



“SPIRITUAL WARFARE!!!” (Part 8)

EPHESIANS 6:10-24

“The Christian Soldier’s Strength and Power!”

Go for God! > **(v18-20) Praying always with all Prayer!**

Jesus said in Luke 18:1- *Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,*

- Warren Wiersbe writes, “Prayer is not an escape from responsibility; it is our response to God’s ability. True prayer energizes us for service and battle.”

Jeremiah 29:12-13 - *Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.*

Jeremiah 33:3 - *'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'*

Jesus said in John 15:7-8 - *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."*

John 16:23-24 - *"And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you. Until now you have asked nothing in My name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full."*

- R.A. Torrey writes, “Pray for great things, expect great things, work for great things, but above all—pray!”

Paul says in 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18- *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you*

> **What renders our prayers powerless, weak, and ineffective?**

- **SELF-GLORY, REPETITIOUS PRAYERS, UNFORGIVENESS** – Jesus shares these in Matthew 6:5-18

- **SELFISHNESS** – James brings correction when he writes, “When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures” (James 4:3).

- **UNBELIEF and DOUBT** - “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:6)

“But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does” (James 1:6-7).

- **UNRESOLVED MARRIAGE ISSUES** - *“Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers” (1 Peter 3:7).*

- How do we fix our prayer life? John writes in **1 John 1:9** that *“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”*

> **How to have a powerful prayer life? Observe four power points:**

- **POINT #1 - Powerful prayer is according to the WILL OF GOD! –**

John writes, “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us” (1 John 5:14).

- Luke 22:41-44 - *And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, saying, “Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done.” Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.*

- **POINT #2 - Powerful prayer is ACTIVE!**

Jesus active prayer in Matthew 7:7-12 - “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!” (Remember Daniel prayed and fasted for 21 days! - Daniel Ch. 10)

- **POINT #3 – Powerful prayer protects from the EVIL ONE and the FLESH!**

Matthew 26:41 - Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

- **POINT #4 - Powerful prayer CHANGES GOVERNMENTS!**

Paul writes in 1 Timothy 2:1-8- Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires

all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time, for which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle - - I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying -- a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. Men and Women in the Church I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting;

- POINT #5 – Powerful prayer is SOUL-WINNING!

Jesus said in Matthew 9:35-38- Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."

(v21-24) Farewell: "Shaloha!" – PEACE, LOVE, FAITH & GRACE TO ALL!

(v21-22) Who is TYCHICUS? Tychicus means *fortuitous*, he was a **BELOVED and FAITHFUL** friend fellow worker and messenger of the apostle Paul (Eph 6:21-22; Col 4:7-8). Along with other disciples, Tychicus traveled ahead of Paul from Macedonia to Troas, where he waited for the apostle's arrival (Acts 20:4).

Paul also sent Tychicus to Ephesus to deliver and perhaps to read his epistle to the Christians in that city (Eph 6:21). He did the same with the Epistle to the Colossians (Col 4:7). Paul sent him as a messenger to Titus in Crete (Titus 3:12) and afterward to Ephesus (2 Tim 4:12).

(v23-24) FOUR KEYS TO "FINE" FELLOWSHIP:

- Key #1 – PEACE be to the brethren - Jesus said in John 14:27 - *Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.*

- Key #2 – LOVE with FAITH - John 13:34-35 - *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."*

- Key #3 – GRACE – The word "grace" is found thirteen times in the book of Ephesians; **grace is favor or kindness shown without regard to the worth or merit of the one who receives it and in spite of what that same person deserves.**

Always remember Ephesians 2:8-10 - *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.*

➤ **ALL IS FROM GOD THE FATHER AND THE LORD JESUS CHRIST! AMEN!**
"GO FOR GOD!"