

## OUR POSITION IN PRAYER

By Ps James Phiri

### INTRODUCTION

In order to understand our position in prayer, we need to first define what prayer is. When teaching His disciples about prayer, Jesus said prayer is not the many words you say:

**Mathew 6:7-8 says, 'And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore, do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask them.'**

Religion has made prayer into something else. Today Christians see prayer as something they can use to manipulate God into doing what they want. But if God knows about what I want to say before I even say it, what makes me think that I can manipulate Him into doing what I need.

### PRAYER IS COMMUNION WITH GOD

When I look at the relationship Adam had with God before the fall, I wonder if we truly understand the true purpose of prayer. Adam did not have anything to ask God. He had needs but God took care of all his needs without Adam asking for them. So, what was Adam's prayer then? I believe Adam enjoyed an unlimited presence of God that he didn't even consider a special moment of prayer. He did not need to spend one hour or whatever time with God. He was always in communion with God.

**Genesis 3:8a says 'And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day.'** If this was God's habit, then what were they talking about? One thing I am sure of is, they were not discussing demons and evil spirits. They were not discussing what Adam lacked or needed because God took care of all his needs.

Prayer was to enjoy each other's presence. Adam had no people to intercede for, yet he spoke with God. Today we think that to pray is only to ask something from God.

Noah had a relationship with God. I believe that he had such communion with God that it was impossible for him not to believe God. No wonder the bible in **Hebrews 11:7 says, 'By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.'**

I personally believe that Before the flood, there was no rain. Because Noah was warned of things not yet seen. Yet Noah did not doubt God because he was in communion with Him all the time. Actually, the bible in the book of **Genesis 2:6 says God irrigated the earth by causing a mist to come up from the earth and watered all the face of the ground.**

If the New Testament believer can have the revelation that our communion with God is the primary purpose of prayer. We will not stop praying. We will understand what Paul meant when he said in **1Thessalonians 5:16-19 'Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit.'**

There is a difference between the old Testament believer and the New Testament believer.

### **THE POSITION OF THE OLD TESTAMENT BELIEVER**

The Old Testament believer look forward to the day he will be saved. He looked forward to the day he will be healed. He looked forward to the day God will answer his prayers.

God interacted and treated them with the knowledge that one day Christ will come and pay for their sins. It was on credit. Their agreement with God was if they do this God will do that. He says so in **Deuteronomy 11:27, 'the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today;'**

They had to pray a certain way because that was how God treated them.

### **OUR POSITION IN PRAYER**

The position of the New Testament believer is that we are looking backwards to what Jesus has already done:

**2Corinthians 5:17 says: 'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.'**

We are a completely brand new creation. A creation that never existed before. We are not like the Old Testament believer. We are even not like Adam himself. We are a new design.

God says to this new creation:

**'By His stripes were healed' (2Peter 2:24)**

**'We are blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ (Ephesians 1:3).**

**'His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue (2Peter 1:3).'**

We are looking back at the finished work of Jesus for our answers to prayer. We stand in the position of victory in His glory.

**2Corinthians 1:20 says, 'For all the promises of God in Him are yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us.'**

All the promises, including both Old and New Testament promises. They all are yes. So, when you pray according to His promise, you have what you ask (**1John 5:14-15**).

In this dispensation of grace, we can be sure of one thing: **Mathew 7:7-8, 'Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.'**

Again **Mark 11:24 says, 'Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.'**

Notice that you can ask for something when you pray, showing that the primary purpose for prayer is not the asking but the fellowship.

You can ask God for anything when you pray, when you are in communion with Him.

God has already provided for everything you will ever need from Him as His child. It is His pleasure to give it to you: **Luke 12:32 'Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.'**

## **CONCLUSION**

When we pray, we must know that we know that we know that God has already provided us with whatever we pray for. Because he has promised in **Philippians 4:19: 'And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.'**