer cf. 1 Tim. 2:1

1. **Supplication** (Deesis)- Prayers asking God's aid in some particular matter related to a specific need."
2. **Prayers** (Proseuche)- Is a more general term in meaning covering every form of address to God and including the idea of worship and devotion.
3. **Intercession** (Enteuxis)- is a falling in with, meeting with, in which a petition or plea is presented on behalf of another or of others.

## Kinds of Prayer cf. 1 Tim. 2:1

4. Thanksgiving (Eucharistia)- is the acknowledgment that all benefits and blessings in all realms are from God. It is gratitude and grateful praise. cf. Col. 2:6-7

*"Unto thee, O God, do we give thanks" Ps. 75:1*

Jms. 1:17 gifts cometh from the father.

Acts 17:25 Life, breath, and all things.

Mt. 7:9-11 He giveth good things to them that ask.

# ATTRIBUTES TO CULTIVATE FOR ACCEPTABLE PRAYER

- Humility. cf. Lk. 18:9-14; cf. vs. 1
- Love. cf. Mt. 18:21-35; Mt. 6:12; Eph. 4:32; cf. 1 Cor. 13
- Expectation. cf. Mt. 17:19-21; Mk. 11:22-24; cf. Jms. 1:5-8
- Watchfulness. Mt. 26:38-41
- A Godly life. Prov. 15:29; Prov. 28:9; cf. Jno. 9:31

# SPECIFIC CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTABLE PRAYER.

- In the name of Christ. Jno. 14:13,14; 16:23; cf. Jno. 15:16; 16:26; 1 Pet. 2:5
- According to His will. 1 Jno. 5:14-15
- Persistence and fervency. Lk. 11:5-8; Lk. 18:1-8: Jms. 5:17

# HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

- Marital problems. 1 Pet. 3:7
- Selfish requests. Jms. 4:3
- Disbelief. Jms. 1:5-8
- Persistence in sin. Prov. 28:9; Jno. 15:1-8.

# HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

- Failure to forgive others. Mt. 6:12-15; 18:21-35; Jms. 2:13; Tit. 3:5-6
- Self-righteousness. Mt. 6:1-5
- Un-righted wrongs. Mt. 5:23-24

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

- We should pray to praise God. **cf. Mt. 6:9ff**
  - **Cf. Dan. 2:20; Ps. 145:1**
- For His Kingdom. **Mt. 6:9ff**
- Giving thanks. **Phil. 4:6; Col. 4:2; cf. Rom. 1:21**

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

- For Others. **Lk. 22:31-32; 23:34**
  1. Enemies. Mt. 5:43-44; Lk. 23:24
  2. Rulers. 1 Tim. 2:1; Cf. Rom. 13:1-7; 1 Pet. 2:13-17
  3. Salvation of others. Lk. 23:34; Rom. 10:1

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

■ For Others. **Lk. 22:31-32; 23:34**

4. Brethren. **Eph. 3:16-19; Jms. 5:13-16**

**Be thankful. 1 Cor. 1:4; Eph. 1:15f;**

**Phil. 1:3; Col. 1:3ff; 1 Thess. 1:2;**

**2:13; 2 Tim. 1:3; Phile. 4**

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

## 5. Spiritual growth and progress of the gospel.

Paul frequently prayed for others and made request for the prayers of others.

- Phil. 1:9; Col. 1:9; 2 Thess. 1:11; 1 Thess. 5:23; Col. 4:12.
- That he might speak with boldness. Eph. 6:18-19
- Door of opportunity might be opened. Col. 4:3
- That the "word of the Lord may have free course" 2 Thess. 3:1

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

## ■ Ourselves. Mt. 6:9ff.

1. Temporal needs. Mt. 6:8,31ff

a. Conditional. 2 Thess. 3:10; Eph. 4:28

2. Protection from harm. Cf. Mt. 24:20

3. Deliverance from temptation. Mt. 6:13; 1 Cor. 10:13

a. Conditional. 1 Cor. 6:18

# FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

■ Ourselves. Mt. 6:9ff.

4. Confession and forgiveness of sin.

Mt. 6:12

a. Conditional. Repentance (Ax. 8:22; and forgiving others. Mt. 6:12b, 14-15)

5. Wisdom. Jms. 1:5-7; cf. Prov. 2:3-6

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

- The power of God. Eph. 3:20
- Just as surely as Christ existed before the creation of all things (cf. Jno. 1:1-3), it is declared that *"by him all things consist."* (Col. 1:16-17)
- He *"upholds all things by the word of his power."* Heb. 1:3
- cf. Eph. 1:20-23; Dan. 4:25

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

*“The Lord has established His throne in the heavens; and His sovereignty rules over all” (Ps. 103:19)*

- God’s providential rule extends over all things. God rules over nature, or the realm of natural processes governed by natural law. He also rules over history. Cf. Dan. 2:21; 5:21

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

*“The Lord has established His throne in the heavens; and His sovereignty rules over all” (Ps. 103:19)*

- He does this without voiding man’s ability to choose his own actions. Acts 10:34-35; Rev. 22:17
- God permits sinful acts to occur, but He does not cause man to sin (Gen 45:5; Rom 9:22). He often overrules evil for good (Gen 50:20; Acts 3:13).
- Often men carried out the plan of God unawares. Cf. Acts. 2:23; 4:28.

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

*“The Lord has established His throne in the heavens; and His sovereignty rules over all” (Ps. 103:19)*

Providence defined: God’s continuous activity of preserving and governing the whole of creation by his wisdom and goodness and power, for the fulfillment of His eternal purpose and for the glory of His name.

# GOD'S RIGHT TO RULE

**He is creator.**

O.T. passages...Gen. 1:1; Ps. 33:6-9; Ps.  
148:5-6; Ps. 104:1-8; Ps. 93:1-2

N.T. passages. Jno. 1:1-3,14; Acts 17:28;  
Col. 1:16-17; Heb. 1:2; Rev. 4:11

# GOD'S RIGHT TO RULE

He is creator.

God preserves in existence all the things he has created. Acts 17:28; Col. 1:17; Heb. 1:3

# GOD'S RIGHT TO RULE

## The Creation Itself. (Job 38:4-7)

- Control and government of the sea (vs. 8-14).

Cf. Ps. 104:1,5-9 The waters once covered the earth, but never again. Cf. Jer. 5:22 ; Cf. Jer. 31:35

- The bringing forth of the dawn. (Vs. 12-15)

- The dwelling of light (vs. 19-21).

- Snow and Hail (vs. 22-24).

- Rain, Lightning and Thunder (vs. 25-30)

- The Heavenly Bodies (vs. 31-33).

- The Clouds and Rain (vs. 34-38) Cf. Ps. 135:6-7; Job 36:27-28; 37:11-12

# GOD'S RIGHT TO RULE

## God and the Animate kingdom. Job 38:39-41:34

- The Lioness and her Whelps (38:39-40).
- The Raven. (vs. 41) God has made provision for man and the raven.
  - “I know every bird of the mountains.” (Ps. 50:11)
  - Not even one sparrow is forgotten before God. (Lk. 12:6; Mt. 10:29)
- The Wildgoats (39:1-4)
- The Wild Ass and the Swift Ass (39: 5-8)

# GOD'S RIGHT TO RULE

## God and the Animate kingdom. Job 38:39-41:34

- The Wild Ox (39:9-12) Because of its nature it was never tamed or used to serve man. Now extinct, it was large, strong and wild.
- The Ostrich (39:13-18).
- The Horse. (39:19-25)
- The Hawk and the Eagle. (39:26-30)

- God teaches Job that back of his creation there is propose; Job had to admit, “I know that thou canst do all things, And that no purpose of thine can be restrained.” (Job 42:2)
- Eccl. 9:1 *“For all this I laid to my heart, even to explore all this: that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God.”*
- Eccl 3:11 *“He hath made everything beautiful in its time: also he hath set eternity in their heart, yet so that man cannot find out the work that God hath done from the beginning even to the end.”*

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

- Elijah's prayer. Jms. 5:16-18; 1 Kgs. 18:41-45
- Hezekiah's prayer for deliverance. 2 Kgs. 19:15-19; cf. 35; cf. 1 Chron. 29:11-12
- Nehemiah's prayer. Neh. 1:11; 2:4,6

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

- 1 Peter 5:6-7 “Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time; casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you.”
- 1 Thess 5:16-18 “Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus to you-ward.”

# THE POWER OF PRAYER- GOD IS ABLE!

- James 5:13-16 “Is any among you suffering? Let him pray. Is any cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save him that is sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, it shall be forgiven him. Confess therefore your sins one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. **The supplication of a righteous man availeth much in its working.**”