THE POWER OF Prayer

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INTRO TO Prayer

What is prayer? Where and what do we pray for?



WHAT IS PRAYER

- Prayer is the expression of dependence; it is also the expression of confidence.
- There must be faith in it, and faith is confidence.
- Scripture encourages us to "pray without ceasing."

WHEN & WHAT DO WE PRAY FOR?

Pray at all times under all circumstances no matter happy or sad times.

•....•

- Pray for all men like the Church, sinners to be saved, your friends, enemies, the government, etc.
- Warning: Beware of being too lazy to pray and not having time to pray
- 1 Sam 16:7 "Look not on his countenance or on the height of his stature ... for [the LORD seeth] not as man seeth for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart."

MEN OF Prayer

02

Ex - Moses, Jeremiah, Samuel, Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel, Jesus, Paul



MOSES & JEREMIAH

Moses

- Moses pleaded with Jehovah after the Israelites made and worshipped the golden calf.
- The Bible says when he did this, "The LORD repented of the evil which He thought to do unto His people."

Jeremiah

• In Jeremiah 26:1, 13, we see how readily the Lord turns from wrath to mercy and pardon, and there is nothing like pleading and intercession to cause this wonderful change in Him





SAMUEL, EZRA, & NEHEMIAH

Samuel

- Samuel was a man (and child) of prayer
- He was in the midst of a people who didn't pray and didn't know how to pray
- 1 Sam. 12:20-23
- Samuels ministry prayer and teaching
 - prayer for and prayer with
 - Samuel could only pray for, because the spirit of prayer was not in the people.
 - "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."

Ezra

- Ezra was a man of prayer
- Ezra 9:5
- And true confession is not saying, 'They have sinned,' but, 'We have sinned.' "Behold, we are before Thee in our trespasses: for we cannot stand before Thee because of this."

Nehemiah

He not only prayed when he had sin to confess — the sin of his people, which he made his own. He prayed as well for the work of the Lord, the work of rebuilding the walls of the beloved city, when he had to confront the conspirators who had determined to bring their labour to nought, "Nevertheless we made our prayer unto our God, and set a watch against them day and night, because of them."



DANIEL & JESUS

Daniel

- Daniel the righteous is another man of the same character and mind
- He prayed without ceasing, prayed with thanksgiving in the face of death itself, with his God being to him dearer than life.
- His companions in captivity might have been sorrowful but he would go on praying and giving thanks

Jesus

- If we pass on to the New Testament, we see our blessed Lord Jesus, the great Pattern and Exemplar of all that is good.
- Luke 6:12 and uke 21:37
- He saw all, felt all, prayed concerning all.
- Secret prayers, but prayers into which we may have a little insight when we hear His groans and see His tears.
- Heb. 5:7, "Who in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears unto Him that was able to save Him from death, and He was heard in that He feared."





Paul

- Paul, the efficacy which the great apostle attached to prayer. He prays and begs to be prayed for.
- Romans 1:9 "God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers."
- He prayed constantly
- He prayed with joy
- He prayed with supplication & thanksgiving
- He asked others to pray for him
- He prayed for others
- Prayer was his outlet to deal with anxiety
- He prayed for the Church
- He prayed for the authority (example President)