



Go for God!

THE POWER OF PRAYER SERIES (Part 6)

"The Heart of Prayer!"

~ 2 Chronicles Chapter 1- "A Heartfelt Prayer!"

> There are two keys to having the right heart for prayer:

(v1-6) Key #1 - Solomon's Worship - "Loving God with Heart, mind, soul & strength"

(v7-10) Key #2 - Solomon's Prayer - "Loving others as himself" (Now give me wisdom and knowledge, that I may go out and come in before this people; for who can judge this great people of Yours?" (2 Chronicles 1:10))

> There's three key elements to this prayer:

#1- His prayer was for the benefit of **others**.

#2- His prayer recognized that the people belonged to **God**, not himself.

#3- His prayer was for proper **judgment**. (Equity, equality, justice.)

(v11-12) God's response to Solomon's prayer: *God said to Solomon: "Because this was in your heart, and you have not asked riches or wealth or honor or the life of your enemies, nor have you asked long life--but have asked wisdom and knowledge for yourself, that you may judge My people over whom I have made you king-- wisdom and knowledge are granted to you; and I will give you riches and wealth and honor, such as none of the kings have had who were before you, nor shall any after you have the like." (2 Chronicles 1:11-12)*

> God's compliment to Solomon (4 ways):

#1- Because you did not ask for riches or wealth – Materialism (Jesus said in Matt 6:19-21; 24- "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in **heaven**, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon.)

#2- Because you did not ask for honor- Glory

#3- Because you did not ask for the life of your enemies - Power

#4- Because you did not ask for long life – Self-will

> God's blesses Solomon:

#1- Wisdom & knowledge are granted!

#2- Bonus blessing- riches, wealth & honor

(v13-17) Observe Solomon's multitude of blessings.

~ James Chapter 5:13-20 (Three HEARTBEATS to PRAYER!)

> Heartbeat #1 – PRAYER WITH ALL YOUR HEART! (v13-16)

- Suffering? – PRAY! (suffering speaks of difficult times, troubles)

- Cheerful? – SING! (Ephesians 5:18-21- *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ*) (Paul/Silas Acts 16)

- Sick? - Elders with oil PRAY! (Some sickness is because the personal practice of sin - 1 Cor 11:27-32- *Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are chastened by the Lord, that we may not be condemned with the world. Other sicknesses are the results of the world we live in and our flesh which is passing away.*)

(Insight: Always pray according to the “will of God” - 1 John 5:14-15 - Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.)

(v15) “And the prayer of faith with save the sick” – Luke 5:17-26

(v16) Trespasses? – Confess & PRAY for one another! (Confess “Private sins” to God and “Public sins” to those offended.)

> Heartbeat #2 - THE PRAYERFUL HEART THAT NEVER QUILTS! (v17-18)

- How to have an effective fervent prayer life that avails much?

#1- Be Righteous- Jeremiah 29:12,13 - Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.

#2- Abide in Christ- John 15:7,8 - If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

#3- Ask in Faith- John 16:23-24 - And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

#4- Just Pray- Jeremiah 33:3 - 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

- Example: Elijah- “a nature like ours” - Hungry - 1 Kings 17:11

- Afraid - 1 Kings 19:3

- Depressed - 1 Kings 19:3, 9-14

- Elijah’s key to prayer was he “Trusted God!”

> Heartbeat #3 – PRAY WITH A HEART FOR SALVATION! (v19-20)

- SAVE a Soul TODAY! - Matthew 9:35-38 - Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

John Wesley said: (As a child he was saved from burning house.) “Give me one hundred preachers who fear nothing but sin, and desire nothing but God, and I care not a straw whether they be clergymen or laymen; such alone will shake the gates of hell and set up the Kingdom of heaven on earth. God does nothing but in answer to prayer.”

- This is the greatest prayer of all! - Romans 10:9-13- that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. **For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."**