

Prayer

Part 8

Prayer had important rule in our lives and it give us great privileges and make our lives easier and more fruitful. Prayer can affect events and brings profound changes on the realities.

Even short prayers are meaningful in our lives, but we must know how to pray; the bible has many examples of prayer of men of God their prayer had brought much and made the difference.

Samuel when he faced the Israelites with their sins when they asked God for King and had rebuked them he showed them value of repentance and gave them to hope that still they will have if the turn from their sin and start to serve God, ²⁰ ***“Do not be afraid,” Samuel replied. “You have done all this evil; yet do not turn away from the LORD, but serve the LORD with all your heart. ²¹ Do not turn away after useless idols. They can do you no good, nor can they rescue you, because they are useless. ²² For the sake of his great name the LORD will not reject his people, because the LORD was pleased to make you his own.” (1Samuel 12:20-22)***

But just after finished saying that to the people Samuel stated His position and His impact on the people’s lives when said to them the following: ***“As for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD by failing to pray for you. And I will teach you the way that is good and right.” (1Samuel 12:23)*** Samuel put assertively His commitment to serve God in two aspects:

1- Prayerful life: Samuel committed himself to the Lord to pray for the people who sin against the Lord. Asking God forgiveness for their sins: to enlighten their minds and to show them the bad consequences of their sin: to convict them in their wrong doing: to raise other people to serve Him and to replace those who went away from the right way.

2- Continue to teach the people: Samuel he did not leave his post or office to others. He kept his position as prophet of God who will declare to the people God’s will and to continue to teach them the ways of God, and to show them their sins till they will repent. A steadfast spirit to face, rebuke and correct the people is our commitment to serve the Lord. We should not give up if the people not responding but to continue to follow up them. After a session of teaching then we give the people a space to digest what they had receive from us. And that it will be a time for us to observe the changes in their lives and evaluate them. After the period of evaluation we pray for God to lead us and prepare us of how to teach the people and guide them to know the truth and to live it.

Patient and perseverance is required in order to reap the fruit that God promised in His word, ***“Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord’s coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains.” (James 5:7)***

Another Example of how important is the prayer and how valuable it is strategically, is from the example of David’s life. When David heard that Ahithophel is advising Absalom to attack him, he prayed to nullify that threat against him: ³¹ ***Now David had been told, “Ahithophel is among the conspirators with Absalom.” So David prayed, “LORD, turn Ahithophel’s counsel into foolishness.” (2Samuel 15:31)***

David was in the mid of troubles but he did not surrender to the enemy. He acted in full faith and trust unto God. His prayer played a very important rule for his behalf and in behalf of the people who are with him.

If there are people who are planning to attack you and harm you, pray with faith and full trust in God that He will turn their advices into foolishness and that finally will work it out for your protection and wellbeing, and for the protection and wellbeing for the people who are with you, who are your family, your children, your ministry, the church that you are in, or the society and the nation that you live with.

Life of prayer enlightens our minds and helps us to find the way that God had created for us to pursue. Nehemiah when he heard the bad news about Jerusalem, he was sad, he prayed, fasted, and he continued his duty for he was a cupbearer. However one day the king asked him, ***“Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart.” (Nehemiah 2:2)*** That was God’s way to open for Nehemiah to tell the king about the miserable situation of Jerusalem city. Then the king asked Nehemiah ***“What is it you want?” (Nehemiah 2:4a)*** Nehemiah responded to the king with prayer, ***“Then I prayed to the God of heaven,” (Nehemiah 2:4b)*** That prayer in the mid of that important discussion between Nehemiah and the king gave him the courage and the wisdom to ask the king to send him and to support him to go forward to fulfill the vision that God gave him to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

How we apply this message of God in our lives? Our sadness because we are burden with the things of God and how His people are harassed being in bondage and we ought to help them: we need provision, support and approval to be sent and in the mid of all that prayer can help us to overcome and achieve that. You ought to pray for key persons in your life, especially those who are over you who have the authority, and who through them you might receive God’s blessings to you can go forward with the vision of God.

My Dear and Beloved: Set you mind and thoughts with God and pray according to God’s word and ask Him to strengthen you and help you to overcome your trials, and to strengthen you to continue to do your part in advising His people and teaching them His ways and fulfill the vision that God entrust to us to do as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *“Father God in heaven, I come to You in the name of Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me eternal life. O lord, put in my heart to pray daily; increase my faith in You, and help me to do your good and perfect will; mold me to follow You and to serve You the rest of my life. Lord the vision that you gave me is only you who can fulfil it. Lord touch the heart of those people around me so that your blessings will flow in my life so I can go on in serving you. This is my prayer in Jesus’ name, Amen.”*