

THE PRINCIPLE OF PRAYER

— GOD'S WILL —

HAVING AN EFFECTIVE PRAYER LIFE LIES NOT IN HOW MUCH WE PRAYER — (THOUGH THAT IS IMPORTANT) — BUT HOW MUCH OUR PRAYERS ARE IN ACCORDANCE WITH —

— THE PRINCIPLE OF PRAYER —

WHY PRAY? WHAT IS THE USE? GOD IS — ALL KNOWING AND HE IS ALL POWERFUL.

YET, BEFORE HE BEGINS TO WORK — HE SAYS: WE MUST PRAY

"BEING ALMIGHTY"

WHY DOES HE NOT WORK OUT HIS WILL? WHY DOES HE NEED US TO PRAY?

WE KNOW

GOD DOES NOTHING — ~~AGAINST HIS WILL~~ — AGAINST HIS WILL — YET (JAMES 4:2) STATES — "YE HAVE NOT, BECAUSE YE ASK NOT" — SO ASKING IS A REQUIREMENT.

ALSO

(MAT 7:7) ASK, AND IT SHALL BE

GIVEN TO YOU — SEEK, AND YE SHALL FIND — KNOCK, IT WILL BE OPENED TO YOU.

IF OPENING DOORS — OR PROVIDING OUR NEED — SO ON — IF GOD'S WILL — WHY SHOULD HE WAIT — FOR OUR PRAYER AND

WILL HIS WILL BE RESTRAINED — IF I — WE — DON'T PRAY — ASK, SEEK — KNOCK —

— IT IS VERY PUZZLING —

BUT WE SEE A GREAT PRINCIPLE — HERE:

[GOD'S PEOPLE MUST PRAY BEFORE
GOD WILL RISE UP AND WORK
HIS WILL]

IS ONLY TO BE REALIZED — THROUGH THE PRAYS OF THOSE — "BORN" OF THE HOLY SPIRIT — BELIEVERS — HIS CHILDREN — "THOSE WHO BELONG TO HIM",

THE "PRAYERS OF BELIEVERS" ARE TO ACCOMPLISH HIS WILL — (GOD WILL NOT FULFILL HIS WILL) — ALONE —

GOD WILL PROFORM HIS DESIRES FOR HIS CHURCH - HIS CHILDREN - ONLY AFTER THEY SHOW AGREEMENT AND SYMPATHY - IN PRAY TO HIM.

THEREFORE

THE PRINCIPLE IS:

PRAYER IS NONE OTHER THAN - AN ACT (ACTION) - OF THE BELIEVER WORKING TOGETHER WITH GOD.

PRAYER IS THE UNION OF THE BELIEVER'S THOUGHT - WITH THE WILL OF GOD.

PRAYER WHICH A BELIEVER UTTERS ON EARTH IS THE VOICING OF THE LORD'S WILL IN HEAVEN.

PRAYER IS NOT -

THE EXPRESSING OF OUR WISH TO GOD - FOR - GOD TO YIELD TO OUR PETITION - FULFILLING OUR SELFISH DESIRES.

NEITHER

IS IT A FORCING OF THE LORD TO CHANGE HIS WILL - OR TO PROFORM WHAT HE DOES NOT WISH TO DO. "NO"

PRAYER IS! ASKING GOD TO PROFORM HIS WILL - THROUGH THE MOUTH OF THE BELIEVER.

"BEFORE GOD," BELIEVERS ASK IN PRAYER - FOR THE LORD'S WILL TO BE DONE. PRAYER DOES NOT ALTER THAT WHICH GOD HAS DETERMINED - IT MERELY ACHIEVES WHAT GOD HAS ALREADY FORORDAINED.

"PRAYLESSNESS"

THOUGH - DOES - EFFECT A CHANGE BECAUSE - GOD WILL LET MANY OF HIS RESOLUTIONS - GO SUSPENDED DUE TO THE LACK OF HIS PEOPLE BEING IN - "PRAYERFUL COOPERATION" WITH HIM.

NOTE (MATT 18:18)

THIS VERSE IS A REFERENCE TO - PRAYER.

"VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, WHAT THINGS SOEVER YE BIND ON EARTH SHALL BE BOUND IN HEAVEN" (AS THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS) "AND WHAT THINGS SOEVER YE LOOSE ON EARTH SHALL BE LOOSE IN HEAVEN" (AS THE HOLY SPIRIT LEADS) (V. 18)

(MATT 18:18) AMP.

TRULY, I TELL YOU, WHATEVER YOU "FORBID" - AND DECLARE TO BE IMPROPER - AND UNLAWFUL ON EARTH - MUST BE WHAT IS ALREADY FORBIDDEN IN HEAVEN, AND -- WHATEVER YOU PERMIT OR DECLARE PROPER AND LAWFUL ON EARTH - "MUST BE" - ALREADY PERMITTED IN HEAVEN."

THE NEXT VERSE: (19)
SPEAKS OF GROUP PRAYER --

"AGAIN I TELL YOU - IF TWO OR MORE OF YOU - SPIRITUAL (IN THE SPIRIT) AGREE (HARMONIZE TOGETHER - TOGETHER YOU MAKE

A SYMPHONY) - ABOUT ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING - - WHAT THEY SHALL ASK - - IT WILL COME TO PASS - AND BE DONE FOR THEM - "BY MY FATHER" IN HEAVEN."

HERE WE SEE - CLEARLY STATED THE RELATIONSHIP "BETWEEN" - PRAYER AND GOD'S WORK.

ALL ACTIONS IN HEAVEN ARE GOVERNED - "RELEASED" - BY THE ACTIONS ON EARTH. LIKEWISE - ALL MOVEMENTS IN HEAVEN ARE RESTRICTED - "HELD BACK" - BY MOVEMENTS ON EARTH.

- JUST THINK OF IT -

- GOD TAKES GREAT DELIGHT IN PUTTING ALL HIS OWN WORKS UNDER THE CONTROL OF HIS PEOPLE - BELIEVERS - THOSE WHO WALK IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. -

LET IT BE CLEARLY STATED:

THESE WORDS ARE NOT SPOKEN
TO THE "CARNAL" -- THOSE IN
THE FLESH -- FOR SUCH ARE NOT
QUALIFIED TO HEAR THEM.

[1 COR 2:11-3:1]

NOTE

(JAMES 4:2b-3)

"YOU DO NOT HAVE BECAUSE YOU
DO NOT ASK -- OR YOU DO ASK GOD
FOR THEM -- AND YOU FAIL TO RECEIVE
-- BECAUSE YOU ASK WITH THE
WRONG PURPOSE -- AND EVIL SELFISH
MOTIVES."

"NOT LEAD BY THE HOLY SPIRIT"

(JER. 3:14)

"THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH WHOM HE, GOD,
HAS CAUSED TO DWELL IN US --
OVER US -- "YEARS" -- TO BE WELCOME
TO LEAD -- WITH A JEALOUS
LOVE."

⇒ "LETS US BE CAREFUL HERE!" --
LEST THE FLESH COME IN -- FOR
IF THIS HAPPENS -- WE SHALL
"OFFEND GOD" -- "OUR FATHER" --

"ALL GOD'S WILLS ARE ETERNAL"

SINCE IT IS HIS WILL TO BIND -- AND
HIS WILL IS ETERNAL -- WHY --
DOES HE NOT BIND SOONER -- WHAT
SHOULD BE BOUND -- ACCORDING TO HIS
OWN WILL?

WHY

MUST HE WAIT -- FOR EARTH TO BIND
BEFORE HE WILL BIND IN HEAVEN?
IF THERE IS A DELAY IN BINDING
ON EARTH -- WHY -- WILL THERE BE
A DELAY -- ALSO -- IN HEAVEN?

GOD

CREATED MAN TO BE IN FELLOWSHIP
WITH HIM -- USEFUL IN GOVERNING
HIS CREATION -- WORKING HAND IN HAND
WITH HIM.

SO

THE REASON FOR MANKIND'S CREATION
IS -- GOD CREATED MAN THAT MAN
MAY BE UNITED WITH HIM IN --
DEFEATING SATAN AND HIS --
"WORKS"

SO - GOD CREATED MAN WITH A FREE WILL. MAN IS EXPECTED TO EXERCISE HIS WILL FOR UNION WITH GOD'S WILL - IN "OPPOSING" THE WILL OF SATAN.

- THIS -

IS THE PURPOSE OF CREATION - AND AFTER MAN FELL - THE PURPOSE OF REDEMPTION AS WELL.

→ THE EARTHLY LIFE OF THE LORD JESUS - DEMONSTRATES THIS PRINCIPLE.

WHY - WE DO NOT KNOW - YET - NEVERTHELESS - GOD DOES NOT ACT INDEPENDENTLY. IF GOD'S PEOPLE FAIL TO SHOW CO-OPERATION WITH HIM - BY YIELDING THEIR WILL TO HIM - EXPRESSING THEIR ONE MIND WITH HIM IN PRAYER - HE WOULD RATHER - STAND BY - AND POSTPONE HIS WORK - THAN ACT WITHOUT THEM.

HE EXALTS HIS PEOPLE BY ASKING

THEM TO WORK WITH HIM. ALTHOUGH HE IS ALMIGHTY - HE DELIGHTS IN HAVING HIS ALMIGHTINESS - RESTRICTED - BY HIS - RIGHTEOUS CHILDREN. (JAMES 5:16)
"THE PRAYER OF A RIGHTEOUS MAN IS - DYNAMIC IN ITS WORKING."

HOWEVER

ZEALOUS GOD IS TOWARD HIS OWN WILL - - HE WILL TEMPORARILY PERMIT SATAN - - TO BE ON THE OFFENSIVE - - SHOULD HIS PEOPLE FORGET HIS WILL AND FAIL TO SHOW AGREEMENT BY COOPERATION WITH HIM.

THE TRUE MEANING OF PRAYER IS FOR THE ONE WHO PRAYS - TO PRAY FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE WILL OF THE ONE TO WHOM HE PRAYS.

PRAYER IS

THE OCCASION WHEREIN TO EXPRESS OUR DESIRE FOR GOD'S WILL.

PRAYER MEANS

OUR WILL IS STANDING ON GOD'S SIDE

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES:

(EXODUS 17:9-11)

MOSES SAID TO JOSHUA, --
CHOOSE US SOME MEN AND GO OUT --
FIGHT WITH AMALEK. TOMORROW
I WILL STAND ON TOP OF THE HILL
WITH THE ROD OF GOD IN MY HAND.

~~SO WHEN MOSES HELD UP HIS HAND~~

SO

JOSHUA DID AS MOSES SAID -- AND
SO WHEN MOSES HELD UP HIS HAND
-- ISRAEL PREVAILED -- AND WHEN
HE LET DOWN HIS HAND -- AMALEK
PREVAILED -- AARON & HUR HELD
UP MOSES' HANDS -- AND JOSHUA
DEFEATED AMALEK --

WHO DECIDED
THE VICTORY OR DEFEAT AT THE
BOTTOM OF THE HILL?

HERE WE SEE THE --
PRINCIPLE OF PRAYER -- THE
PRINCIPLE OF GOD'S WORKING

WHATEVER GOD WILLS TO DO - IF MAN
DOES NOT COOPERATE WITH HIM -
GOD WILL NOT DO IT -

— WE —

CANNOT DO WHAT HE DOES NOT
WANT TO DO - "BUT" WE CAN -

HINDER HIM

FROM DOING WHAT HE DESIRES
TO DO -

IN HEAVEN

THE ISSUE IS DECIDED BY GOD -
"BUT" ON EARTH - IT WAS DECIDED
BY MOSES - GOD'S MAN - AND -
BY AARON & HUR - GOD'S MEN -

NOW

OBVIOUSLY - THIS IN NO WAY -
IMPLIES - THAT WE CAN FORCE
GOD TO DO WHAT HE WILL NOT
DO - "RATHER" IT SIMPLY MEANS
- (THAT WE MAY "DECLARE" IN
PRAYER) WHAT GOD DESIRES
TO DO -

IT IS BECAUSE -

WE KNOW GOD'S WILL THAT WE MAY
SAY TO HIM:

"GOD, WE WANT THIS THING DONE
- WE ARE DETERMINED THAT YOU
DO IT.. YOU CANNOT BUT DO IT"

THUS

THUS, WE SHALL HAVE ^A STRONG
AND POWERFUL PRAYER LIFE -

WHAT WE NEED TO DO
IS ASK GOD TO OPEN OUR EYES - OUR
HEART - THAT WE MAY SEE HOW
HIS WORK IS DONE -

FOR

IN THIS PRESENT AGE - ALL GOD'S
WORK IS DONE THROUGH THE -
CHURCH - ON THE VERY GROUND -

HEAVEN DESIRES TO DO IT - BUT
WILL NOT ACT - RIGHT AWAY -

BUT

Waits FOR GOD'S PEOPLE ON EARTH
TO AGREE AND PRAYER - THEN
- IT WILL BE DONE -

GOD DESIRES HARMONIOUS WILLS
HE DESIRES

MAN TO SAY:

"THY KINGDOM COME - THY
WILL BE DONE" - FOR EARTH
TO GOVERN - IN GOD'S WILL
FOR HIM TO ACT -

WE MAY ASK - "WHY" - "WHY" - SHOULD
GOD DESIRE EARTH TO GOVERN
HEAVEN -

IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND
WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT
GOD HAS CHOSEN TO BE RESTRICTED
IN TIME -

TIME
IS THAT PERIOD BETWEEN ETERNITY
PAST AND ETERNITY FUTURE -
WHERE TIME STARTED - AND -
TIME WILL CEASE -

GOD
CREATED MAN - (TIME BEGINS) -
AND GAVE HIM A FREEWILL -

THUS
GOD HAS HIS WILL - BUT MANKIND
HAVE A WILL, ALSO -

"WHEN"

- MAN'S WILL "IS NOT" IN AGREEMENT
WITH - GOD'S WILL -

GOD IS
INSTANTLY BEING RESTRICTED -

- GOD IS A GOD OF POWER - HE IS ABLE
TO DO ANYTHING -

YET

HAD HE CREATED EARTH AND FILLED
IT WITH THINGS - "DEVOID" OF SPIRIT

GOD WOULD NOT
BE RESTRICTED - "IN THE LEAST" -

BUT

HE CHOSE TO CREATE MANKIND -

THIS CREATION
IS DIFFERENT FROM STONE OR TREE
STARS OR SKY - ECT.

THE MAN
WHOM GOD CREATED - POSSESSES A
FREE WILL.

THUS
HE IS CAPABLE OF DECIDING -
WHETHER OR NOT - HE WILL
- LISTEN TO GOD -

GOD HAS NOT CREATED A MAN
WHO MUST HEAR HIM - OR
LISTEN TO HIM --

HAVING
CREATED A MAN - WITH SUCH A
FREE WILL - GOD'S POWER
IS THEREBY RESTRICTED BY
MANKIND - MADE IN HIS IMAGE -

THUS
"GOD CANNOT AUTOMATICALLY DO
- (IN TIME) WHAT HE WILLS TO DO -

INSTEAD HE
MUST ASK MAN IF IS ALSO WILLING
FOR

FROM THE DAY GOD CREATED MAN
AND EVEN UP TO THIS PRESENT
HOUR - MAN'S WILL MAY EITHER
ALLOW - OR - HINDER - GOD'S
AUTHORITY - TO GET THROUGH -

WHILE TIME LASTS - GOD'S AUTHORITY -
IS

RESTRICTED BY MANKIND -

THEREFORE

- PRAYER IS A GREAT SERVICE FOR
GOD - - IF WE FAIL IN OUR PRAYER
LIFE - WE FAIL IN EVERYTHING -

YET

- PRAYER IS STILL NOT ESTEEMED -
- AS THAT IMPORTANT - AND IS -
TREATED - AS A MATTER OF LITTLE
CONSEQUENCE -

HOW

- WE NEED THE LORD - (WE NEED
TO ASK THE LORD) - TO ENLIGHTEN
US - ONCE MORE - HOW IMPORTANT
PRAYER IS - TO GOD AND TO US
AS WE DO HIS WORK - AND TO
KNOW ANEW - ITS VALUE -