

## 7. The Prayer of Intercession

### The Different Kinds of Prayer

Sunday 3 April 2022

#### 1. My House shall be called a 'house of prayer' for all nations

Isaiah 56:7 *Even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.*

Mark 11:17b ... *'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you have made it a 'den of thieves.'* "

#### 2. The definition of the word 'Intercession'

- i. Intercession in its simplest definition is **"someone who stands on behalf of another."**
- ii. We see this common practice when one **appoints a lawyer** who knows the law, as well as the rights of the individual within the law and **represents justice on their behalf.**
- iii. In a spiritual sense, believers **stand on behalf others to plead their case.** We know the Law of God, our rights according to the New Covenant and **are able to represent justice on behalf of those we are praying for.**

#### 3. The role of the Old Testament Priesthood was intercessory by nature

Ezekiel 22:30 *I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it, but I found no one.*

4. **Jesus Christ stands in the Office of Mediator.** He is at the right hand of the Father interceding for us! (Heb 7:25)

5. **One of the roles of the Holy Spirit in the earth is Intercession**

6. **The Body of Christ is God's priesthood – called to Intercession** (priest *pontifex*" –"bridge-maker/builder")

1 Peter 2:9 NIV *But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, ...*

#### 7. The Holy Spirit 'helps' us make intercession

Romans 8:26 *Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

8. **The Spirit helps me intercede in prayer 'with the understanding'** (Ref 1 Corinthians 14:15)

Pray the Prayers of Paul the Apostle: Ephesians 1:16-22 / Ephesians 3:14-21 / Colossians 1:9-18

9. **The Spirit helps me intercede in prayer 'with my spirit'** (1 Corinthians 14:14 AMP, Romans 8:26-27)

Praying in tongues may be a mystery to our natural mind, but when we pray in tongues the Holy Spirit is making intercession for us and through us, and His power is being released into that situation *to work all things for our good.*

#### 10. The Holy Spirit will teach us how to "watch" in the spirit and pray

Isaiah 62:6-7 *I have set watchmen on your walls O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night.*

"watchmen" – "natsar" – "watch, guard, keep"

- i. In ancient times many cities had "walls" built around them as part of their defense strategy.
- ii. In the OT God appointed His prophets and priests to "watch" over the people and warn, correct, or sound the alarm.

Lamentations 2:19 *Arise, cry out in the night, at the beginning of the watches; pour out your heart like water before the face of the Lord. Lift your hands toward Him for the life of your young children, who faint from hunger at the head of every street.*

Hosea 9:8 AMP *Ephraim was [intended to be] a watchman with my God [and a prophet to the surrounding nations]; but He, that prophet, has become a fowler's snare in all his ways.*

iii. **Jesus spoke about “watching” in the spirit**

Mark 13:34 *It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and **commanded the doorkeeper to watch**.*

Matthew 26:40–41 NASB *And He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, ‘So, you men could not keep watch with Me for one hour?’<sup>41</sup> **Keep watching and praying that you may not enter into temptation; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.***

iv. **Paul taught the believers to “watch” and pray** (Col 4:2, “watchful” – “awake (in the night), on the alert, vigilant”)

**11. Areas God has called us to “watch” over: our Heart, our People, our Work, our Place** (Prov 4:23, Acts 20:28)

**12. The Holy Spirit has “set” us on the “wall” to “watch” and pray**

Isaiah 62:6-7 ***I have set watchmen on your walls** O Jerusalem; they shall never hold their peace day or night. You who make mention of the Lord, do not keep silent,<sup>7</sup> and give Him no rest till He establishes and till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth. .... 10 **Go through, go through the gates! Prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway! Take out the stones. Lift up a banner for the peoples.***

**10. The Prayer of Intercession includes – “wrestling” (spiritual warfare)**

Ephesians 6:12 *For we **wrestle** not against flesh and blood, **but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.***

“wrestle” — “pale” — “wrestle, struggle, fight, contest” *“a contest between two in which each endeavors to overthrow the other, and which is decided when the victor is able to hold his opponent down with his hand upon his neck”*

We don’t pray: *God please save so-and-so. Or God please deliver so-and-so.* God has already done all He is going to do! Salvation, deliverance, healing is already paid for. The problem: people are under the sway of the wicked one!

- i. We bind the spirits that are blinding their mind and declare the eyes of their heart are open, and they can ‘see’.
- ii. We make a demand on the Covenant on their behalf.
- iii. We declare the Word of victory over their lives and continue praying in tongues thanking God for their victory.

**11. The Prayer of Intercession can include “groanings” in the spirit**

Romans 8:26b *... the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.*

“groanings” — “stenagmos” — “groan sign, a physical respiratory distress due to depressed action of the heart”

**12. Intercession can include a ‘burden’ from the Holy Spirit**

These burdens come from the Holy Spirit moving on our spirit. Many times, the burden is a ‘prompt’ for us to intercede.

**13. The Prayer of Intercession can involve “labouring” in the spirit**

- i. New births are the result of someone “labouring” in the prayer of intercession

Galatians 4:19 NLT ***My dear children! I feel as if I am going through labor pains** for you again, and they will continue until Christ is fully developed in your lives.*

“labor” — “odino” — “to have birth pains, the need to deliver something”

Isaiah 66:8b *For as soon as Zion was in labor, she gave birth to her children.*

- ii. There is a “labouring” in prayer for believers to stand complete in all the will of God

Colossians 4:12 *Epaphras, who is one of you, a bondservant of Christ, greets you, always **laboring fervently for you in prayers**, that you may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.*

“labor fervently” — “agonizomai” — “to contend for, struggle, fight to obtain” “to contend as with an adversary,” to engage in an intense contest or warfare, to struggle with difficulty of danger”

Hebrews 5:14 *But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who **by reason of use** have their **senses exercised to discern both good and evil.***