

1. God calls His house ‘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.*

2. The prayers of God’s people have played a major role in nation-wide awakenings and revivals

Dr Edwin Err Leading scholar on Revivals: *Revival follows Prayer. For the past three hundred years, every revival has been birthed in prayer. If the move of God is going to come about in all its fullness, we must pray.*

3. God needs His people to pray

God in His Sovereignty has given us “Power of Attorney” on the earth and operates in the earth within that legal framework. Ps 115:16 *The heaven, even the heavens, are the LORD’s; but the earth He has given to the children of men.*

4. God said, “ask” of Me, and I will give you the nations!

Psalms 2:8 *Ask of Me, and I shall give you the nations for your inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for your possession.*

“ask” – “shaal” – “to demand, to earnestly request, require, consult”

- i. We are not “demanding” of God. We are making a “demand” on our Covenant, on His Redemption promises.
- ii. **Example:** Salvation is a finished work! But salvation is not automatic! We need to hear, believe, then CONFESS with our MOUTH for salvation to become a reality in our lives personally!

This Spiritual Law works for healing, deliverance for our families, as well as for our nation. Someone on earth needs to activate God’s Promises by PRAYING or SAYING! Then God can confirm HIS WORD with signs following!

5. “Ask” for rain in the time of the Latter Rain (‘ask’ – shaal – ‘demand’)

Zachariah 10:1 *Ask the Lord for rain in the time of the latter rain. The Lord will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, grass in the field for everyone.*

God told Elijah He would send rain! Elijah’s response was to ‘ask’/pray! 6 times he prayed! The 7th time a cloud appeared!

6. God told Ezekiel He would rebuild the ruined places, but needed Israel to pray so He could do it for them!

I the LORD, have spoken it, and I will do it. (Ref. Ezekiel 36:33-34, 36)

Ezekiel 36:37 KJV (this prophecy was conditional) *Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will yet for this be inquired of by the house of Israel, to do it for them; I will increase them with men like a flock.*

7. Abraham ‘asked’ the Lord to spare Sodom for Lot his nephew’s sake! (Ref. Genesis 18 & 19)

Genesis 18:17-18 *And the LORD said, shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; ...*

Genesis 18:22-26 ... ²³ *And Abraham came near and said, “Would You also destroy the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there were fifty righteous within the city; would You also destroy the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous that were in it? ²⁵ Far be it from You to do such a thing as this, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous should be as the wicked; far be it from You! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?” ²⁶ So the LORD said, “If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.*

Genesis 18:32-33 *Then he said, “Let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak but once more: Suppose ten should be found there?” And He said, “I will not destroy it for the sake of ten.” ³³ So the Lord went His way as soon as He had finished speaking with Abraham; and Abraham returned to his place.*

Abraham stopped asking God when he asked for 10 people! What if Abraham had continued to make request for 5 people!

Genesis 19:29 NLT ... **God had listened to Abraham's request and kept Lot safe, removing him from the disaster that engulfed the cities on the plain.**

8. Moses talked with God and interceded for the Children of Israel (Exodus 32:7-9)

Exodus 32:9-10 NLT *Then the LORD said, "I have seen how stubborn and rebellious these people are!¹⁰ Now leave Me alone so My fierce anger can blaze against them, and I will destroy them. Then I will make you, Moses, into a great nation."*

Exodus 32:11-12b ***But Moses tried to pacify the LORD his God. "O LORD!" he said. "Why are You so angry with Your own people whom You brought from the land of Egypt with such great power and such a strong hand?¹² Turn away from Your fierce anger. Change Your mind about this terrible disaster You have threatened against Your people!***

Exodus 32:13 NLT *Remember Your servants Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. You bound Yourself with an oath to them, ...*

Exodus 32:14 NLT ***So the LORD changed His mind ...***

9. Paul the apostle urges us to 'pray – ask – intercede' on behalf of all people

1 Timothy 2:1-3 NLT *I urge you, first of all, to **pray for all people. Ask God to help them**; intercede on their behalf, and give thanks for them.² Pray this way **for kings and all who are in authority**³ so that we can live peaceful and quiet lives marked by godliness and dignity. This is good and pleases God our Savior,⁴ who wants everyone to be saved ...*

1 John 5:19 ... ***the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.***

- i. Our fight is not with "flesh and blood" but against "principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, spiritual wickedness in high places." (Ephesians 6:11-12)
- ii. Demon spirits want to influence people in authority. Seducing spirits come to take hold of the minds of people.
- iii. Yet Jesus Christ has defeated Satan and these demon spirits. As the Body of Christ we remind Satan that he was defeated ... the nations are Christ's inheritance, the uttermost parts of the earth are already HIS possession. (Ps 2:8)
- iv. We are to EXECUTE on these principalities the judgement that has already been written.

10. The Book of Daniel shows the impact prayer has on the 'unseen' as well as the 'seen' realm

Eg 1. Daniel, one of the captives read in Jeremiah that after 70yrs of captivity God would deliver them! But God had not come!

Daniel 9:3 NIV ***I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with Him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.***

The Lord stirred king Cyrus of Persia to rebuild God's house in Jerusalem!

Ezra 1:1-2 ... ***in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, ...² Thus says Cyrus king of Persia: All the kingdoms of the earth the LORD God of heaven has given me. And He has commanded me to build Him a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah.***

Eg 2. Daniel 10:1a, ***2 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel,² In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks.***

Daniel 10:10-13 ... ¹²... ***"Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words.¹³ But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia.***

11. Consecrate yourself, for tomorrow LORD will do wonders among you (Joshua 3:5 ESV)

God told Joshua, prepare the Children of Israel to Possess the Promised Land.

Joshua 7:13 GNT ***Get up! Purify the people and get them ready to come before Me. Tell them to be ready tomorrow, because I, the LORD God of Israel, have this to say: 'Israel, you have in your possession some things that I ordered you to destroy! You cannot stand against your enemies until you get rid of these things!'***

What does the Lord require of us to see our loved ones and nation saved?

2 Chronicles 7:14 ***If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.***