

OPERATION FOOTSTOOL

In February 1990 I flew from London to Kenya to conduct open air meetings and also teach the pastors there for several weeks. Before I spoke at the outdoor meetings, the pastor informed me that I should not say anything about the President of the country. I was informed there would be government agents in the crowd. (they were suspicious about any anti-government activity in the country and Christians were not allowed to meet together in homes after 9 PM) During the meeting I declared that **‘Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, even the President of Kenya!’** This was based on the scripture passage of Philippians 2:5-11, which explains why Jesus deserves to be honored. People bow before kings, prime ministers, presidents and royalty as a sign of respect and loyalty to their rule and their kingdom or administration.

One day while in London, I had just been reading a book about hearing God’s voice by Loren Cunningham, the founder of the mission group, YWAM. I decided to stop, rest my eyes and take a short nap. As I was lying there, suddenly this thought came to my mind which seemed almost audible....Joshua 10:18. Immediately I opened my Bible and read about five kings who had fled to a cave and Joshua told his soldiers to roll large rocks up the entrance so the kings could not get out. He then told the army to pursue their enemies and they defeated them. On their return, Joshua told his army commanders to get the five kings out of the cave.

Come here and put your feet on the necks of these kings. So they came forward and they placed their feet on their necks. / Joshua 10:24

Joshua then told them to be strong and courageous for God would do the same thing for the enemies they would face. Joshua then struck the five kings and hung them. God fulfilled those words as the army of Israel went on to defeat many of their enemies who were forced to submit and bow.

God’s people in Israel also bowed before their king, but they did so willingly. King Solomon made a great throne laid with ivory and overlaid with pure gold. The throne had six steps and a **footstool of gold** was attached to it. / 2 Chronicles 9:17-18

The whole assembly all praised the LORD, the God of their fathers, they **bowed low** and **fell prostrate** before the LORD and the king.
1 Chronicles 29:20

Earthly kings receive honor, how much more does the King of all kings deserve it. The following verse is the most quoted one in the New Testament. It speaks of Jesus.

The LORD says to my Lord; sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a **footstool** for your feet. / Psalm 110:1 NIV

Matthew 22:44, Mark 12:36, Luke 20:42-43, Acts 2:34-35

True Christians who lived under the reigns of the most wicked Roman emperors, refused to bow their knee to Caesar nor burn incense for just one day of the year. They had bowed to Jesus alone and that was all. Of course, bowing the knee to Jesus as Lord is not a one time occurrence is not all that Jesus deserves from us. We owe our eternal life to him and so it is only reasonable that we should live our whole earthly life in loving service and obedience.

Dr. Bill Bright was a successful business man who founded Campus Crusade for Christ in 1951, which is now called CRU. It grew into one of the largest mission / discipleship groups in the world with 25,000 full time workers. Their ministry has reached an amazing number of people for Christ, especially through the **Jesus film**. Over 200 million persons have come to Christ through it around the world. The ministry is also famous for the small booklet 'The Four Spiritual Laws' which shows people how to become a Christian. Bill made great impact on the world because he spent time alone with God. Here is how he started each day.

The **first thing** I do when I awaken each morning is to **kneel before my Lord in humility**, meditate upon his attributes, and praise, worship and adore Him.

The **last thing** I do before I go to bed at night is to **kneel in prayer**, to praise, worship and give thanks to Him. Thus my first thoughts are automatically of Him when I awaken, because all night long my sub-conscious mind has been meditating on Him.

Every morning of every day, **I acknowledge His lordship**. I gladly surrender control of my life to Him, acknowledging my dependence on Him. Then by faith, I claim His mind and His wisdom for direction in every detail of my life.'

He goes on to talk of the importance of studying God's Word and meditating upon it. Thank God for examples such as Bill Bright.

During the summer of 2014, when God moved mightily in our prayer group, God led me to kneel at my bedside often and express my love and gratitude to God for what He was doing. This is an encouragement for all of us to start or continue such a wonderful habit. Just as water flows from high places to lower ones, God's grace flows freely towards those who are humble.

DAILY: Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand. God opposes the proud and gives grace to the humble. - 1 Peter 5:5-6 (words from once proud Peter)

Three times a day, Daniel got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. / Daniel 6:10

Our daily praise and worship unto God is great preparation for when we see God at His throne. Prayer can be love on its knees. Jesus knelt for us, let us kneel for Him.

GREAT MULTITUDE of worshipers at God's Throne! Revelation 7:9-12
A large population is a King's glory. Proverbs 14:28
The Father seeks true worshipers! John 4:23

Our daily life should reflect our desire to be involved with things that are important

to God such as obeying the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

GREAT COMMISSION Matthew 28: 28-34 MAKE DISCIPLES

“Teach them to **obey everything** I have commanded you.”
(includes fasting, healing, don't lay up treasures on earth, love your enemies etc.)

GREAT COMMANDMENT Mark 12:28-34

Love God with **all** your heart, soul, mind and strength and love/care for your neighbor as you care for yourself

Your heart: Colossians 3:1-2
Your soul: Luke 9:23-25
Your mind: 2 Corinthians 10:5
Your strength: Colossians 1:29, 3:23

GREAT LOVE 1 John 4:7-21 God loved us first!

Receive it..... Believe it..... Rely on it

Jesus loved us with:

ALL His heart: Jesus at the cross - John 3: 16, 1 John 3:16
His soul: Jesus at Gethsemane - Matthew 26:38
His strength: Jesus needed help to carry cross up the hill
He only had energy on cross to quote Psalm 22:1
but he was thinking of us!!
His mind: Psalm 22:27-31

God has precious thoughts of us... a vast number!! - Psalms 139:17,18; Isaiah 43:4

Meditate on and Pray: Ephesians 3:14 - 21 / Be rooted and grounded in GOD'S LOVE

JESUS IS KING of kings and LORD of lords - Revelation 19:11-16

HE IS THE REASON FOR OPERATION FOOTSTOOL

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