

Prayer: The Divine Dialogue - Part 9: The Pattern of Prayer 5 March 23, 2016

**[Continuing from last week's message: Pattern of Prayer 4
(March 16, 2016) SEE POD CAST FOR MESSAGE & OUTLINE
WITH EXTENDED NOTES]**

Review - Historical Prayers and Creeds

Prayer Resources

- These are aids to prayer and focus
- “Morning By Morning” by Charles Spurgeon
- “Prayers of the Martyrs” — Duane Arnold (ref. Dietrich Bonhoeffer)
- “A Year with C.S. Lewis” — C.S. Lewis
- “My Utmost for His Highest” — Oswald Chamber

Power and Practice of PRAYING SCRIPTURE

E. M. Bounds

“The word of God is the fulcrum upon which the lever of prayer is placed, and by which things are mightily moved. God has committed himself, his purpose and his promise to prayer. His word becomes the basis, the inspiration of our praying, and there are circumstances under which by importunate prayer, we may obtain an ... enlargement of his promises.”

1. When we look to Scripture ... even MORE than historical prayers ...we find prayers that are inspired by the Holy Spirit.

- They have been included in the canon of Scripture as the authoritative word of God.
- We pray the WILL of God rather than OUR will when we:
 - Rightly interpret and
 - Rightly align with Scripture

- Doing so, we rightly aligned with AUTHOR of that word
- In short ... we KNOW we are praying in the will of God.

2. ONLY Scripture gives us this assurance

- The prophetic - “God told me” - subject to human fallibility and interpretation
- By praying the Word of God, “The fulcrum upon which the lever of prayer is placed...”, we align our prayer w/ God’s Word and, therefore, with His purpose.
- By God’s Word, we pray God’s will and not our own.
- As we pray this Word, we must properly interpret what it is saying. By knowing God’s Word, understanding what it means, gives us the sure basis for praying with faith and pray the will of God.
- **1 Corinthians 13:9–10**
 “For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.”
- Prophecy must be judged because it isn’t the Word of God”
- Unlike God’s Word, what comes from man is never infallible.
- **Jeremiah 17:9**
 “The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure.
 Who can understand it?”
- The prophetic must be connected to & grounded in the Word of God. Only by this will we be aligned.
- “We need to pray in the name of Jesus but we must pray “in the Word of God”.

3. The Bible ... as the inspired WORD go God ... IS God’s language.

- The Word of God is lucid, intelligible. As God’s language to us, God’s Word is how He communicates. He has made Himself intelligible to us.
- Because God’s Word aligns us, we aren’t praying amiss.

- If we know God hears us and He is silent or saying “No”, we need to make changes. How do we adjust ourselves, how do we “change something up”?

Prayers of the OLD TESTAMENT

1) Prayer of Hannah (1SAM 2:1-10)

And Hannah prayed and said,
“My heart exults in the Lord;
my horn is exalted in the Lord.
My mouth derides my enemies,
because I rejoice in your salvation.

**2 “There is none holy like the Lord:
for there is none besides you;
there is no rock like our God.**

**3 Talk no more so very proudly,
let not arrogance come from your mouth;
for the Lord is a God of knowledge,
and by him actions are weighed.**

**4 The bows of the mighty are broken,
but the feeble bind on strength.**

**5 Those who were full have hired themselves out for bread,
but those who were hungry have ceased to hunger.
The barren has borne seven,
but she who has many children is forlorn.**

**6 The Lord kills and brings to life;
he brings down to Sheol and raises up.**

**7 The Lord makes poor and makes rich;
he brings low and he exalts.**

**8 He raises up the poor from the dust;
he lifts the needy from the ash heap
to make them sit with princes
and inherit a seat of honor.**

For the pillars of the earth are the Lord's,
and on them he has set the world.

⁹ **“He will guard the feet of his faithful ones,**
but the wicked shall be cut off in darkness,
for not by might shall a man prevail.

¹⁰ The adversaries of the Lord shall be broken to pieces;
against them he will thunder in heaven.
The Lord will judge the ends of the earth;
he will give strength to his king
and exalt the horn of his anointed.”

2) 1CHRON 4:10 (Prayer of Jabez)

⁰ Jabez called upon the God of Israel, saying, “Oh that you would bless me and enlarge my border, and that your hand might be with me, and that you would keep me from harm so that it might not bring me pain!”

3) 1CHRON 29:10-19 (Prayer for God's wisdom & presence)

¹⁰ Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: “Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. ¹¹ Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. ¹² **Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all.** ¹³ And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

¹⁴ **“But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you.** ¹⁵ For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on

the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. ¹⁶ O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own. ¹⁷ I know, my God, that you test the heart and have pleasure in uprightness. In the uprightness of my heart I have freely offered all these things, and now I have seen your people, who are present here, offering freely and joyously to you. ¹⁸ **O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, our fathers, keep forever such purposes and thoughts in the hearts of your people, and direct their hearts toward you.**

3) 2 Chronicles 6:12–7:16 (Prayer of Dedication)

¹² Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in front of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands. ¹³ Now he had made a bronze platform, five cubits long, five cubits wide and three cubits high, and had placed it in the center of the outer court. He stood on the platform and then knelt down before the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven. ¹⁴ He said:

“O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven or on earth—you who keep your covenant of love with your servants who continue wholeheartedly in your way. ¹⁵ You have kept your promise to your servant David my father; with your mouth you have promised and with your hand you have fulfilled it—as it is today.

¹⁶ “Now Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father the promises you made to him when you said, ‘You shall never fail to have a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons are careful in all they do to walk before me according to my law, as you have done.’

¹⁷ And now, O Lord, God of Israel, let your word that you promised your servant David come true.

¹⁸ “But will God really dwell on earth with men? The heavens, even the highest heavens, cannot contain you. How much less this temple I have built! ¹⁹ Yet give attention to your servant’s prayer and his plea for mercy, O Lord my God. Hear the cry and the prayer that your servant is praying in your presence. ²⁰ **May your eyes be open toward this temple day and night, this place of which you said you would put your Name there. May you hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place.** ²¹ **Hear the supplications of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place; and when you hear, forgive.**

²² “**When** a man wrongs his neighbor and is required to take an oath and he comes and swears the oath before your altar in this temple, ²³ then hear from heaven and act. Judge between your servants, repaying the guilty by bringing down on his own head what he has done. Declare the innocent not guilty and so establish his innocence.

²⁴ “**When** your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you and when they turn back and confess your name, praying and making supplication before you in this temple, ²⁵ **then hear from heaven and forgive** the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to them and their fathers.

²⁶ “**When** the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray toward this place and confess your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them, ²⁷ then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and

send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance.

40 “Now, my God, may your eyes be open and your ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.

41 “Now arise, O Lord God, and come to your resting place, you and the ark of your might.

May your priests, O Lord God, be clothed with salvation, may your saints rejoice in your goodness.

42 O Lord God, do not reject your anointed one.

Remember the great love promised to David your servant.”

7 When Solomon finished praying, fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices, and the glory of the Lord filled the temple. ² The priests could not enter the temple of the Lord because the glory of the Lord filled it. ³ When all the Israelites saw the fire coming down and the glory of the Lord above the temple, they knelt on the pavement with their faces to the ground, and they worshiped and gave thanks to the Lord, saying,

“He is good;
his love endures forever.”

The Lord Appears to Solomon

¹¹ When Solomon had finished the temple of the Lord and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the Lord and in his own palace, ¹² the Lord appeared to him at night and said:

“I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices.

¹³ “When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, ¹⁴ if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land. ¹⁵ Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place. ¹⁶ I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.

4) NEH 1:5-11 (Prayer of repentance)

⁵ And I said, “O Lord God of heaven, the great and awesome God who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁶ let your ear be attentive and your eyes open, to hear the prayer of your servant that I now pray before you day and night for the people of Israel your servants, confessing the sins of the people of Israel, which we have sinned against you. Even I and my father’s house have sinned. ⁷ We have acted very corruptly against you and have not kept the commandments, the statutes, and the rules that you commanded your servant Moses. ⁸ Remember the word that you commanded your servant Moses, saying, ‘If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the peoples, ⁹ but if you return to me and keep my commandments and do them, though your outcasts are in the uttermost parts of heaven, from there I will gather them and bring them to the place that I have chosen, to make my name dwell there.’ ¹⁰ They are your servants and your people, whom you have redeemed by your great power and by your strong hand. ¹¹ O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to

fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man.”

5) DAN 9:3-19 (Daniel’s prayer of repentance & deliverance)

³ Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes. ⁴ I prayed to the Lord my God and made confession, saying, “O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵ we have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. ⁶ We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

¹⁷ Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. ¹⁸ O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. ¹⁹ O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name.”

6) PS 86:1-13 (Prayer for deliverance)

**¹ Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.**

**² Preserve my life, for I am godly;
save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.**

- 3 Be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all the day.
- 4 Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- 5 For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.
- 6 Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;
listen to my plea for grace.
- 7 **In the day of my trouble I call upon you,
for you answer me.**
- 8 There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
- 9 All the nations you have made shall come
and worship before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.
- 10 For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.
- 11 Teach me your way, O Lord,
that I may walk in your truth;
unite my heart to fear your name.
- 12 I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.
- 13 For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

7) PS 43:1-5 (Prayer for light & restoration)
Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people,
from the deceitful and unjust man
deliver me!

- 2 For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you rejected me?
Why do I go about mourning

because of the oppression of the enemy?

- 3 **Send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling!**
- 4 **Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy,
and I will praise you with the lyre,
O God, my God.**
- 5 **Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you in turmoil within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my salvation and my God.**

PS 95:1-7 (Prayer of thanksgiving)

- Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- 2 Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
 - 3 For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
 - 4 In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
 - 5 The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.
 - 6 Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
 - 7 **For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

Prayers of the NEW TESTAMENT

1) JOHN 17:11-26 (Prayer for the Church - Unity, Protection, Sanctification)

Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one. ¹² While I was with them, I kept them in your name, which you have given me. I have guarded them, and not one of them has been lost except the son of destruction, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³ But now I am coming to you, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves. ¹⁴ I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. ¹⁵ **I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one.** ¹⁶ **They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.** ¹⁷ **Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.** ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ And for their sake I consecrate myself, that they also may be sanctified in truth.

²⁰ **“I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word,** ²¹ **that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.** ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them

your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

2) COL 1:9-12 (Prayer for wisdom & strength)

⁹ And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, **asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,** ¹⁰ **so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.** ¹¹ **May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy,** ¹² **giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.**

3) 2THESS 1:11-12 (Prayer for God’s purposes to be done)

¹¹ To this end we always pray for you, that our God **may make you worthy of his calling and may fulfill every resolve for good and every work of faith by his power,** ¹² **so that the name of our Lord Jesus may be glorified in you, and you in him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

4) Ephesians 1:17–23

¹⁷ I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. ¹⁸ I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is like the working of his mighty strength, ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule

and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. ²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

5) EPH 3:14-21 (Prayer for strength & God's love)

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, ¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

CLOSE:

Some years ago, a minister, commenting on the final judgement, said,

“[Christ] will ask this question ... did you know that I loved you””

We can know & understand the meaning of Easter ... celebrate it year after year ... affirm its historicity and know how to affirm it apologetically ... We can know the efficacy of the blood ... our righteous standing accordingly ... **but DID WE KNOW** ...

He loves us ... desires us ... likes us ... delights in us?

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that

according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you,

being rooted and grounded in love,¹⁸ may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth,¹⁹ and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

All of these prayers ... not necessarily using the exact words, but regarding them as “how to’s”, become guides to get us started as needed ...