

## SESSION 2 – FOUNDATIONS FOR PREVAILING PRAYER

### EXAMPLES OF GOD DEALING WITH UNBELIEF WITH THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL AND JESUS DEALING WITH THE DISCIPLES

READ: DEUT 32

Luke 9:41 Then Jesus answered and said, “O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.”<sup>42</sup> And as he was still coming, the demon threw him down and convulsed *him*. Then Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the child, and gave him back to his father.

8) WE MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THOSE THAT DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM

Heb. 11:6 It is said that ***without this faith it is impossible to please God***, without such a faith as helps us to walk with God, an active faith, and that we cannot come to God unless we ***believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of those that diligently seek him.***

(1.) We must believe that God is, and that he is what he is, what he has revealed himself to be in the scripture, a Being of infinite perfections, subsisting in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Observe, The practical belief of the existence of God, as revealed in the word, would be a powerful awe-band upon our souls, a bridle of restraint to keep us from sin, and a spur of constraint to put us upon all manner of gospel obedience.

(2.) *That he is a rewarder of those that diligently seek him.* Here observe,

[1.] By the fall we have lost God; we have lost the divine light, life, love, likeness, and communion.

[2.] God is again to be found of us through Christ, the second Adam.

[3.] God has prescribed means and ways wherein he may be found; to with, a strict attention to his oracles, attendance on his ordinances, and ministers duly discharging their office and associating with his people, observing his providential guidance, and in all things humbly waiting his gracious presence.

[4.] Those who would find God in these ways of his must *seek him diligently*; they must seek early, earnestly, and perseveringly. *Then shall they seek him, and find him, if they seek him with all their heart*; and when once they have found him, as their reconciled God, they will never repent the pains they have spent in seeking after him. [Resources](#) » [Matthew Henry's Commentary](#) » [Hebrews](#) » [Chapter 11](#) » Verses 4–31

## 9) WILL GOD FIND FAITH IN US

Luke 18:8 I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will **He really find faith on the earth?**”

Matt 11:22 So Jesus answered and said to them, **“Have faith in God.**

## 10) WE MUST PUT ON THE NEW MAN AND BE TRANSFORMED

Ephesians 4:17-24 This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, <sup>18</sup> having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; <sup>19</sup> who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

<sup>20</sup> But you have not so learned Christ, <sup>21</sup> if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: <sup>22</sup> **that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man** which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, <sup>23</sup> and **be renewed in the spirit of your mind,** <sup>24</sup> **and that you put on the new man** which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

## 11) THE FIRST REACTION OF A BELIEVER WHEN HE OR SHE ENCOUNTERS A PROBLEM SHOULD BE TO RUN TO GOD IN PRAYER

James 2:14 [***Faith Without Works Is Dead***] What *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has **faith** but does not have **works**? Can **faith** save him? Amplified

Matthew 21:13 And He said to them, “It is written, ‘**My house shall be called a house of prayer,**’ but you have made it a ‘den of thieves.’”

## What is Prayer?

It’s a conversation with God; the unity of the soul with God, not in contemplation or meditation, but in direct address to him. Prayer may be oral or mental, occasional or constant. It is a "beseeching the Lord" ([Ex. 32:11](#)); "pouring out the soul before the Lord" ([1 Sam. 1:15](#)); "praying and crying to heaven" ([2 Chr. 32:20](#)); "seeking unto God and making supplication" ([Job 8:5](#)); "drawing near to God" ([Ps. 73:28](#)); "bowing the knees" ([Eph. 3:14](#)).

Prayer presupposes a belief in the personality of God, his ability and willingness to meet us, his personal control of all things and of all his creatures and all their actions.

Acceptable prayer must be sincere ([Heb. 10:22](#)), offered with reverence and godly fear, with a humble sense of our own insignificance as creatures and of our own unworthiness as sinners, with earnest importunity, and with unhesitating submission to the divine will. Prayer must also be offered in the faith that God is, and is the hearer and answerer of prayer, and that he will fulfil his word, "Ask, and ye shall receive" ([Matt. 7:7, 8](#); [21:22](#); [Mark 11:24](#); [John 14:13, 14](#)), and in the name of Christ ([16:23, 24](#); [15:16](#); [Eph. 2:18](#); [5:20](#); [Col. 3:17](#); [1 Pet. 2:5](#)).

## 12) FORGIVENESS AND PRAYER

Mark 11:24 Watch and **pray**, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak." [Mark 11:25](#)

[*Forgiveness and Prayer*] "And whenever you stand **praying**, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. Amplified

Unforgiveness does not only hinder your prayer life but can also keep you out of Heaven. (Testimony of Heaven - dungeon)

James 5:16 Confess *your* trespasses to **one another**, and **pray for one another**, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent **prayer** of a righteous man avails much.

Matthew 7:7-8 [*Keep Asking, Seeking, Knocking*] "**Ask**, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who **asks** receives, and he who **seeks** finds, and to him who **knocks** it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son **asks** for bread, will give him a stone?

For everyone who **asks** receives, and he who **seeks** finds, and to him who **knocks** it will be opened. Amplified

Matthew 26:41 Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you **pray**, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

Mark 11:24 Watch and **pray**, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

Mark 11:25 [*Forgiveness and Prayer*] "And whenever you stand **praying**, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses. Amplified

Hebrews 9:27 And as **it is appointed for men** to die once, but after this the judgment,

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

## 12) PRAYER THAT EVERY BELIEVER SHOULD PRAY

Ephesians 3:14-20 For this reason I bow my knees to the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup> from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, <sup>16</sup> that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, <sup>17</sup> that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup> may be able to comprehend with all the saints what *is* the width and length and depth and height— <sup>19</sup> to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

<sup>20</sup> Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, <sup>21</sup> to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.