

Effective Fervent Prayer

The Prayer of a Righteous Person

- *James 5:16d The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*
 - *Effectual Fervent = energeó*
 - *Energized*
 - *Actively at work*
 - *Vigorous*
 - *Operative*
 - *Working in a situation which brings it from one stage (point) to the next, like an electrical current energizing a wire, bringing it to a shining light bulb* (HELPS Word Studies)

Elijah's Prayer

- ***James 5:17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit (1 Kings 17-19)***
 - ***The emphasis is not emotional intensity (the prophets of Baal and The Grove)***
 - ***His prayer was effective because it was offered by someone walking with God***

To understand what prayer accomplishes on earth, we must first learn to see prayer from heaven's perspective.

***What happens when I pray in
the name of Jesus?***

The Name of Jesus (I know a name...)

- *Philippians 2:9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*
- *John 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it.*
- *John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*
- *John 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.*

Not a magic formula - A relationship

- ***Acts 3:6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. 7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength. 8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.***
- ***Acts 19:13 Then certain of the vagabond Jews, exorcists, took upon them to call over them which had evil spirits the name of the Lord Jesus, saying, We adjure you by Jesus whom Paul preacheth. 14 And there were seven sons of one Sceva, a Jew, and chief of the priests, which did so. 15 And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? 16 And the man in whom the evil spirit was leaped on them, and overcame them, and prevailed against them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded.***

What Happens When I Pray?

- ***We don't merely speak into the air... We enter the throne room of God.***
 - *Hebrews 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*
- ***The progression.***
 - *Jesus is our High Priest.*
 - *He has entered heaven.*
- ***Because of Him... We may now come boldly into God's throne room.***
 - *Not because we're worthy.*
 - *Not because we prayed hard enough.*
 - *Not because we said the right words.*
- ***Because Jesus opened the way.***

"Prayer isn't shouting from earth hoping heaven hears. Prayer is approaching the throne because heaven invited us."

Where Do We Enter?

- ***Revelation 4***

- ***John is invited... "Come up hither..." - Immediately he is in the Spirit.***

- ***Then he sees...***

- *A throne set in heaven - One seated upon the throne*
- *A rainbow surrounding the throne*
- *Lightning, Thunder, Voices*
- *Seven lamps of fire*
- *A sea of glass*
- *Four living creatures*
- *Twenty-four elders*

- ***The throne room is not quiet.***

- ***It is alive and active.***
- ***It is filled with worship.***
- ***It is filled with authority and government.***
- ***It is filled with movement.***

***"This is where Hebrews 4:16
says we come."***

Heaven Is Alive

- ***Isaiah 6 - Isaiah sees...***
 - *The Lord high and lifted up*
 - *Seraphim crying "Holy, holy, holy..."*
 - *The temple shakes.*
 - *Smoke fills the house.*
- ***Ezekiel 1 Ezekiel sees...***
 - *Wheels within wheels*
 - *Living creatures*
 - *Fire and Lightning*
 - *Crystal expanse*
 - *Sapphire throne*
 - *The likeness of God*
- ***Daniel 7 - Daniel sees***
 - *Thousands upon thousands minister before Him.*
 - *Ten thousand times ten thousand stand before Him.*
 - *The court is seated.*
 - *Books are opened.*

***"Heaven isn't a waiting
room.***

***Heaven is the command
center of the universe."***

How can we enter such a place?

- ***Jesus Brings Us There***

- ***Hebrews 10:19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.***

What does all this have to do with my prayer?

Our Prayer in Heaven

- ***Revelation 5:6 And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. 7 And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. 8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.***
- ***Revelation 8:3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.***
- ***Psalms 141:2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.***
 - *Old Testament imagery*

- *John sees the Lamb - the One who was slain*
- *He approaches the throne*
- *Then all heaven erupts in worship*
- *The elders fall down*

In the middle of all that...our prayers are presented before the throne as fragrant incense

1. *Prayer is effective and active—not passive.*
2. *We pray with authority because we pray in the name of Jesus.*
3. *That authority comes from relationship, not a formula.*

What actually happens when I pray?

Heaven's Perspective of Prayer

- ***"To understand what prayer accomplishes on earth, we must first see what happens in heaven."***
 - ***Prayer Gives Us Access to the Throne ("Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace..." Heb. 4:16)***
 - *to approach*
 - *to draw near*
 - *to enter the presence of*
 - ***This is possible because Jesus has entered first. ("...having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus..." Hebrews 10:19–22)***
 - *We aren't praying toward heaven.*
 - *We have been invited into heaven's throne room.*

Heaven's Perspective of Prayer

- ***The Throne Room Is Alive - Revelation 4–5.***
 - *The throne; The rainbow; Lightning; Thunder; Twenty-four elders; Four living creatures; Seven lamps burning; The sea of glass; Countless angels; Worship that never stops*
- ***Prayer doesn't interrupt heaven***
- ***Prayer enters a place that is already alive***

Heaven's Perspective of Prayer

- *Jesus Is Not Passive*

- *Romans 8:34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us.*
- *Hebrews 7:25 Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.*
- *Hebrews 9:24 For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:*
 - *He is living.*
 - *Interceding.*
 - *Representing.*
 - *Advocating.*
 - *Ministering.*