

THE POWER OF PRAYERS

BY KAREN SANKOWSKI

“...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” James 5:16

Gen. 18:23-32 a prayer of pleading and reasoning.

Abraham drew near and said: Wilt thou also destroy the righteous with the wicked? Abraham starts pleading and reasoning, with the God of Heaven! Peradventure there be fifty righteous in the city; ... wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous...that be far from thee to do after this manner,...shall not the judge of all the earth do right? The Lord answered Abraham: If I find fifty righteous in the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes. Abraham reminds God that he is but dust and ashes: and asks that He be not angry with him; yet keeps reasoning. Abraham gets down to ten. The Father never once told Abraham to Stop talking; stop annoying me, that's enough Abraham. Abraham's *prayer* is so effectual; God gave His word: I will not destroy it for ten's sake.

Gen. 24:12-14. The *prayer* of Abraham's servant.

Abraham sends his eldest servant to Mesopotamia, in the city of Nahor; to fetch a wife for Issac. The servant *prayed*: O Lord God of my master Abraham, I *pray* thee, send me good speed this day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham. And it came to pass; the servant got to the right house, and therefore bowed down his head, and worshipped the Lord. He said, blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the Lord led me to the house of my master's brethren.

Ex. 32:11-14 A *prayer* that God would repent of His wrath.

Moses is up on Mount Sinai, God tells Moses to get down, because the people have corrupted themselves: they have turned aside quickly out of the way which I commanded them: they have made them a molten calf and have worshipped it, and have sacrificed thereunto, and said, These be thy gods, O Israel, which have brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. The Lord told Moses: **Let me alone**, that my wrath may wax hot against them, and that I may consume them: and I will make of thee a great nation. Moses besought the Lord his God, and asked: why does thy wrath wax hot against thy people, which thou hast brought out of the land of Egypt? Moses asks God: do you want the Egyptians to say: you brought them out to slay them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Moses, asks the Lord to: turn from His fierce wrath, and repent of this evil against thy people; and to remember Abraham, Isaac and Israel, thy servants, to whom thou swarest by thine own self, and saidst unto them, I will multiply your seed as the stars of the heaven, and all this land that I have spoken of, will I give unto your seed, and they shall inherit it for ever. And the Lord repented of the evil which he thought to do.

1 Sam. 1: 10-11 A women's *prayer* for a child; and a vow kept.

Hannah was without children; the Lord had shut up her womb.

Hannah was in bitterness of soul, and *prayed* unto the Lord, and wept sore. She vowed a vow,

and said, O Lord of hosts, if thou wilt indeed look on the affliction of thine handmaid, and remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the Lord all the days of his life...

Hannah, not only asked the Lord to look on the affliction, but asked that He would remember and not forget; she doesn't want just a child; she wants a man child. This woman had a spirit full of sorrow and poured out her soul before the Lord. And it came to pass, Hannah had conceived, and bare a son, and called his name Samuel, saying, because I have asked him of the Lord. Hannah kept her vow to the Lord; and when Samuel was weaned, she brought him unto the house of the Lord in Shiloh. For this child I *prayed*; and the Lord hath given me my petition which I asked of him; therefore, also I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he liveth.

II Kings 20: 1-6 A *prayer* for longer life.

Hezekiah, is told to get his house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. Then he turned his face to the wall, and *prayed* unto the Lord: I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart... Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy *prayer*, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord, and I will add unto thy days fifteen years.

Ps. 34:15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous and his ears are open unto their cry.

Ps.34:17 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

Ps. 51 David's *prayer*: for God's mercy.

Ps. 102:17 He will guard the *prayer* of the destitute, and not despise their *prayer*.

Ps. 145:18, 19, 20 The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon Him, to all that call upon him in truth. He will fulfill the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them. The Lord preserveth all them that love him.

Isa.62:6-7. I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night; ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence, and give him not rest, till he establish and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth. By our *prayers* we put the Lord in remembrance of his promises.

Acts 1:24-26 A *prayer* for direction.

And they *prayed*, and said, Thou Lord, which knowest the hearts of all men, shew whether of these two thou hast chosen, that he may take part of this ministry and apostleship...and the lot fell upon Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

Acts 4:24-31 The disciples *pray* for boldness to speak the truth.

And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy Holy Child Jesus.

And when they had *prayed*, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 10:2, 4 Cornelius' *prayer* that came up for a memorial before God.

A devout man, and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and *prayed* to God always... thy *prayers* and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God.

Romans thru Philemon; the saints of God are admonished to *pray* without ceasing, pray night and day, and to always make mention of you in our *prayers*.

Romans 1:9 For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing, I make mention of you always in my *prayers*.

Eph. 1:16 Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my *prayers*.

Col. 4:12 Ep-a-phras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in *prayers*, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

I Thes. 1:2 We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our *prayers*.

I Thes. 3:10 Night and day *praying exceedingly* that we might see your face, and might perfect that which is lacking in your faith?

I Tim. 2: 1 I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, *prayers*, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;...For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.

I Tim. 5:5 ...Continueth in supplications and *prayers* night and day.

II Tim. 1:3 I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my *prayers* night and day.

Philemon 4. I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my *prayers*.

Philemon 22 ...for I trust that through your *prayers*, I shall be given unto you.

Heb.5:7 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up *prayers* and supplications with strong crying and tears unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared...

James 5:17 Elias *prayed* earnestly that it might not rain and it rained not for 3 yrs and 6mos. He *prayed* again and the heaven gave rain and brought forth fruit.

I Pet.3:7 ...being heirs together of the grace of life; that your *prayers* be not hindered.

I Pet.3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their *prayers*...

Rev.5:8...having everyone of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the *prayers* of the saints.

Rev.8: 3-4 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. And the smoke of the incense, which came with the *prayers* of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

Prayers are very important; Christ taught the disciples how to *pray*. Christ *prayed* to his Father in John Ch. 17. Christ *prayed* in the garden; He even *prayed* on the cross; Father, forgive them they know not what they do.

Prayers play a major role in God's plan of redemption. It **was** and **is** the means of communication between: God, Christ and man.

Both old and new testament scriptures; bare record of effectual *prayers*. These *prayers* demonstrate: How precise the petition is presented; and the tenaciousness of Gods children. It also demonstrates God's nature. His compassion, His mercy, His longsuffering and forbearance toward man.

The effectual fervent *prayer* of a righteous man availeth much. **James 5:16**. Amen?
There is **none** righteous no not one. Romans 3:10. Oh how we give thanks to God our Father and the **righteous** man, Christ Jesus our Lord; because of Christ and what He accomplished **we** are righteous before God through Him; and our *prayers* can now avail much.

Don't ever think your *prayers* are insignificant; to the contrary; they are extremely significant. We may never fully know, (on this side of Glory) the effect our *prayers* had on someone's soul or what our *prayers* accomplished. But know this: Each time we bring our *prayers* before the throne of Grace remember: We are entering the Holiest of Holies, through the blood of Jesus; God's word does not return unto Him void; and we are *praying* to The Father, the God of heaven and earth; through Christ, His beloved Son; and **this has Great Power**. Amen.

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