

Biblical Prayer



***The Purpose
of
Prayer***

2 Kings 19:14-19

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14 And Hezekiah received the letter of the hand of the messengers, and read it: and Hezekiah went up into the house of the LORD, and spread it before the LORD.

15 And Hezekiah prayed before the LORD, and said, O LORD God of Israel, which dwellest between the cherubims, thou art the God, even thou alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth; thou hast made heaven and earth.

16 LORD, bow down thine ear, and hear: open, LORD, thine eyes, and see: and hear the words of Sennacherib, which hath sent him to reproach the living God.

2 Kings 19:14-19 - continued

17 Of a truth, LORD, the kings of Assyria have destroyed the nations and their lands,

18 And have cast their gods into the fire: for they were no gods, but the work of men's hands, wood and stone: therefore they have destroyed them.

19 Now therefore, O LORD our God, I beseech thee, save thou us out of his hand, that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that thou art the LORD God, even thou only.

Introduction

- A. Prayer acknowledges that we need God's decision**
- B. Prayer acknowledges the need for God's discernment**
- C. Prayer acknowledges the need for God's deliverance**

I. Prayer Brings Us Into Fellowship with God

A. Prayer is about relationship, not just requests

Matthew 6:9

After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Galatians 4:6

And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.

I. Prayer Brings Us Into Fellowship with God

B. Prayer helps deepen our connection with God

James 4:8

Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

1 Corinthians 2:12

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

I. Prayer Brings Us Into Fellowship with God

C. Through prayer, we seek God's presence and wisdom

Psalm 27:7-9

7 Hear, O LORD, when I cry with my voice: have mercy also upon me, and answer me.

8 When thou saidst, Seek ye my face; my heart said unto thee, Thy face, LORD, will I seek.

9 Hide not thy face far from me; put not thy servant away in anger: thou hast been my help; leave me not, neither forsake me, O God of my salvation.

II. Prayer Aligns Our Desires with God's Will

A. Prayer helps us submit to God's sovereignty

Matthew 6:10

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

James 4:7

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

II. Prayer Aligns Our Desires with God's Will

B. Prayer transforms our desires to reflect God's desires

John 15:7

If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

C. Through prayer, we learn to seek what pleases God

1 John 5:14

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us.

III. Prayer Is A Weapon in Spiritual Warfare

A. Prayer protects us from the enemy's attacks

Ephesians 6:18

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints.

B. Prayer strengthens our resolve to stand firm in faith

Luke 22:40

And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation.

III. Prayer Is A Weapon in Spiritual Warfare

C. Prayer invokes God's protection and deliverance

Psalm 91:15

He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

**Do You Pray For Your Purpose For God
Or For God's Purpose For You?**