

Difficulties of Prayer

by

RA Feller

Motivation

Why do we usually have to be moved out of our comfort zones to be sparked to seek God's help and love in order to pray? "He was despised and rejected, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief, bruised for our iniquities, and the chastisement of our peace was laid upon Him for us all." Perhaps, for us to connect with God's heart about our conditions, enter into His sufferings, and better understand the way that He feels about us, we need to identify with Him. For when I become sorrowful, I see Jesus hanging on the cross and I'm reminded of how He loves me, which leads me to have my heart touched in gratitude.

No matter how bad it gets for us while having our own crosses to bear, just remember that the cross of Jesus Christ was heaviest of all, for He carries ours as well as His own.

The needs are so great in this world among God's children. Some are lost needing love and need to connect with Him, but this does not grieve Him as much as those who profess to know Him and do not share in the burdens of His grief for others besides themselves. We are all guilty of this on some level when we hear the voice that says, "I've done my share, now let me go back to my comforts." No one likes to die, but Jesus said, "If you lose your life for My name's sake you will find it."

Satan's voice tries to keep us in the world and of it, which blocks us from receiving being in this world and not of it where knowing eternal life in God's kingdom is true life. For we've become so accustomed to the flavor of death that we settle down with aches and pains not recognizing that it is God's wake-up call to stay in His kingdom to receive more of His life.

Lord Jesus, I ask that you burn everything out of me that is not pleasing in your sight and that I might catch a belly of your fervent fire of love for all humanity to further the glory of your Kingdom. Now, allow me to trust you to do this work within me. Amen.

For how can we be comfortable in this world and have God, too? We can't! Yet, just as there are different parts of the body of Jesus while here on earth calling us to be His hands or feet, we must be sensitive to what He calls each of us to do. This will determine where He would have us to be most effective in His kingdom. For in the areas of our lives where we have needs, God will supply for His children. Yet there are woes for those who have wants that interfere with hearing God's voice as they retract their hands and take hold of their own in place of His hand once again, but it is an act of mercy as they're awakened later. "If you search for me with all your heart, you will find me." "Then the Prince of peace which surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds," as "God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and a sound mind."

My search for peace with soundness of mind has been the greatest motivator for me because one day, I got so tired of all the confusion and set out on a quest to find the true answer of - who is Jesus Christ? That I might know who I was really talking to when I prayed.

The Angst of Prayer

“When we know not what to pray the Holy Spirit makes intercession for us,” and His sweet spirit tastes good as it guides us to find our words and the way into the bosom of God’s love.

Ephesians Chapter 2:1-8. “You formerly were dead as a result of your transgressions and sins, which were your way of life in this worldly era, obeying the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit that is now at work among the children of rebellion. We were all numbered among them at one time, too.

We were ruled by our sinful nature, succumbing to the temptations of the flesh and desires. And like all others, we were by nature children of wrath, but God is rich in his mercy, and because he had such great love for us, he brought us to life with Christ when we were already dead through sin—it is by grace that you have been saved. He raised us in union with Christ Jesus and enthroned us with him in the heavens so that in the ages to come, he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace evidenced by his mercy to us in Christ Jesus, for it is by grace that you have been saved through faith.

This has not come from you but from the gift of God. It does not come from works so that no one can boast, for we are God’s handiwork and created in Christ Jesus for a life of good works that God had prepared us to do. As we were dead in our trespasses of sin, but God in His mercy delivers us from them all,” by the power from the riches of His merciful kingdom while learning to indulge in the prayers of His grace.

We are used to the abuse of sin because we are numb to it while walking around like dead men in our senses, for how else would we continue to settle for abuse in place of love unless we were numbskulls.

My emotions and thoughts were separated until I realized that I needed to ask God to make me fully alive by the power of His Son, Jesus Christ, who said, "I am the resurrection and the life, he who believes in me though he were dead yet shall he live." He is our example of what it is to be fully alive in the circling cycle of love by His regenerative resurrecting blood. So, where does this leave us?

"We have not because we ask not, because when we ask, we ask amiss, still seeking the pleasures of this world." Yes, we have needs, but it's so easy to ask for what we want in excess of them because it is Satan's ploy to distract us from being full-time servants of the Lord.

The scriptures say that the Spirit is at war with the flesh. So why do we keep going back to the spirits of the world to break God's heart when He designed us to have fellowship with Him? I say it is because we have become comfortable with what the world, the flesh, and the devil have to offer and negate God's promises of what He has to offer, for we believe Satan's lies over what God has to offer. Why else would we keep abusing each other to get what we don't need in excess and believe wanton lies that there is more love in the lust of pleasure for everything other than helping out our fellow man? For God's kingdom is about love.

We have been set free to fly out of Satan's cage, but we don't because we have become trained to be more comfortable in what this fallen angel has to offer than almighty God. I say this is the angst in our hindrances to God answering our prayers, for we love what pleases our creature selves with a counterfeit joy that takes the place of what we could be getting from the Spiritual eternal life while serving Him.

Remember that "No man who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of heaven." Jesus also states, "Unless

you have the faith of a little child, you will in no wise enter into the kingdom of God.” Understand how trusting God is emphasized as a part of this preparation, “Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen.” So, “If you have the faith of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, get up and be cast into the sea, and it shall be done.”

There’s a growth progression in prayer because as we grow in faith, everything around us moves and changes over time. We grow at different paces spiritually. Just like land formations that are moved during land erosion and earthquakes progression over many years or abruptly, we grow.

Jesus states, “Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground, it cannot reproduce after its own kind.” Who is Jesus? As the first fruit of the regenerative bloodline of eternal life with His Father from the beginning of creation, He referred to how His living bloodline will continue when He dies on the cross. For those who are still and have entered into His holy presence at each complete stage of their growth, discover Him and the Father are one as being reconciled by them, they grow from glory to glory.

“Be still and know that I am God.” I believe that this is the good soil that Jesus is referring to in the parable of the sower. For how else can we be “Rooted and grounded in the love of God” unless we connect with The Lord in a way that we know Him in prayer? Jesus has mercy on those who have grown in despondent attitudes that tell of their prayers through their actions, For “A bruised reed He will not break, nor will he snuff out a smoldering wick, until He establishes justice as victorious,” by mercy.

A still and quiet heart that remains in the peace of His kingdom, which passes beyond our understanding, allows us to know that God has genuinely communicated with us by resting on

our heart's throne. This removes our angst with Him in prayer as we've been opened to His direct line of heart, touching all hearts with God every time we pray.

Don't Lose Your Pearls

I see every prayer as a costly pearl because the regenerative living blood of Jesus Christ paid for it. The Messiah of us Jews and to anyone else who wants to overcome the insanity of the world by receiving the gift of escaping into the resurrection-circling cycle of love. For “God delights in a just weight,” which balances out a mind to be sound and have peace. We all now have a choice to trust Him for it spiritually, for eternal life, or to keep getting headaches by moving into the mind of flesh. For by trying to figure things out from seductive spirits of pride, we're prevented from trusting God as His children when this happens.

So, keep your pearls strung together by having an attitude with a single focus of thought on the light of God's Kingdom of truth. Don't get distracted by the spirits that live in the dark, or the line of your prayer string will break, and your focus of vision will be lost by winds that will divide your thoughts. “For a double-minded man is unstable in all of his ways and let him not believe that he will receive anything from the Lord,” is stated in scripture.

This is why perseverance is required in prayer to prevent the mindset of the flesh and the tainting of the world from entering in as they must be shaken off. For just as Jesus Christ was birthed in Mary His mother, He is now birthed within us. He grows through prayer and Bible reading while meditating on Him, and He enters into us every time we redirect or focus on Him and away from all else. This should especially happen when partaking of the Holy Eucharist.

The Apostle Paul said, “Pray without ceasing,” for this reason as well. I hope that my mind will eventually not waiver back to this world that I may be in, and fully spiritually no longer of it. Yes, pray it through, and when we grow to one day where our yearning out

grows darkness, there will not be solid intimacy with God. So until there is only the light and the life of all men, we will not hear, "Well done thy faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of the Lord," from Him in His Father's house physically or while in His Spirit while here on earth.

Yet beware, do not be a pest after prayer. Wait on the Lord's timing to speak, or you will not be heard beyond the flesh which wars against the Holy Spirit, and to no avail, you will encounter the taste of Death. Or even worse, "Do not cast your pearls before swine lest they turn around and trample you underfoot." So remember these words of Jesus Christ, "I am the vine, and you are the branches, and unless you abide in Me and I in you, you can do nothing." Now abide in the good and still soil of Jesus Christ. For as your roots are fully grounded into the vine of Christ, you'll grow to reflect His light with a fruit of glory that shines as a pearl. Then, when people smell the aroma of your attitude behind your words, they will want to have a bite of Christ in them, and many souls will be saved.

A word of caution. If others mistake Christ in you, your hope of glory as you in the flesh, then invite them to pray for you to protect yourself against the winds of pride that they shall not threaten your own line of prayer. You shall be able to discern when this is happening when your eyes are attracted to someone or something else that deflects from you to love God fully. For when your face shines with radiant joy from your true self in your testimony, the fire of your fervent love towards God will be known by you in the reflection of the faces of those around you. Glory be to God.

RA Feller