

Why Does God Record Prayers?

- Gen. 32:9-12 Jacob's prayer for deliverance
- Deut. 3:23-25 Moses' to enter the land
- 1Sam. 2:1-10 Hannah thanks for samuel
- 2 Sam. 7:22-27 David thankful for Messiah
- 1Kings 8:23-54 Solomon for temple
- II Chron 20:5-7 Jehoshaphat for help.
- 2Kings 19:14-34 Hezekiah – saved from Assyria
- 2Kings 20:1-6 Hezekiah's prayer for healing
- Ezra 9:5-15 Ezra's confession of sins
- Neh. 1:4-6; 9:3-38 Nehemiah for Jerusalem
- Isaiah 25:1-12 Isaiah praises God
- Jer. 32:16-36 Jeremiah's prayer
- Dan. 9:3-19 Daniel's prayer of confession

The Hope of Your Calling

- *For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope. Rom. 15:4-5*
- They are for our Learning
- They give us Hope
- They are examples to follow.
- We are greatly blessed to have them as part of our great cloud of witnesses.

Why did the Holy Spirit record some of Paul's prayers in his Letters?

- For The Ephesians (1:15-23)
- For the Ephesians (3:14-21)
- For the Philippians (1:9-11)
- For the Colossians (1:9-12)
- For Philemon (1:4-7)
- Paul sized up each church and prayed for specific needs
The Holy Spirit put them in Scripture to reveal to them what they most needed.
- Inspired truths placed in a prayer (like Psalms) as a request to God. These prayers bring vital truths to them and to us. Should assess the prayers – for our own needs

For the Ephesians

- *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: 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know ... Eph 1:15-18*
- A prayer in response to what he had heard and knew they needed. Do we need this?

For the Ephesians

- after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints,
- do not cease to give thanks for you,
- making mention of you in my prayers:
- that God ... may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,
- the eyes of your heart being enlightened;
- that you may know ...

Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

- Spirit? Holy Spirit? Our spirit? Our attitude?
- The Holy Spirit influencing our spirit through God's word in order to create new attitudes.
- *Now faith is the substance/assurance of things hoped for, the evidence/conviction of things not seen. Heb. 11:1*
- *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of Christ. Rom. 10:17*
- *For we walk by faith, not by sight. 2Cor. 5:7*
- When we see the “hoped for” and “unseen,” and “we walk by faith” and “no longer by sight, we begin to possess “the spirit of wisdom and revelation.”

Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation

- *we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal. 2Cor 4:18*
- Factual and emotional state of mind that allows us to chart our lives through reality of God's word.
- All false realities removed. Seeing all through the "glasses" and the "eye salve" of the:
- *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2Tim. 3:16-17*

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- We use the “eyes of our heart” to see the “unseen”
- What Faith does: The substance/assurance of things hoped for. When faith makes it so real we can see it more clearly than the temporary and seen.
- When our heart is “enlightened” it is lit up with the truths revealed in Scripture.
- Abraham had these eyes when he saw he would have that son based on God’s promise. He never wavered through unbelief.
- God is very interested in how real His promises are to us. If we doubt or waver, to some degree we are still blind.

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- *By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear Heb 11:7*
- *he went out, not knowing where he was going.*
- *By faith Sarah herself also received strength to conceive seed, and she bore a child when she was past the age, because she judged Him faithful who had promised.*
- *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.*

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- *Esteem the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward” Heb. 11:26*
- *sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us Rom. 8:18
“living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 2Pet 1:3-5*

Eyes of Our Heart Enlightened

- *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth. 14 For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland. 15 And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them. Heb 11:13-16*