Spiritual Warfare » Prayers





Survival and victory on a physical battlefield often depend upon constant, accurate, and timely communication - with leaders, with peers, and with subordinates. In the midst of spiritual warfare nothing is more vital than our prayers to God, both for ourselves and when interceding for others, while listening for His still, small voice in answer.

Scripture References

...they cried out to God in the battle. He heeded their prayer, because they put their trust in Him. (1 Chronicles 5:20 NKJV)

Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. (Luke 6:11-13 NKJV)

"In this manner, therefore, pray ... deliver us from the evil one." (Matthew 6:9-13 NKJV)

For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. 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 29:11-13 NKJV)

"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!" (Matthew 7:7-11 NKJV)

"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." (Matthew 26:41 $_{NKJV}$)

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying... (<u>Luke 18:1-14 NKJV</u>)









But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers. (1 Peter 4:7 NKJV)

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

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV)

Intercessory Prayer

...praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication **for all the saints**-- and **for me**, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in it **I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.** (Ephesians 6:18-20 NKJV)

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. (1 Timothy 2:1-8 NKJV)

"...love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray **for those who spitefully use you and persecute you**, that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust." (Matthew 5:43-46 NKJV)

"The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest **to send out laborers into His harvest**. Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves." (Luke 10:2-3 NKJV)

...pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run swiftly and be glorified, just as it is with you, and **that we may be delivered** from unreasonable and wicked men; for not all have faith. (2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 NKJV)

Pray for **the peace of Jerusalem**: "May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, Prosperity within your palaces." (Psalm 122:6-7 NKJV)

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God **for Israel** is **that they may be saved**. (Romans 10:1 NKJV)



Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing psalms. Is anyone among you sick? 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. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray **for one another, that you may be healed**. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. (James 5:13-17 NKJV)

When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will **forgive their sin** and **heal their land**. Now My eyes will be open and My ears attentive to prayer made in this place. (2 Chronicles 7:13-15 NKJV)

Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. (James 4:1-3 NKJV)

Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything **according to His will**, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. If anyone sees his brother sinning a sin which does not lead to death, he will ask, and He will give him life for those who commit sin not leading to death. There is sin leading to death. I do not say that he should pray about that. All unrighteousness is sin, and there is sin not leading to death. (1 John 5:14-17 NKJV)

Examples of prayers for the Church

"Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, **that your faith should not fail**; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren." (<u>Luke 22:31-32</u> NKJV)

"... I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours... Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that **they may be one as We are**. ...I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should **keep them from the evil one**... " (John 17:1-24 NKJV)

These all continued **with one accord** in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers. (Acts 1:14 NKJV)

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them. And they **continued steadfastly** in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. (Acts 2:41-43 NKJV)

And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, "We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God." So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed **with fasting**, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. (Acts 14:21-23 NKJV)

But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and **singing hymns to God**, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were loosed. (Acts 16:25-26 NKJV)

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world. 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, making request if, by some means, now at last **I may find a way in the will of God to come to you**. For I long to see you, that I may impart to you some spiritual gift, so that you may be established... (Romans 1:8-11 NKJV)

Now I pray to God that you **do no evil**, not that we should appear approved, but that you should **do what is honorable**... And this also we pray, that you may **be made complete**... (2 Corinthians 13:7-9 NKJV)

Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the **spirit of wisdom** and **revelation in the knowledge of Him**, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; **that you may know** what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power... (Ephesians 1:15-19 NKJV)

For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. And this I pray, that your **love may abound** still more and more in **knowledge** and all **discernment**, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be **sincere** and **without offense** till the day of Christ, being **filled with the fruits of righteousness** which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God. (Philippians 1:8-11 NKJV)

We give thanks to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you... For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be **filled with the knowledge of His will** in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may **walk worthy** of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being **fruitful in every good work** and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. (Colossians 1:3-12 NKJV)

Therefore we also pray always for you that our **God would count you worthy of this calling**, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our **Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you**, and **you in Him**, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12 NKJV)

Beloved, I pray that you may **prosper in all things and be in health**, just as your soul prospers. (3 John 1:2 NKJV)

Commentary

The section below is a working draft outline.

The Warrior's Prayer

- When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them to pray, Jesus responded with the model prayer often called "The Lord's Prayer" (Matthew 6:9-13).
- The prayer is in the plural. Jesus uses "our" and "us" throughout the prayer. We pray not only for ourselves, but with all of the children of God in mind.

Kingdom Purposes

• We remember and reassert that our Father, the only living God, is alone exalted and enthroned in heaven. This awesome thought is our hope, our security, our provision, and our guidon. (Matthew 6:9)

As soldiers in the Lord's army, we must align ourselves with our Father's eternal plan: His name, His kingdom, and His will. (Matthew 6:10)

Daily Provision

- We must trust in His daily provision of our needs to avoid being snared by the decietfulness of riches, and the cares of this world. (Matthew 6:11; 13:7,22)
- Our heavenly Father will faithfully forgive our sins, and give us the grace to forgive others. Being reconciled to God through Christ, we have been assigned the ministry of reconiliation to the world. One hand held by His hand, one hand holding tight to our neighbor's hand. (Matthew 6:12) (1 John 1:5-10; Psalm 51:1-15; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21)

Victorius Power - to deliver us from the evil one

- Our Father God desires to walk with us, leading us in paths of righeousness, and away from temptation and trial.(Matthew 6:13)
- Only God is powerful enough to deliver us from the evil one. No plan, device, or earthly power can separate us from His love. (1 John 3:8; Romans 8:37-39)

For more Bible verses to aid spiritual warfare prayers:

Spiritual Warfare Battle Tracking Matrix



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