

POUR IT OUT LORD

PRAYER > PRIDE

Matthew 6:1-18

Romans 3:1-4, ¹ What advantage, then, is there in being a Jew, or what value is there in circumcision? ² Much in every way! First of all, the Jews have been entrusted with the very words of God. ³ What if some were unfaithful? Will their unfaithfulness nullify God's faithfulness? ⁴ Not at all! .

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People Practicing Righteous Acts Without Reaping the Full Advantage

- 1) Matthew 6:1, Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

Matthew 6:4, . . . Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

- 2) Matthew 6:5, And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

Matthew 6:6, But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you."

- 3) Matthew 6:16, When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

Matthew 6:17-18, ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

Psalm 37 – Mastering Heart Skills - Experiencing God's Grace:

Psalm 37:4, Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

- ❖ **Trust** - I know God's plans are better than mine.
- ❖ **Delight** - I rejoice in the privilege of prayer.
- ❖ **Consecration** - I obey His will and ways above my own.
- ❖ **Patience** - I understand God's plans develop over time not overnight.

PRAYER > PRIDE

PRIDE - A feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's own achievements

PRAYER - a solemn request for help addressed to God

James 4:5-6, ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he jealously longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us? ⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

Choosing Prayer over Pride:

1) ROOT OUR HEART IN GOD'S WILL

James 4:1-3, ¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

John 3:19, This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

2) RELATE RIGHT TO GOD

James 4:4, You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God? Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.

Exodus 19:4-6, ⁴ You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.

3) KNOW HE IS OUR REWARDER

James 4:13-15, ¹³ Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."

Questions:

- 1) What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What will you do because of it?
- 3) How can we pray for you?