

# THE PRIVILEGE OF PRAYER

S90A 0226 23P

Prayer is a great privilege for a Christian; prayer is simply talking to God, having communication with the Maker of Heaven and earth. It is the greatest privilege anyone could enjoy. It is talking with the great God of this universe. He wants us to talk with Him about the smallest things and also about the greatest circumstances that could touch us in our life, and we are always assured of receiving a careful and favorable hearing.

Not only is prayer a privilege, but it is of great value. God's plan is that everything we receive, is to be received through prayer. We are to ASK and receive; we are to SEEK and find; we are to KNOCK and it shall be opened unto us. It is a most valuable privilege to get everything we need and desire through prayer.

It is like knowing someone who owned a large warehouse that had everything from the smallest detail to the largest and finest item we could ever need. They came to you and handed you a blank order form with your name on it and signed by them and told you to go and get whatever you would need from the least to the greatest item, and it was yours.

Would you not think that was a wonderful privilege? Surely you would be filled with a sense of satisfaction knowing that your needs would be supplied for everything.

That is the same privilege we have in prayer; that is exactly God's attitude toward us as we go to Him for anything we need and receive it without money and without price. We have many things we desire, whether it be in the line of work, clothing, our health, finances, salvation of loved ones, whatever it may be.

The Blood of Jesus Christ has placed God and all that He is or can be at our service. God has furnished a great sacrifice for us, and all that God is or has, is ours; we can go to God and anything He has we can get from Him; anything He can do we can ask Him to do it for us.

This Bible reveals the Maker of Heaven and earth as our true Father and we His true children and it is written in Luke 11:13, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?"*

We are also told in Romans 8:17 that we are heirs of God and equal heirs with Jesus Christ. *"And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together."*

Joint heirs mean equal heirs. We have as much right to God and His wealth as Jesus Christ. We need to have our eyes opened and pray that we see that all things are freely given unto us from God; it will cause us to have a confidence in Him to ask and receive just what we need.

Paul gives us this same teaching in 1st Corinthians 3:21-23--*"Therefore let no man glory in men For all things are yours; Whether Paul, or Apollos, or Cephas, or the world, or life, or death, or things present, or things to come; all are yours; And ye are Christ's; and Christ, is God's."*

Then Paul adds for our encouragement the wonderfully inspiring verses in Romans 8:31,32, *"If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"*

God means just what He says--if He *"Spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"*

When we don't quite understand what God is trying to tell us about these things in His Word, we need to ask Him to have our eyes opened wide and our hearts wider still, because we do not have to go around being "short" since we have such an inheritance as that; such a God as we have at our disposal. We do not need to be short of spirituality, health, money, work, or anything; we can have anything we need or desire because all things are ours richly to enjoy.

Prayer is very valuable, as well as a great privilege; God says in Isaiah 1:18, *"Come now, and let us reason together; saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool."*

Jesus also meant the same when He said in Matthew 11:28-30, *"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls, for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."*

Everything from God is to come through prayer; anyone who has a need can go before God and receive whatever they want. Our need is our card of admission to God's presence; all the means of admission is to have a need, whether spiritual, physical, financial, or otherwise.

There are just four things about prayer; two things concerning God's part, and two things concerning our part. If we allow God to do His part, we will be in a position to receive whatever we desire. God's part is to furnish the light and strength to receive the answers to prayer and furnish the answers; those are God's two parts.

Some may try to do God's part and say--"God must answer the prayer, but I must furnish the faith, light, and strength to receive it." Thank God we do not have to furnish that; God is to furnish all the grace, wisdom, power, and faith, light, and strength we need to receive our answers to prayer.

If we leave God's part out and try to receive the answers to prayer in our own strength, we will fail, and Satan will overwhelm us with his doubts and fears.

Some will say, I have prayed and prayed; I have tried to meet conditions, I have tried to believe and act out my faith and have received practically no deliverance.

That is trying to do God's part. If we are trying in our own strength, trying to conquer doubts and fears of Satan in our own strength, we will receive no answers to prayer. That is God's part of the transaction; He is to rebuke Satan and his doubts and fears and let God fill us with the quietness and confidence that we need. God will do this the moment we come to Him for it; but we cannot receive it apart from Him.

We also have a twofold part. The first is to open our heart, without reserve to God and tell Him the whole story, just what we are, just what we desire Him to do, how helpless and ignorant we are, and how unbelieving. That is important, because we are full of reservations when we come to God and we only acknowledge as little as we can; therefore, God cannot fill us with the grace and strength that we need.

The very moment our hearts are cleansed of all reservations and we begin to talk to God as a personal Father--telling Him what we really are, and acknowledging Him as a true and living God; showing by our attitude that we really believe He exists, that He is the God this Bible speaks of, a God of infinite love, mercy, and power, and really means just what He says, that He is a real living person; then open our hearts and tell Him all our trouble, our whole difficulty; telling Him the whole story from beginning to end--this is what will happen; there will come a confidence, first of all, into our hearts which will enable us to believe God unto victory.

The failures we have had in the past were because we never had a real heart-talk with God, laying our difficulties and burdens before Him; instead of worrying, we should have taken it to God in prayer. Philippians 4:6, *"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."*

We are to open our hearts before Him--that is just what this means--empty all these things out before God--telling Him the whole story.

David said in the 62nd Psalm verse 8, *"Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God is a refuge for us."*

And Philippians 4:7, *"And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."*

This means when doubts and fears of Satan come into your mind, also his black pictures which he alone can paint, they will be rebuked. He always pictures to us that we will not get the victory, that no work has been accomplished by God.

But, Praise God, He alone can rebuke that spirit; He can control that terrible power of Satan and can put a peace and confidence within us, which will enable us to believe Him for an instantaneous and miraculous deliverance. There is no human being on earth who can stand against it themselves, and God will do it the very moment we open our hearts without reserve and go right up to Him direct for the deliverance.

The second part for us is to NEVER GIVE UP. That is very important; there may be some little thing God has to teach us; there may be something He is desirous of revealing and when we go and open our heart to Him, He will reveal it, and expose it; but, if you give up, God cannot work.

Jesus tells us in the parable in the 18th chapter of Luke, verse 1, *"that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;"* This parable relates to an unjust judge and a poor widow. She received all she came for, by holding steadfast and not giving up. She thoroughly explained her case to the judge the first time, but he paid no attention to her; but she was persistent and continued laying it before him until he granted her all she desired.

Jesus then applies it to us in Luke 18:7-8, *"And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? I tell you he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?"*

Faith means to open our heart without reserve, believe that God is, and that He is a rewarder of those who whole-heartedly seek Him; secondly, to hold steady until we receive what we desire--that is all faith is.

No matter how deep the sin that David got into, when he went before God and opened his heart, without reserve, and explained the whole matter, he always received a wonderful deliverance, and not only that, but also received the confidence to believe for a perfect deliverance.

In the 62nd Psalm, we have a little incident in the life of David. The incident recorded here has reference to the night previous to the battle with his own son, Absalom, who had rebelled against him and was coming after him with a large army, and David only had a few with him; nothing compared to the numbers who were with Absalom. It was a dreadful place to be in, it was enough to make anybody feel scared, enough to rob anyone of faith. He went before God and had a real interview with Him and went away in quietness and confidence, and it was not long after that, he was restored to his throne.

Psalm 62:1-6 is the prayer which accomplished it: *"Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation. He only is my rock and my salvation; he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved. How long will ye imagine mischief against a man? ye shall be slain all of you: as a bowing wall shall ye be, and as a tottering fence. They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly."*

Tell God just what is in your heart. David was doing this very intelligently. *"My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation is from him. He only is my rock and my salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be moved."*

Real victories are won in a heart-talk with God--not when we are on the battlefield--but before; in a heart-talk with God, as we open our hearts to Him, deal with Him directly; then all doubts and fears disappear.

We will notice the first thing, which brought the deliverance to Jehoshaphat from doubts and fears was the fact that he sought God in prayer, opening his heart to Him and dealing with Him directly. Then God said--"*Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's.*" (2nd Chronicles 20:15)

After God said that, Satan departed and that spirit of fear which had gripped Jehoshaphat also disappeared and a confidence in God took its place. This is proven by the fact that he could praise God in the face of what appeared to be certain death. God is no respecter of persons; a heart-talk with God will do the same for us today.

---



[www.fcgchurch.org](http://www.fcgchurch.org)

PO Box 24283 Philadelphia, PA 19120

[info@fcgchurch.org](mailto:info@fcgchurch.org)

S90A

0226 23P