

Part 10 – Serious Supplications

The Life of Abraham Series

Text Verse: Genesis 18:32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for ten's sake.

- How Serious is Our Prayer Life?
 - If we are truly walking with the Lord, shouldn't we take others that we care about to Him?
 - Look at the 12 Apostles
 - When Christ told them all that one would betray him...They all began asking if it was them (*acc. Matthew, Mark, & Luke*)
 - Except the one that was leaning on Jesus' chest
 - He was the one that Peter...the leader, asked to ask Christ
 - **John 13:21** When Jesus had thus said, he was troubled in spirit, and testified, and said, "**Verily, verily, I say unto you, that one of you shall betray me.**"
 - 22** Then the disciples looked one on another, doubting of whom he spake.
 - 23** Now there was leaning on Jesus' bosom one of his disciples, whom Jesus loved.

24 Simon Peter therefore beckoned to him, that he should ask who it should be of whom he spake.

25 He then lying on Jesus' breast saith unto him, "Lord, who is it?"

- **Shouldn't we, His Bride, be so close...**

- That when others turn we can't
- That when others need prayer, we can

Genesis 18:17 And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do;

18 Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him?

19 For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the LORD, to do justice and judgment; that the LORD may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

- What an interesting thought!

- Here the LORD is having an inner dialogue.
- Showing that we TRULY are made in His likeness!

- He is debating within Himself as to whether He would let Abraham in on the unfortunate fate of Lot's home cities.
 - I love what it was He considered!
 - He knew Abraham's heart and that Abraham would live by faith and teach his family to do the same.
 - It in fact would be 3 generations to Joseph, all living by faith at some point in their lives, and the LORD knew that.
 - So, because of Abraham's heart and obedience the LORD decided to tell Abraham His plan.
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- We so very much want to know God's plan, not just for our lives but for other's that we care about.
 - I'm not saying God will let us in on every one of His plans, but I will say this,
 - if we don't follow in faith out of a loving obedience,
 - we won't see His plans for our lives
 - and certainly won't see His plans in any other aspect as well.
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- Now ponder this...
 - if we want to plead for the lives of those who are headed towards destruction,

- like Abraham did for Lot,
- shouldn't we live for Christ with all that we are
- so that our effectual fervent prayer might do much to move the Heart of our Father?

20 And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous;

21 I will go down now and see whether they have done altogether according to the cry of it, which is come unto me; and if not, I will know.

Abraham Intercedes for Sodom

22 And the men turned their faces from thence and went toward Sodom: but Abraham stood yet before the LORD.

23 And Abraham drew near, and said, Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked?

24 Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?

25 That be far from thee to do after this manner, to slay the righteous with the wicked: and that the righteous should

be as the wicked, that be far from thee: Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?

26 And the LORD said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes.

27 And Abraham answered and said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord, which *am but* dust and ashes:

28 Peradventure there shall lack five of the fifty righteous: wilt thou destroy all the city for *lack of five*? And he said, If I find there forty and five, I will not destroy *it*.

29 And he spake unto him yet again, and said, Peradventure there shall be forty found there. And he said, I will not do *it* for forty's sake.

30 And he said *unto him*, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak: Peradventure there shall thirty be found there. And he said, I will not do *it*, if I find thirty there.

31 And he said, Behold now, I have taken upon me to speak unto the Lord: Peradventure there shall be twenty found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for twenty's sake.

32 And he said, Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak yet but this once: Peradventure ten shall be found there. And he said, I will not destroy *it* for ten's sake.

- God knew that Sodom and Gomorrah did not have even 10 righteous people in it.
 - Knowing this, He still allowed Abraham's perception of who God was as Abraham begged for mercy for the home of his nephew.
 - From Abraham's perception the LORD had to go to see what the cities state was.
 - The Lord knew He would have to destroy that place but that He would spare Lot.

- God knows what is coming in my life tomorrow.
 - He knows what things will be and must be done.
 - He knows the crops that will come in from seeds planted.
 - He knows what He has placed in my life in order to keep me looking to Him when I get distracted,
 - yet, when I pray for things that I presume upon His goodness,
 - He doesn't correct my perspective.
 - He allows me to view Him in the shallow depths that my mind can perceive Him.
 - I believe that if my perception would begin to draw me away from Him,
 - that He would correct,

- but as long as what I know to be true about Him causes me to move towards Him...
- my perception will always be shifting to a greater understanding of Who He is.

• So, what is your perception of God?

- Do you believe Him to be so Holy that He MUST Judge sin?
- What do the Scriptures say?
- In Other Words...what has God revealed to us...just as He revealed to Abraham?
- **2 Peter 3:1** This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in *both* which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:
2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Savior:
3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,
4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:

6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:

7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.

8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day *is* with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

11 Seeing then *that* all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of *persons* ought ye to be in *all* holy conversation and godliness,

12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

- **So what are we to do?**

- **Jude 1:20** But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

- 21** Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

- 22** And of some have compassion, making a difference:

- 23** And others **save** with **fear**, pulling *them* out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh.

- **So, how do WE save them?**

- **James 5:13** Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry? let him sing psalms.

- 14** Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

- 15** And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

- 16** Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. **The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.**

- **What makes us Righteous?**

- **2 Corinthians 5:20** Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.
21 For he hath made him *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

- What makes our prayer Effectual?

- **Luke 11:2** And He said unto them, “**When ye pray, say, ‘Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.**

3 Give us day by day our daily bread.

4 And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.’”

5 And He said unto them, “**Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves;**

6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him?’

7 And he from within shall answer and say, ‘Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee.’

8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth.

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

- **Serious Supplications Require**

- A Passionate Walk with Christ
- A Pursuit of Holiness IN Christ
- A Persistent Altar of Prayer

- **Prayer is our ONLY OFFENSIVE WEAPON**

- **Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;