

QUESTIONS ON PRAYER 58

INTRODUCTION:

- A. We have been studying the acts of worship.
- B. Past weeks we have studied prayer.
 - 1. What is prayer?
 - 2. Why prayers are not answered.
 - 3. Does God hear a sinner's prayer?
- C. This sermon will deal with some questions about prayer.

BODY:

I. WHERE SHOULD WE PRAYER?

- A. Some think you can only pray in a "church."
- B. Let's notice some examples of where people prayed in the Bible.
 - 1. Abraham's servant prayed by a camel-Gen. 24:10-12.
 - 2. Isaac prayed in a field-Gen. 24:63.
 - 3. Jeremiah prayed in a dungeon- Lam. 3:55.
 - 4. Psalm 57 is David's prayer when he was hiding in a cave.
 - 5. Daniel prayed in his upper room- Dan. 6:10-11.
 - 6. Nehemiah prayed standing before a King Neh. 2:4. "Then the king said to me 'What do you request?' So I Prayed to the God of heaven."
 - 7. Jonah prayed in a fish. Jonah 2:.
 - 8. Hezekiah turned his face toward the wall and prayed when Isaiah told him he would die- 2 Kings 20:1-2.
 - 9. Christ prayed on a mountain- Lk. 6:12.
 - 10. Christians prayed while in a house for Peter- Acts 12:5.
 - 11. Lydia prayed by a river- Acts 16:13.
 - 12. Paul and Silas prayed in prison- Acts 16:23-25.
 - 13. Paul prayed at the beach- Acts 21:5.
- C. Get the Idea?
 - 1. We can pray anywhere at anytime.
 - 2. Not just in "church", or before meals or before we go to bed.

II. WHAT IS THE CORRECT POSTURE FOR PRAYER?

- A. I know of a place that though you had to stand before you prayed.
- B. Others think you must kneel and provide benches for such.
- C. Let's look at some Bible examples.
 - 1. Neh. 9:5b ". . . stand-up and bless the Lord your God forever and ever!"
 - 2. Ezra knelt- Ezra 9:5.
 - 3. David sat - 1 Chron. 17:16a "Then King David went in and sat before the Lord . . ."
 - 4. Moses bowed his head Ex. 34:8 "So Moses made haste and bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.
 - 5. 1 Tim. 2:8 tells us to pray with hands lifted up.
- D. Get the idea? We can pray in any posture.

III. FOR WHAT SHOULD WE PRAY?

- A. Wisdom and understanding.
 - 1. James 1:5-8.
 - 2. Then do our part- Eph. 3:2-6.
 - 3. Prayer is man speaking to God- The Bible is God speaking to man.
- B. Daily sustenance.
 - 1. Matt. 6:11.
 - 2. Then work for it- 2 Thess. 3:10.
- C. For a peaceful life.
 - 1. 1 Tim. 2:1-2.
 - 2. Then do our part- Rom. 12:18.
- D. Pray for forgiveness of sins.
 - 1. 1 Jn. 1:9.

2. Our part.

a. Acts 3:19.

b. 2 Peter 3:9.

c. Forgive me for what I am about to do? Wrong idea.

E. Pray the world be saved.

1. Rom. 10:1.

2. Our part is to give our life to spread the Gospel. Rom. 1:16-17.

F. Pray for the widows and orphans and do our part- James 1:27.

G. Get the idea? prayer without obedience will not do any good.

1. Matt. 7:21.

2. Lk. 6:46.

3. Rom. 6:17-18.

IV. IF I DON'T PRAY, WHAT DOES THAT SHOW?

A. A lack of real enjoyment of God.

1. We eat when hungry.

2. We sleep when tired.

3. We pray when??

B. Lack of prayer proves our unbelief.

C. Failure to pray proves our laziness.

1. Prayer takes effort.

2. Jews had a good idea. They set a time to pray.

9:00 a.m. 12:00 noon 3:00 p.m.

CONCLUSION:

A. Pray often but pray the right way.

B. Our prayer for you is that you will obey the Gospel.

1. Believe- Jn. 20:30-31 "And truly Jesus did..."
2. Repent- Lk. 13:3.
3. Confess- Rom. 10:9-10.
4. Be baptized- Mk. 16:16.