

God Wants us to Pray

- *Pray without ceasing, 1Th 5:17*
- *Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; Col 4:2*
- *Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; Rom 12:12*

Jesus doesn't want us to Miss Anything

- *1 one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples."*
- *2 So He said to them, "When you pray, say:*
- *Our Father in heaven*
- *Hallowed be Your name*
- *Your kingdom come*
- *Your will be done*
- *On earth as it is in heaven*
- *3 Give us day by day our daily bread*
- *4 And forgive us our sins*
- *For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us.*
- *And do not lead us into temptation*
- *But deliver us from the evil one. Lk. 11:2-4*

During Christ's Ministry: Kingdom is Future

- What about “*your kingdom come?*”
- Is this something we pray directly or interpret?
- *John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for **the kingdom of heaven is at hand!**"* Matt 3:1-3
- *Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee, **preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, 15 and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand.** Repent, and believe in the gospel."* Mk. 1:14-15

After His Death: King over His Kingdom

- He ***has*** delivered us from the power of darkness and ***conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,***
- We are in the kingdom now. Jesus is our king now.
- How can he deliver the kingdom to God if it's not here yet? Col 1:13-14
- ***Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. 25 For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. 26 The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 1Cor. 15:24-26***
- If Jesus is not king now He will never be king.
- Without a kingdom what will He deliver to God?

What Do We Pray for in the Kingdom?

- *Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here." Jn 18:36*
- Who are the servants who have been translated from the power of darkness into the kingdom?

Putting on the Whole Armor of God

- *Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ...13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Eph 6:10-13*
- *girded your waist with truth,*
- *put on the breastplate of righteousness,*
- *shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel taking the shield of faith*
- *take the helmet of salvation,*
- *the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;*

Prayer – Integrally connected to Armor

- *And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God; 18 praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints — 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, 20 for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak. Eph 6:17-20*
- Praying **always** for **all the saints, watchful**. And the ambassador of the King so he will speak boldly.
- Very comprehensive command but easy to overlook

How did Paul fulfill this Command?

- *And this also **we pray, that you may be made complete.** 2Cor. 13:7-9*
- ***always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy,** 5 for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, Phil. 1:3-5*
- *this **I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment,** 10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, Phil. 1:9-10*

How did Paul fulfill this Command?

- *do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; 10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; Col 1:9-10*
- *We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers 1Th. 1:2*
- *Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power 2Th. 1:11*

How did Paul fulfill this Command?

- *For 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,** 10 making request Rom. 1:9-11*
- *I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, **as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day,** 2Tim. 1:3*
- *I thank my God, **making mention of you always in my prayers,** 5 hearing of your love and faith Philem. 4*
- *Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, 16 **do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers:** Eph. 1:15-16*

Should we Follow This Example?

- *The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. Phil 4:9*
- *But you have carefully followed my doctrine, **manner of life**, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, 11 persecutions, afflictions, 2 Tim 3:10-11*

The Commands

- *Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. 38 Therefore **pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**" Mt. 9:37-38*
- *Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, **that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,** 31 that I may be delivered from those in Judea who do not believe, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, Rom. 15:30-31*

The Commands

- *Continue earnestly in prayer, being vigilant in it with thanksgiving; 3 meanwhile praying also for us, that God would open to us a door for the word, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in chains, 4 that I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak. Col. 4:2-4*
- *Brethren, pray for us. 1Th. 5:23*
- *Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, 2 and that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. 2Th. 3:1-2*
- *Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably. 19 But I especially urge you to do this, that I may be restored to you the sooner. Heb. 13:18-19*

The Commands

- *But the end of all things is at hand; **therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. 8 And above all things have fervent love for one another,** for "love will cover a multitude of sins."
1Pet. 4:7-8*
- *Therefore **I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,** 2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. 3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 1 Tim 2:1-4*

The Content of Our Prayer

- Tells a lot about us and our spirituality and love.
- If we only pray for ourselves, it tells God we are selfish.
- If we only pray for local things, it reveals we are short sighted.
- If we don't pray for God's kingdom and the saints who are within, what does it tell God about us?
- Do we ever pray for the work in India and Malawi?
- Do we ever pray for the needs of the brethren here?
- Do we ever pray for laborers to be sent?
- The answer to this reveals spiritual growth or?

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