



Challenging Christians to Pray

PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE -- 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

Prayergram

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Who Sits on the Throne?

Sorry Satan, you cannot have the throne—it's already taken.

WHO rules the world, Americans, Russians, Chinese, British, Germans, and Indians or someone else? I will let you answer that question. Let me ask you, where are the tyrants of yester years who sent God's people to the gallows, burned them at the stake and threw them in the Lions Den? I tell you where they are now; their bodies lie in some forgotten tomb of antiquity. So let's calm ourselves, take a deep breath and rest in the promise of God that there is a life beyond politics, fame, wealth, sports, entertainment and even technology; a LIFE with God forever. **The** creation of the world is brilliantly conceived and flawlessly executed, and God's creative genius is breathtaking beyond human comprehension. The sovereign God apologizes to no one for executing His righteous rule in the universe. All men can be moved at His command. **C.S. Lewis, the former agnostic in his powerful testimony---**"surprised by Joy" **---calls GOD a "divine Chess Player."** Every time we think we have made a move on God, He has a counter move and we end up in the soup, like a fly caught in the barrel of molasses. This self-existent God happens to be our Savior and Lord. What a stunning thought! **Have you ever heard of the "frozen snowball" theory? Recently, I read that Science has discovered that in 50 billion years the sun will burn itself out and the earth will become nothing more than a "frozen snowball" floating through space. If and when that day comes, who cares how many followers we had on Twitter or Facebook? The billion year stuff really boggles my simple mind. Let us talk about a "fifty or hundred year" test: A fifty or hundred years from now honestly what is going to make a difference in my life is that how I have lived, cared, whom I have served-- all of which is inextricably interlaced in with my abiding relationship with a living God who holds infinity in the palm of His hand.**



Our mortal existence without GOD seems so bizarre, ironic, and meaningless, and yet we continue to theorize, analyze as to what **LIFE** really is all about rather than focusing on the God of creation. Everything we see in this world is transitory. What do we have that won't pass away?

If people are sincere when they say that they want to know the true meaning of life and such an honest and sincere contemplation on **LIFE** will lead one to despair, like the French existentialist play Wright, Jean Paul Sartre, who says there is No Exit from this meaningless existence, or it will lead one to the leap of **FAITH**, like the Danish theologian, Soren Kierkegaard. The only way to find meaning for life is to find God's purpose for life. The Word of God tells us that **"those who live in Christ shall never die."**

Such knowledge of God should bring us down to our knees with a sense of awe, worship and adoration. Beloved, the creator is in the forefront and He is never relegated to the background. The proudest cities of the world will be laid low. The luxury palaces upon which the worlds mighty have lavished their wealth in order to satisfy their inordinate lust and power will be destroyed. **All men are equal when they come face to face with death and death treats all men equal.** One can never dodge or avoid death by his wisdom, money, education, scientific know-how, status or any other secular means. The world's mighty men of valor, wealthiest people, eminent scientists, learned doctors, brilliant scholars, persons of great authority and power will have to stand before the ONE who possesses all knowledge, and wisdom.

How easy it is in these rapidly changing days to subscribe to the **elusion** that the world is like an automobile hurtling over the side of a mountain, driverless and out of control. Make no mistake that this world has a driver whose name is Jehovah and He alone holds infinity in the palm of His hand. **"Can any hide himself in secret places that I shall not see him, saith the LORD?" (Jeremiah 23:24).** Today man has progressed so much to the extent that he is attempting to build a civilization without God. We deal with the passing of time. What's the 20th century or the 21st century and the centuries beyond? All of time belongs to God. **"For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night" (Psalms 90:4).**

When I attempt to talk to people about their need for a Savior; they always bring up how smart they are, their standing in society and their material worth in order to avoid the eternal issue—**salvation**. It is amazing how people try to **PULL RANK ON GOD!** If you are lost, you are lost, it doesn't matter how much wealth you have, or how many followers you have on twitter.

If man is as smart as he thinks, how come his life here on earth is so brief? Why can't he prolong his life? Friend, your life and my life will end in a heart-beat. In a twinkling of an eye, we find ourselves standing before our Creator God alone. **When I die, I will be with my Savior. There will be no ifs or buts. No priest or preacher can preach me into heaven. Heaven is the throne of God and besides, there will be no mutiny in heaven.**

With absolute, unshaken, unchangeable certainty, I can say that our God reigns and rules supreme over all things. Our future is in God's hand, and this world is never outside the sphere of His influence. God alone knows what lies ahead. Life's various twists and turns are not intended to impede our progress, but to increase our spiritual longevity and speed.

God is uninfluenced by fluctuating circumstances. Robert Browning once said, **"Tis looking downward that makes one dizzy."** So why look down when we can look up and see the Man in glory. Look up and say with the hymn writer of old: **"This is my father's world! Oh, let me never forget, that though the wrong seems often so strong, God, God is the ruler yet."** **RELAX FRIEND**, our God sits on the throne and He has everything under control. **Remember whose we are and whom we serve! We serve a risen Lord whose kingdom shall stand forever! We can only be what God meant it to be. He is still God. Let it be known to all that Christians do not kneel before mortal men; but only before our sovereign King, the Almighty God, and our glorious ELSHADDAI.**

May I conclude this article with the profound words of Marcus Aristides, **"God is not in need of anything, but all things are in need of Him."** Sorry Satan, you cannot have the throne—it is already taken. Let us remember that **"God rules by his power for ever; his eyes behold the nations: let not the rebellious exalt themselves"** (Psalms 66:7).

--- Matthew Skariah

Debunking Popular Clichés by Matthew Skariah

"Man Upstairs/ Larger than Life?"

Who is this man upstairs? What is His name? The Old Testament names of God are as follow: Elohim, Adonai, El Shaddai, Yahweh, Jehovah Jireh, Jehovah Raphe, Jehovah Nissi, Jehovah Mekadesh, Jehovah Shalom, Jehovah Tsidkenu, Jehovah Rohi, Jehovah Shammah, and in the New Testament, let's consider some of His names as well: King of Kings, Lord of Lords, Alpha and Omega, the Great I am, the Good Shepherd, Light of the World, Redeemer, Savior of Mankind and the Lion of the tribe of Judah. There are some in our culture who feel they are intellectually superior and bigger than God and they cannot bring themselves to enunciate His holy name with reverence and respect; so they cowardly call him **"The Man Upstairs." We have another expression in our society that needs to be exposed, as well. We often hear: **"So and so" is a "larger than life figure."** The coinage has captured so much attention and it has entered into the American **"sports lexicon."** We are a nation addicted to sports; and put sports heroes on a pedestal. In August 2016, I read an article and it said, **"75% of NFL players five (5) years after their retirement are broke."****

Larger than life, of course! There was also another article about a former NBA player, who was a first round draft pick some years ago, and he made over 100 million dollars during his career. But in August of 2016, he stood before a judge in tears and said, **"Judge, I don't have enough money to buy a cheeseburger."** What happened? He was considered a "larger than life" figure once. It's profoundly clear that wealth without God offers nothing but emptiness and dissolution.

Beloved, earthly success is fleeting but heavenly success is eternal.

Jesus “knew what was in man,” meaning that He knew men’s hearts; and the Apostle Paul emphasizes the same thing—“*Don’t glory in man; trust only the grace of God in you and in other people.*” The profound words of French philosopher, *Pascal* come to mind, “*Man has a God-shaped hole in him and only Christ can fill it.*” No wonder Jesus pleads with us to turn over the preserving of our hearts to Him so He can fill them with His life and joy! We should reverence His name and worship Him and should trust in His unending love and mercy without the smallest admixture of doubt and pride. Life comes from God; it’s sacred and should be cherished. Don’t politicize or devalue life! **Someone has wisely said, “When small men cast long shadows, the sun is about to set.”** Faith teaches us humility, and a conscious awareness that there is always someone who knows more than we do, and there is someone larger than us (**GOD**)! Think about it! Still not convinced...?

There is someone bigger than us—God Almighty!
He is Immortal, Indivisible, Eternal, Immeasurable, Incalculable,
and supreme over all things. Be careful what we say and do!
God is listening and watching from His throne!
Let’s not use HIS holy name without relationship!

“A trip to Calvary is what we need”

When we are tempted, insulted, rejected, shamed, betrayed, arrogant, boastful, and rude and inundated with pride, then, we need to take a memorable journey to the hill of **Golgotha on “bended knees” to see and experience the unfolding “triumph” of divine love and mercy in action. What are we to do when we get there? Just simply look into the face of our loving Savior, and see His smile and hear him say, “**My child, I am glad, you came.**” That’s all we need to hear. — *Matthew Sħariah***



The WPB Ministries



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