

# Prayer

Anybody can fast and pray. Few Christians can out beat the cults and pagan when it comes to fasting. Fasting is not a spiritual exercise but an obsolete religious activity. Fasting is not a sign of spirituality or superiority or spiritual maturity. Prayer with fasting cannot advance your spiritual life it cannot accelerate your spiritual growth.

Prayer with groaning: Groaning (Stenagmos) is not crying in audible voice but something you cannot hear. It refers to silent and covert intercession of the Holy Spirit not the prayer of the one praying. The indwelling Holy Spirit intercedes for the believer according to the will, plan and purpose of God. The groaning of the Spirit is not expressed with the believer's senses and therefore, does not produce some mysterious audible and non-sense sounds.

The intercessory prayer of the indwelling Holy Spirit does not pray through speaking of tongues, because being Member of the Godhead; He will not communicate with God the Father in such foolish unknown tongues. There is no need to speak in tongues since the gift has already ceased. All the speaking of tongues today are not from God and they are all fabrication.

There is no need to emote our emotion, since God does not answer because of our feelings, sincerity and devotion. The Prayer in the Spirit is something man cannot imitate or forged. It is the communication of the Holy Spirit from the life of spiritual believer to God (Romans 8:26-27). It is the work of the Holy Spirit without human provocation, intervention or emotion. The work of God is something that cannot be imitated or duplicated.

Believers who are blowing their trumpets to announce their success in the area of prayer are also blowing the reality of their spirituality. Arrogant believers worship their prayer habits more than they worship God. They worship God in their prayer without removing the high places of idolatry in their souls. They are making false external obedience without spiritual reality (2 Chron. 15:17). Any act of worship without salvation and spirituality is religion.

Their prayer habit becomes their canon or measurement of holiness. They are building prayer as their altar of sacrifice they worship their prayer not God.

The 'all things' of Matthew 21:22 and 'whatsoever' of Mark 11:24 do not refer to desires of the old sin nature, but the desires of the indwelling Holy Spirit to glorify God in the life of the believers.

God has already provided all the basic and necessary resources for the believer to reach spiritual maturity and thereby glorify God. However, God has to wait until the believer reaches the state of maturity before He can pour out blessings (to believer) that will glorify Him to the maximum.

Why would God excite us to ask material blessings when in fact He rebukes our carnal desires from Genesis to Revelation? The apostles and the disciples did not ask anything related to their physical needs from God. God has already promised to provide all the needs of His children (Phil. 4:19) called the logistical grace, made available to every believer regardless of spiritual status. God has already set aside and prepared everything the Church Age believer might need while on earth (Matt. 6:33).

Prayer is exhaling the spirit of man and inhaling the Spirit of God. The purpose of prayer is not to get from God what we wanted, but to make us accept what He wanted for us. For this reason, we can only pray on the basis of God's truth.

The logistical grace covers our need in four aspects:

- Life support: the duration of time for the believer to stay in the world.
- Security provision: the divine protection from the hazard of the world designed by Satan for disaster and calamity of the believers
- Temporal provision: the divine supplies like food, shelter, clothing, transportation, etc.
- Spiritual provision: the divine supplies for spiritual growth and advancement like Bible doctrine, Bible teacher, etc.

God supplies logistical blessing to all believers faithfully, constantly and unconditionally. There are no criteria for receiving the logistical blessing. No prayer is required and no need to ask God in prayer. If we say that we have faith but constantly asking God for material blessings, then we are lying. The believer continues act of asking God for his material needs is the denial of his faith [Matt. 6:25-34].

The faith that is always asking is not faith but false expectation which is just pleading without knowledge of divine essence. Logistical grace is for all believers but escrow blessing in time is for mature believers only. One of the most common forms of evil in the local churches today is the so-called prayer request. Their prayer is all about themselves, and for themselves. Prayer is just a tool for them to get what they wanted. In reality, they are not interested in knowing and serving God.

We do not ask God to give us the inner happiness because it is not imputed or distributed. It is the result of life that nurtures on the Word of God for a long period of time. The cults have short cuts for everything: such as instant salvation, instant spiritual maturity, instant pastors, instant servants of God, instant spirituality and instant messages from God all comes from their super powerful prayer.

Prayer is not:

- Conversation with God
- Communication with God
- To get God's blessing
- The ultimate power source
- Preparation for great task
- To gain spiritual experience
- Remedy for many ailments
- Something that change history
- Something that change man
- A tool to move the hand of the Lord
- A weapon against the devil
- A defense against self-made miseries
- A compass to find the will of God
- A guide in seeking divine plan

Genuine prayer is:

- Designed to know God
- Designed to know the will, plan and purpose
- To make us one with Him
- The exercise of drawing on the grace of God
- For the purpose of spiritual discernment
- For the purpose of praise
- To receive the best from God
- For the purpose of submission
- The spiritual activity of the soul
- The spiritual expression of worship
- A great spiritual privilege of every believer.

Q. If God is perfectly immutable, infinite in knowledge and unchangeable, why do we have to pray? Does the divine essence and divine decree eliminate the need for prayer?

A. Effective prayer makes requests which God answers. Things we ask in time are all incorporated into divine decree in the eternity past (Isaiah 65:24).

Effective prayer is our powerful weapon in the angelic conflict. It is our distress call. At our own, we are not capable enemies of Satan but he is no match to our resources in Christ [Phil. 4:6, Col. 4:2]. Prayer is not actually a weapon but like a bucket we use for drawing our resources in Christ.

Effective prayer is the powerful and the strategic action of the spiritually mature believer for tactical victory. We are not praying for victory but from the victory of the Lord Jesus (Rom. 8:37, Eph. 3:10).

Effective prayer is enjoying the great presence of the Lord not just talking or asking Him for things. It is designed for knowing Him, knowing His plan, will and purpose through His Word (Phil. 3:10, 1 John 1:3). The basis of God for hearing our prayer is not because of anything in the part of man, but because of the ministry of God the Son, Jesus Christ:

- The imputed righteousness of God in every Church Age believer
- The imputed eternal life of God in the believer
- Provision for the continuous fellowship with God (through the filling of the Holy Spirit by the exercise of rebound).

Our non-meritorious faith is not the basis of God for answering our prayer. Prayer has become one of the biggest cults, the cause of arrogance, the source of heresy and blasphemy, the evil itself.

Two General categories of Prayer:

- Private prayer
- Public prayer

The Approach to Prayer:

- Addressed to the Father (Eph. 3:14, 5:20)
- In the Name of the Son (John 14:13-14)
- In the power of the Spirit (Eph. 6:18)

Three Categories of Prayer Directed to God the Father

- From the source of the Son (Heb. 7:25)
- From the source of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:26-27)
- From the source of the believer-priest (Heb 4:16)

General Requirements for Genuine Prayer:

- Salvation by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone
- Spirituality filling of the Holy Spirit access by rebound
- Scripture - Bible doctrine resident in the soul

Reasons Why Prayer is Not Answered:

- Unconfessed personal sins (Eph. 4:19)
- Without the filling of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 6:18)
- Controlled by the old sinful nature (Eph. 4:27)
- Committing habitual sins (Ps. 51:4)
- Praying without faith-rest function (Mat. 21:22)
- Lack domestic tranquility (1 Pet. 3:7)
- Without grace orientation (Prov. 21:13)
- Disobeying the will of God (1 John 3:22)
- Living with lust type selfishness (James 4:2-4)

The Basis of God for Answering Our Prayer:

- The resident imputed righteousness of God in every Church Age believer.
- The imputed eternal life of God in the believer.
- The grace provision of God to believers for continuous fellowship through the filling of the Holy Spirit access by rebound. Our non-meritorious faith is not the basis of God for answering our prayer.



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