

# Genuine Prayer

(This study about Christian prayer is divided into 6 parts)

Prayer comes in many sounds, styles, forms, concepts and variations as it is linked with every religion. Most members of the human race practice it but very far from Biblical perspective and principles. The prayer of the unbeliever is no less than a composition of pious words added with emotional flattery, most of which are borrowed from a Christian dictionary reversed with invented meaning.

God will hear only one prayer from the lips of the unbeliever and that is Lord, save my soul through Jesus death on the Cross. Prayer apart from salvation is nothing but waste of time. God will not listen to their prayer because they are not His children. The prayer of the reversionist and carnal believers are all rejected except the prayer of rebound, which is Lord, I have sinned against you.

Prayer is God's provision of grace for all believers in the world as a means of communicating with Him. Prayer indeed involves faith, but there is no recognition for the faith of the unsaved souls (unbelievers) and of the carnal believers. Prayer operates in the same way as grace. Faith is non-meritorious but God hears the prayer of the unbeliever for salvation through the merits of Christ who paid the sins of all men in full on the cross.

Faith is non-meritorious but God hears the prayer of the carnal believer for rebound through the merits of Christ on the cross in behalf of all men. God do not honor our faith based on our perception of God. He is never moved by our sincerity, sacrificial affection and devotion, sacrifices, penances or self-righteousness.

God does not answer because we deserve it or that we have earned it. Our prayer is answered because of who and what God is and not because of who and what we are. God's answer is totally dependent on His character, on His divine will and purpose for the Church Age believers. God will never answer our prayer because of our faith; otherwise God will put the purpose of Christ's redemption out of divine purpose. God will not accept man apart from the spiritual death of Christ. We ask God in Jesus name and not in our name, because it is Christ Who have the power, not our faith, not our prayer.

Those who are trying to portray themselves as men and women of fasting and prayer are also bragging that God will answer their prayer, are indeed ignorant of Bible doctrine. Their confidence is not based on the character (essence) of God; their hope is not based on the Word of God but on man's misconception and misunderstanding of prayer. Their prayer is based on satanic and human viewpoint.

Those who believe that God will bless them in answer to their prayer are missing the greatest blessing while we are in this world, and that is intimacy with God. The major purpose of our spiritual life is to know God, and not to get our desires. The purpose is not to get from God what we wanted, but to make us accept what He wanted for us.

One of the greatest areas of modern heresy is in the field of prayer. All prayer is directed to God the Father (Matthew 6:9), in the name of the Son (John 14:13-14), in the power of the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 6:8). Since prayer is an extension of the faith-rest exhales toward God (Matthew 21:22, Mark 11:24), it demands familiarity with the plan, purpose and the will of God.

It must be offered in the status of the filling of the Holy Spirit. Prayer is effective only when the believer is operating under the grace provision for perception of the Word of God.

The devil will give worldly glory to his children, to whoever ask for it (John 8:44, Luke 4:5-7). The irrevocable permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the sealing of the Holy Spirit guarantees the eternal security of the believer [Eph. 1:13 & 4:30] but it does not guarantee the answer to our prayer. There are times when God will not hear the prayer of believers such as:

- When they pray with unconfessed sins in their hearts (Eph. 4:19).
- Whenever they are not filled with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 6:18)
- Whenever they are controlled by the old sinful nature (Eph. 4:27)
- Whenever they are committing habitual sins (Ps. 51:4)

The believer is effective only inside the will, plan and purpose of God. The god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4) answers the prayer of those who are outside the will, plan and purpose of God. Satan answers the prayer that falls into the satanic viewpoint and satanic will [2 Tim. 6:9-10].

God in His perfect power, knowledge and justice sustains the whole creation without help from imperfect humanity. His perfect plan of grace for the imperfect man is absolute. There is nothing to add, change or alter in His perfect plan. Man has nothing to contribute to it. Inside the plan of God there is nothing as fate or accident.

Nothing will happen without the perfect knowledge of God. Everything is under His divine decree. God knows all the events in the life of all human beings in the entire human history. Every event is dependent on the decision of the soul (volition). God respects the decisions of every person, whether this is good or bad.

Some events God causes to happen, others He allows to happen. All events that happened and all that will happen are all in the divine decree. Prayer is powerless to change the divine decision. Prayer is powerless to change the will, the purpose and plan of God. Prayer is the fellowship of the soul (with imputed righteousness and Bible doctrine, living in experiential spirituality) with God. Prayer is designed to know God through the diligent study of His Word.

Some worship their prayer life and prayer habit. Prayerfulness is not the measure or a sign of true spirituality. Never trust anything including your prayerfulness except the grace of God. It is easy to slander God by sincere prayer life and habit without knowing God. God answers our prayers because of His imputed righteousness in us, not because of our effective prayer and fasting.

The following are examples of myths about prayer:

Prayer is conversation with God. Whoever propagated the idea of this myth is unaware of several major doctrines related to Divine essence and attributes. God is perfect and man is imperfect. Man cannot simply approach God the way we use a telephone to call our fellow man. God is not interested with our nonsense talking.

Prayer is to get God's blessing. Prayer is to know God not to get material things from God. The children of the world ask for the things of the world, but the children of God ask for the things of heaven. The Lord Jesus Christ and His apostles did not ask for things of the world.

It is easy to deceive the ignorant with their so-called great faith by asking God when in reality it is the devil that is answering their petition and requests. The answer to your material requests from God is not a guarantee that you are a man of faith. The man of faith is a man of God's Word. His soul is focused on the things above not on the things of the world.

Prayer is the ultimate power source. Prayer by itself has no power and there is no way that it can provide some kind of power or strengthened capability to the believers. Our faith has no power. God is the only and ultimate power source in the entire universe. Genuine prayer of the genuine believer is not mystical. Prayer is designed to make us one with Him and not to claim power for ourselves. Spiritual power is the result of Bible doctrine in the soul of the believer not by prayer and fasting.

Some false teachers and prophets are always excited to pray anywhere and anytime. They are exhibitors of their so-called super faith, making false impression to the ignorant. Their faith and their prayer is nothing but a show. Being prayerful does not prove that we are in good relations to God. The cults and pagans are more prayerful but they are not acknowledged by to God. There is no place for boasting with regards to our prayer life.

The centrality of our prayer is the Lord Jesus Christ. All things we pray points to Him, for Him and by Him. He is the merit of our faith and the reason why we can pray to God the Father and not rejected, ignored or denied.

Meditation on the Word of God and Prayer:

- Expresses our virtue personal love for God
- Instructs our hearts in the will of God
- Motivates us to execute the will of God
- Initiates our minds to think like Christ
- Demonstrates our dependency on God
- Develops norms and standards in the souls

Prayer can Become A Sin (Psalm 109:7):

- Praying for the praise or approval of men
- Praying for personal ambition and honor
- Praying beyond the written Word of God
- Praying for what God has already rejected
- Praying for the destruction of your enemies
- Praying fervently for something you do want
- Praying for something outside the will of God
- Praying intensely for the things of the world
- Praying for what God has already condemned
- Praying without the intention to comply with
- Praying contrary to the will and purpose of God
- Praying opposing the plan and design of prayer
- Praying based on the invented teachings of men
- Praying to "worship" your prayer and not God
- Praying with some Old Testaments or Pre-Canon Church Age obsolete and no longer applicable principles (like Mat. 18:18-18).

Things You Should Beware When Praying:

- Plunging into self-importance
- Floating with the details of life
- Reflecting on emotional stress
- Resolving into self - correction
- Becoming mystical illusionist
- Becoming idiotic philosopher
- Becoming mechanical android
- Trying to draw God's attention
- Becoming pauperized beggar
- Ending in false form of reverence
- Reviving rebellious feeling
- Focusing on pain of miseries
- Seeking inspiration or blessings
- Feeling holy and righteous
- Falling into illusion or imagination
- Having desire for God without reality
- Justifying and excusing self



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