

# Monthly Memory Verse February 2010

---



*(KJV) Luk 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.*

# Publisher & Author Message

---

## February

### Message from the publisher and author

#### *Monthly Memory Verse and Dale's Notes*

Dale's Notes are provided to be used as an encouragement to study the context from where the monthly memory verse was selected. It's my desire to provide some background information and practical understanding of some things, which I see within my own study of God's word. It's my hope through reading the notes; you will desire to study God's word in more detail.

Dale's Notes are only a layman's attempt to share the good news of our savior Jesus Christ through a monthly memory verse and the study of God's word in our daily walk with the Lord.

Brother in Jesus Christ,

Dale ☺

Dale A. Kaye

#### *Message:*

Quick Bio-glance

February's Quick Bio-glance comes by-way-of Bill Regal of Founders Baptist Church, Spring, Texas. He doesn't know it but his response through email made me look into the gentlemen he spoke about. I'm not going to say anymore, so enjoy this glance in Christian history.

#### *Prayer request:*

Our Nation

Forgive me for pushing the following prayer need onto you but this is a concern to me as I am sure to you. Christian men must pray *daily in secret to Him who sees in secret and not gloat*, together in solidarity, through daily prayer with sincere hearts before the Lord to obey. The prayer request; pray daily with me, meaningfully, for our nation; men leading out with hearts of repentance, obeying the Most High God, through love for our Savior Jesus Christ. The President, the Congress, the military leaders and troops, the governmental offices, and local civil authorities and law enforcement, all must be our first and choice prayers for peace, love and righteous to come to light in our nation. This is a weighty responsibility and we must not be weak in the task. If the head is dreadfully sick, how can leadership point to righteousness? I say this only that we would consider ourselves in our own thinking and practice before God to give attention to prayer and not be forgetful. Share with me in your portion of the weight, and appear before the Throne of Grace, so we as a people may receive His mercies.

Shared Interests and Personal

Also, pray with me in asking God for help to provide a consistent format for the Men's Monthly Memory Verse and possibly a hosting site to handle automated emailing. I continue to ask your prayers and encouragement for the continuation to serve in this way. Also, remember my family as we make changes in our lives to honor our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank you,

*Dale*

(Copyright © 2010, Garfield and May, All rights reserved)

# Quick Bio-glance

---

## February

### Quick Bio-glance:



Arthur Walkington Pink

### **Arthur Walkington Pink 1886 - 1952**

Pink was born in Nottingham, England on April 1, 1886 and became a Christian in 1908, at the age of 22. Though born to Christian parents, prior to conversion he migrated into a Theosophical society (an occult gnostic group popular in England during that time), and quickly rose in prominence within their ranks. His conversion came from his father's patient admonitions from Scripture. It was the verse, Proverbs 14:12, 'there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death,' which particularly struck his heart and compelled him to renounce Theosophy and follow Jesus.

Desiring to grow in knowledge of the Bible, Pink immigrated to the United States to study at Moody Bible Institute. In 1916 he married Vera E. Russell (January 8, 1893 - July 17, 1962), who was from Kentucky. However, he left after just two months for Colorado, then California, then Britain. From 1925 to 1928 he served in Australia, including as pastor of two congregations from 1926 to 1928, when he returned to England and to the United States the following year. He eventually pastored churches in Colorado, California, Kentucky, and South Carolina.

In 1922 he started a monthly magazine entitled *Studies in the Scriptures* which circulated among English-speaking Christians worldwide, though only to a relatively small circulation list of around 1,000.

In 1934 Pink returned to England, and within a few years turned his Christian service to writing books and pamphlets. Pink died in Stornoway, Scotland on July 15, 1952. The cause of death was anemia.

After Pink's death, his works were republished by a number of publishing houses, among them, Banner of Truth Trust, Baker Book House, Christian Focus Publications, Moody Press, Truth for Today, and reached a much wider audience as a result. Biographer Iain Murray observes of Pink, "the widespread circulation of his writings after his death made him one of the most influential evangelical authors in the second half of the twentieth century." His writing sparked a revival of expository preaching and focused readers' hearts on biblical living. Yet, even today, Pink is left out of most biographical dictionaries and overlooked in many religious histories.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur\\_Pink](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Pink)

### *Theology term:*

#### Dispensationalism

Dispensation is from the Greek [*oikonomia*] meaning an administration. In theological terms it means an administration of time of epochs. Premillennial dispensationalism is a method of interpreting scripture popularized by John Nelson Darby (1800-1882), and the notes in the Scofield Reference Bible.

This system divides history into epochs (eras) or extended periods called "dispensations," in which God deals with man in different economies for the presenting of His world program. In dispensationalism it is believed that ethnic Israel and the Church are separate and unequal bodies in God's dispensations.

<http://www.mountainretreatorg.net/faq/glossary.html>

**Memory verse for the month: February 2010 (ΚΙΥ)**

Dale's Notes

Read: Luke Chapter 11

**February (Part I)**

*Luke 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.*

“And it came to pass, that as He was praying in a certain place...”

**English:** Praying / pray

**G4336**

προσεύχομαι

proseuchomai

**Thayer Definition:**

1) to offer prayers, to pray

**Part of Speech:** verb

**A Related Word by Thayer's/Strong's Number:** from [G4314](#) and [G2172](#)

**Citing in TDNT:** 2:807,279

**English:** Prayer

**Strong's Hebrew and Greek Dictionary**

**G4335**

προσευχή

proseuchē

*pros-yoo-khay'*

From [G4336](#); prayer (*worship*); by implication an *oratory* (*chapel*): - X pray earnestly, prayer.

**Approaching prayer**

One of the most famous Jewish central prayers is the “The Shema”. It’s a prayer usually said in the morning and evening; where the word “Shema” translated is “Hear”. The prayer in short is “Hear, O’ Israel, the Lord our God is one Lord, and thou shall love the Lord thy God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Jesus quotes the Jewish “Shema” in the gospel of Mark and the quote is from Deut. 6:4-5; were the Jewish children of the Lord were told by Moses to obey the Lord in every way, teaching their children’s children the laws and the works of God to each and every generation!

**Mar 12:29** And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:**

**Mar 12:30** **And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.**

[http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Scripture/Torah/The\\_Shema/the\\_shema.html](http://www.hebrew4christians.com/Scripture/Torah/The_Shema/the_shema.html)

Approaching prayer is personal, even in public; it’s interwoven into ones thoughts and heart towards God, at least it should be! Prayer should engage a person’s complete being before God, body, soul and spirit; this is why the Strong’s definition ties it to worship. We don’t come half heartedly before our God, do we? We bring all of ourselves before him. All of who we are and all of what we are in honest, sincere, reverence before Him who is infinite in every way, and more! *Eph.3:20*; We bring ourselves to Him who sees all things in secret and all things are bare. *Heb 4:13*;

(ASV) Mat 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thine inner chamber, and having shut thy door, pray to thy Father who is in secret, and thy Father who seeth in secret shall recompense thee.

Prayer and praying rest on the word (GRK) pros-yoo-khay [Proseuche] were PRAYER is the noun and PRAYING the action, the verb. Prayer is the request or acknowledgement and praying is the process of acknowledging or requesting by which all Christian's talk to God.

When I think of Prayer, it's interesting to note, it's been around since the beginning of man. Prayer is not something new to mankind, not at all but I will say prayer is unique to its dispensation revealed in the bible.

When we read our memory verse we can see Jesus in prayer, in a certain place and you can be sure He brought all of himself before His Heavenly Father, as he communed with him with all His heart, all of his soul and all of his mind and his entire strength; leaving nothing that was not offered up before his Heavenly Father.

(ESV) Rom 12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Jesus Christ not only taught his disciples a model prayer, as to how they should address our Heavenly Father but He gave them (the disciples) His life's daily example of prayer; living it out before them. The verse starts with "and it came to pass, that, as he was praying..." showing our savior was in prayer and actively praying. The fact the disciples' desired him to teach them to pray, speaks of their consideration on the matter. Also, I think it's fair to say, they may have waited for the Lord to cease praying before asking Him to teach them to pray. If this is true, they watched him (Jesus) as he prayed, until he was finished. This shines the light on Christ leaving them a lesson in life, easily noticeable, by our Lord's daily practice.

### **History of Prayer: read Genesis, when men began to call upon the LORD.**

(ASV) Gen 4:26 And to Seth, to him also there was born a son; and he called his name Enosh. Then began men to call upon the name of Jehovah.

There seems to be a controversy round this verse as to whether men called in prayer on the LORD or men began to call themselves by the name of the LORD. *References: Albert Clarke's Commentary on the Bible, John Gill's Exposition of the Entire Bible, Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible, John MacArthur's Study Bible.*

I personally understand the verse to be "Then men began to call upon the name of Jehovah (the LORD)". 1.) **Linguistics:** most, if not all, translations of the verse, say so; "men began to call upon the Name of the LORD". 2.) **Context:** reading verses before it, with regards to Eve's statement, I believe it shows a humility and gratefulness to God with regards to Seth being born. Also, there is no reason from the text to believe a change in attitude concerning God when Seth is mentioned and Seth's son Enosh. 3.) **Logic:** The logic for Cain and men calling themselves by the name of the LORD would not work in light of the good act God had towards Adam and Eve, in giving Seth, who was after the righteous Abel, who was slain. 4.) **Wording:** "And Adam knew his wife again," takes us right back to the beginning when Eve first conceived and bore a man child (Gen 4:1) but going forward to Gen 4:25 it gives clear definition as to the nature and order of this newborn child (Seth), for he was in the stead of Abel, and Eve tells us why he was in the stead of Able, because Cain killed him. Also, concerning Eve's statement, this setup the reader to understand that Seth was good because she exclaims "God has **appointed** to me another seed instead of Abel" and now we see Eve's understanding of the birth of Seth to be the appointment of God on the behalf of righteous Abel.

5.) **Gen 4:26** leaves no doubt as to the continuation of Adam, (Instead of Abel) Seth, and Enosh showing a godly lineage that began calling upon the name of the Lord. All these names become of great interest to Luke's gospel, when Luke wrote down the genealogy of Jesus Christ (concerning His humanity), back to the start of man, to Adam and to God that created him. Jesus Christ being a son through lineage of all listed in Luke chapter 3

and it comes to: [Luk 3:38](#) Which was *the son* of Enos, which was *the son* of Seth, which was *the son* of Adam, which was *the son* of God.

Luke clearly shows Christ was not of the wicked one but of a godly offspring coming out of Adam, after the fall, through Enosh when men began to call upon the name of the Lord!

*More ... a good read.*

## Keil & Delitzsch Commentary on the Old Testament

### Gen 4:25-26

The character of the ungodly family of Cainites was now fully developed in Lamech and his children. The history, therefore, turns from them, to indicate briefly the origin of the godly race. After Abel's death a third son was born to Adam, to whom his mother gave the name of *Seth* (שֵׁת), from שֵׁת, a present participle, the appointed one, the compensation); "for," she said, "God hath appointed me another seed (descendant) for Abel, because Cain slew him." The words "because Cain slew him" are not to be regarded as an explanatory supplement, but as the words of Eve; and כִּי by virtue of the previous תַּחַת is to be understood in the sense of כִּי תַחַת. What Cain (*human wickedness*) took from her, that has *Elohim* (*divine omnipotence*) restored. Because of this antithesis she calls the giver *Elohim* instead of *Jehovah*, and not because her hopes had been sadly depressed by her painful experience in connection with the first-born.

"To Seth, to him also (אִישׁ חַי וְקַי, intensive, vid., Ges. §121, 3) there was born a son, and he called his name Enosh." אִישׁ, from שָׂוָה to be weak, faint, frail, designates man from his frail and mortal condition ([Psa 8:4](#); [Psa 90:3](#); [Psa 103:15](#), etc.). In this name, therefore, the feeling and knowledge of human weakness and frailty were expressed (the opposite of the pride and arrogance displayed by the Canaanitish family); and this feeling led to God, to that invocation of the name of *Jehovah* which commenced under Enos. קָרָא בְשֵׁם יְהוָה, literally *to call in* (or by) *the name of Jehovah*, is used for a solemn calling of the name of God. When applied to men, it denotes invocation (here and [Gen 12:8](#); [Gen 13:4](#), etc.); to God, calling out or proclaiming His name ([Exo 33:19](#); [Exo 34:5](#)). The *name of God* signifies in general "the whole nature of God, by which He attests His personal presence in the relation into which He has entered with man, the divine self-manifestation, or the whole of that revealed side of the divine nature, which is turned towards man" (*Oehler*). We have here an account of the commencement of that worship of God which consists in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving, or in the acknowledgment and celebration of the mercy and help of *Jehovah*. While the family of Cainites, by the erection of a city, and the invention and development of worldly arts and business, were laying the foundation for the kingdom of this world; the family of the Sethites began, by united invocation of the name of God of grace, to found and to erect the kingdom of God.

### History of Prayer with God's Names

A person's prayer rests on one's understanding and belief (*faith*) in God, as to who God is, and how God has revealed himself in history. So we could say prayer is dispensational because it's affected by the revealed names of God (*His Person*) and His will working through time - found in the Holy Scriptures. A simply look at the revealed names of God in history can show us how and when people prayed and what name of God they called upon; Jehovah, "I AM THAT I AM" (Fuller personal meaning of Jehovah given to Moses), "Lord (Adonay)", GOD Almighty (El Shaddai), LORD God ("Jehovah Elohim"), the Lord (GRK - kurios), and Jesus Christ (Grk - Iesus Christos).

**(KJV) Exo 6:2** God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD.

[Exo 6:3](#) I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD ("*Jehovah*") I did not make myself known to them.

### Thought provoking questions:

*Why did God discuss with Moses His name? How did Moses and the people of his day know the LORD? What is the difference between the names of God; God Almighty, Jehovah, and I AM THAT I AM? Who made God's names known? Why did Moses say the children of Israel will ask for the name of God? "Exodus 3:13 ..... What is His Name?"*

I'm not trying to interpret the names of God but simply pointing out, God was making himself known by names He chose for himself. Just like today, God has given us direction to understand our obedience in the name He has chosen for us. Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob called on "God Almighty", Moses and His people called upon the LORD ("Jehovah", "Yahweh"), and we call upon God in the name of Jesus Christ with a understanding today all these names point to the same God. I'm not saying this makes void the previous names in which our Lord God has chosen to reveal himself in times past but I am saying the names of God gives us a greater understanding of him, who he is, how great he is, what he has done and what he will do (I am the "Alpha and omega", the "beginning and the end" is the same who said, "I AM THAT I AM").

**(KJV)Rev 1:8** I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Also in Revelation 19:12, speaks of a Name of God that no one knew but God himself.

**(KJV)Rev 19:12** His eyes *were* as a flame of fire, and on his head *were* many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

It's Interesting when it says, "No man" the Greek points out "none, nobody, nothing, and "not even one" and "no man none" and the Greek for the word "knew": could see, be aware, to know, consider, (have) known or knowledge of. The word itself is in the past-tense.

So when you place it all together you get no man could see, no man knew, no man aware, no man knowledge, no man consider. Then John speaks of His (*Christ's*) name as The Word of God and upon His thigh He had the name "The King of Kings and the Lord of Lords.

John MacArthur Study Bible Speaking of "*Rev 19:12 a name .... no man knew. John could see the name, but was unable to comprehend it (cf, 2Cor.12:4). There are unfathomable mysteries in the Godhead that even glorified saints will be unable to grasp.*"

### **Return to approaching prayer**

Again, a person's prayer points to one's understanding and belief of God, on the part of the person praying, why they pray and who's name they pray in.

Have you not read when Peter was preaching to the Jews, our Savior's name?

**(ESV)Act 4:11** This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone.

**Act 4:12** And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (*Read Joh 1:12 believed on his name*)

Jesus tells his disciples to pray in his name so their joy would be complete, showing it's through His name, His person all blessing come from our Heavenly Father.

**Joh 16:23** In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you.

**Joh 16:24** Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

### **Let's look at the person of GOD:**

We all know the Name of God represent Him, His person; speaking of His Devine character, attributes and so much more. So when we call upon the Name of our God, out of our lips, it should be with full consideration of Him when entering into communion through prayer, remembering our God's Name is Holy as He is Holy.

**Deu 5:11** "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

*“And it came to pass, as he was praying in a certain place,”*

**(ASV) Luk 11:1** And it came to pass, as he was praying in a certain place, that when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, even as John also taught his disciples.

Jesus met with God in a certain place; with his Father, often in prayer, in the secret, closing the door, and meeting with him who sees in secret; God blessed him openly, before all. Jesus was the one who cry out, my house is the house of prayer and you have made it the den of thieves and robbers (Reported in three of the gospels *(the synoptic gospels)* Matthew, Mark, and Luke but in John's gospel he speaks only how they *(the Jews)* polluted His Father's House)

### **Literal Translation of the Holy Bible**

**(LITV) Mar 11:17** And He taught, saying to them, Has it not been written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations." "But you have made it a den of plunderers."? *Isa. 56:7; Jer. 7:11; Joh 2:16; Mat 21:13; Luk 19:46*

When the disciples came to ask, Jesus teach us to pray, it was to him *(Christ)* who is perfect in prayer with nothing lacking! It was to Christ they asked, who was just in communion with our Heavenly Father. Jesus stopped and came out of His closet and addressed the request of his disciples with an answer He, himself knew would please our Heavenly Father.

Perhaps, He took a simple prayer format that was around in their time *(like John's disciples)* and graciously led those in remembrance, who it is they were calling upon, who it is that deserves all praise for the things coming after "...Hallowed be thy Name".

I can tell you this; when you invoke the name of God, it's a spiritual matter and there is no power to pray if it is absent of His Holy Spirit and His Truth and Faith!

Paul speaks of our frailty in Romans and plainly tells us we don't know what to pray but God has given His children the Spirit of Grace, which speaks on our behalf with groanings that cannot be uttered by man.

**(ESV) Rom 8:26** Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

**Rom 8:27** And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

But don't take this as a cue to be lacking before Him who has taught us how to pray and commanded us that men ought to always pray and not faint. Remembering our beloved apostle Paul said "pray without ceasing".

**(ESV) 1Th 5:16** Rejoice always,  
**1Th 5:17** pray without ceasing,

**1Th 5:18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

The Lord Himself was committed to prayer and it's His word that teaches us how we are to pray. We see our Savior in prayer in our verse, which was His practice in daily life; has His practice become ours? Do we meet with God in fearful communion, seeking His Holy fire for life? If men will not bow their knees in this life, to seek God, you can be sure they will bow their knees at the appearing of Jesus Christ in His glory!

**(ESV) Php 2:9** Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the **name** that is above every name,  
**Php 2:10** so that at the **name** of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

**Php 2:11** and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Prayer:**

Our Heavenly Father, Holy is your Name; I come to you knowing you are fearful in all your works. Have mercy on us Holy Father because we have sinned against you with polluted speech. Have gracious mercy on us and lift us up from our pollution of talk. Gracious Good Father in Heaven, enter not into judgment with your servants but I ask you to forgive my sins and the sins of your children who call upon your Most Holy and Might Name. Pluck out the beam from our eyes, so we can see and feel remorse for our sinful ways and know the path of righteousness found only in you. Set our hearts aright, to do that which is pleasing in your sight and give us strength to pursue it in life. Lift up the Name Jesus Christ our Saviour, among your people, so we may behold your glory. Please send out an out-pouring of the gospel to sound from our hearts, then from our lips. Let us not be silent when we are called to speak what is right in your sight. We love you Most Gracious Heavenly Father and thank you for your mercies and goodness we've already received. We are abundantly blessed in you alone. Amen.

## February (Part II)

*Luke 11:1 And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.*

I'm going to level with you; prayer is a very exhaustive topic. The bible is an ocean where there is no bottom and this is true of prayer too. Prayer is a shoreline where the water's edge meets the sand and the smallest of God's Kingdom can come and not be lost. We all must meet at the edge of God's infinite deep and call out to him in prayer through simple child like faith. This is why Proverb's tell us not to lean unto our own understanding but in all our ways acknowledge Him and he shall direct our paths (*Prov 3:5-6*). It doesn't say we should be void of understanding but not to lean unto our human intellects with dependency. Our dependency is on God, through faith, which is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all we ask or think; no mere human intellect could ever carry us to heaven, to the joyous blessings in Christ, which only come by faith! Nor could we grasp someone so great, in every way, this is why it's left to the wisdom of God (*1Cor 1:24 ;*) through faith. The blessing of prayer is given to every child of God, to call out in faith, knowing God will hear in His infinite wisdom and handle each request cast upon His Ocean of grace.

After reading Matthew Henry's Commentary, again, on Christ praying, it became very clear our Lord and savior prayed often, earnestly before our Heavenly Father. Even now it's my desire; we would pursue Jesus Christ into the closets of our hearts and empty out ourselves in every way possible, seeking Him (God) who is eternal, everlasting! Cry out to the Lord with all your heart, all of your mind, all of your strength, casing yourself on the mercy of the Great Creator, to do for you what you cannot. Call on Him, who makes your life an example of His Beloved Son in every manner (In speech, in touch, in walk, in heart, in breath, in all of life)!

### Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible

"1.) We find Christ himself *praying in a certain place*, probably where he used to pray, [Luk 11:1](#). As God, he was *prayed to*; as man, he *prayed*; and, though he was a Son, yet learned he this obedience. This evangelist has taken particular notice of Christ's *praying often*, more than any other of the evangelists: when he was baptized ([Luk 3:21](#)), he was *praying*; he *withdrew into the wilderness, and prayed* ([Luk 5:16](#)); he *went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer* ([Luk 6:12](#)); he was *alone praying* ([Luk 9:18](#)); soon after, he *went up into a mountain to pray, and as he prayed he was transfigured* ([Luk 9:28](#), [Luk 9:29](#)); and here he was *praying in a certain place*. Thus, like a genuine son of David, he *gave himself unto prayer*; [Psa 109:4](#). Whether Christ was now *alone* praying, and the disciples only knew that he was so, or whether he prayed with them, is uncertain; it is most probable that they were joining with him."

### Read what our Savior said who prayed for Peter's faith

Peter was told by Jesus Christ, he was prayed for, specifically, that his (Peter's) faith would not fail, showing Christ's concern for the great battle over Peter's faith. Maybe you think it's nothing your brothers are attacked by *Satan* or the troubles of life can be handled with generic prayer; treating prayer like putting on your undergarments or throwing on clothes to cover your body! No, no I say, this is not the call for us to cast a covering (*like a blanket prayer*) but openness from the heart ready to do the will of God. Earnest! Diligent! Read to do! Ready to obey from the heart whatever, whenever and however God would use us today!

(ESV) [Luk 22:31](#) "Simon, Simon, behold, **Satan** demanded to have you, that he might sift you like wheat, [Luk 22:32](#) but I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned again, strengthen your brothers."

### Peter strengthening

1Pe 5:6 Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time;

1Pe 5:7 casting all your anxiety upon him, because he careth for you.

1Pe 5:8 Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the **devil**, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour,

1Pe 5:9 whom withstand stedfast in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are accomplished in your brethren who are in the world.

I cannot express deep enough, my heart's feeling of sadness with coming into God's present with loud noisy prayers that are absent of His will or His word or both. This kind of prayer is like those crazy party favors, you buy a bag of noise makers and you toot, whistle, clatter and clang to no avail and your service to God is now polluted and what you started out in hope has now become nothing.

Mat 6:7 *"And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words.*

Mat 6:8 *Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.*

Why do you go before God anyway? What is your purpose seeing He sees your sins and knows all your ways? What is your expectation from one who is so holy; there is none like Him?

### Let's talk about our mindset (approaching prayer)

#### Paul's Warning: knowing the will of God!

(ESV) Eph 5:15 Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,

Eph 5:16 making the best use of the time, because the days are **evil**.

Eph 5:17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

#### James's Warning: submit yourselves [from the heart] to God in humility of Faith; not double minded.

(ESV) Jas 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the **devil**, and he will flee from you.

Jas 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.

Jas 4:9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness.

Jas 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.

#### God's Warning: God is Holy!

(ESV) Exo 3:4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

Exo 3:5 Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

Exo 3:6 And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Dale you are pulling verses from here and there; be careful! Look with me, it's the mindset, I'm driving at, not the word prayer only! We don't need a great definition of prayer to stroke our intellects; we need to come before a holy God, who is a consuming fire! Be careful lest you rush into the present of God without taking thought of your transgressions and find yourself like Ananias and Sapphira who lacked understanding as to who it was that saw all things perfectly and fear came upon the whole Church!

Act 5:1 But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,

Act 5:2 and with his wife's knowledge he kept back for himself some of the proceeds and brought only a part of it and laid it at the apostles' feet.

Act 5:3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has **Satan** filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?"

Act 5:4 While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."

Act 5:5 When Ananias heard these words, he fell down and breathed his last. And great fear came upon all who heard of it.

Act 5:6 The young men rose and wrapped him up and carried him out and buried him.

Act 5:7 After an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

Act 5:8 And Peter said to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for so much." And she said, "Yes, for so much."

Act 5:9 But Peter said to her, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out."

**Act 5:10** Immediately she fell down at his feet and breathed her last. When the young men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

**Act 5:11** And great fear came upon the whole church and upon all who heard of these things.

Just because you have access to the Throne of Grace by our Savior's sacrifice doesn't mean there should be no understanding of the rightful fear of the one who sits on the Throne when you bow in prayer before Him.

Ask yourself a fair question; how do you approach God in prayer, in your practice. I'm not talking about when time is short and a child of God must cry out "Father help me"! I'm talking about coming with understanding God has given you and the scriptures God has taught you and offering up prayer in a wise simple manner, knowing He knows all! Yes, all through faith!

**Eph 5:17** Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

**Mat 6:8** Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Does not the Old Testament leave us examples with approaching God in fearful communion? Yes, the High priest is an example of "Holiness unto the Lord": having ropes and bells tied to his garment, and the washing of his body and the consecrating of himself to purity in every fashion as to not offend the Lord God Most High. Dale we have Jesus! How much more now that God has made your body the temple of the living God should we be careful in every way not to offend Him by our life to blemish the name of Christ by whom we are saved.

**1Co 3:16** Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you?

**1Co 3:17** If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him. For God's temple is holy, and you are that temple.

It's not that we have not received mercy but we should not put Him to the test by presumption (It's not a mistake to God, it's sins). "Thou shall not put the Lord thy God to a test" (*Deu 6:16; Mat 4:7; Luk 4:12*). Listen to James who said draw near to God and God will draw near to you and immediately he tells the reader to clean up their act, through repentance and humility and readiness to obey God and He (God) will lift you up. Now there's understanding, there is fear, and there is a holy God (*Jas 4:7-10* ;).

Our generation has no fear of God before their eyes (*Rom 3:18; Psa 36:1*;) and many come into to the present of God lacking understanding He is Holy! Not He is holy in a mystical, ambiguous way or even human thought but is in fact holy! Perfect! I lack the words and understanding to express it! I fear we may have come to think of Jesus less than God, and misunderstand the mercy of Christ and now failed to see God as he truly is; HOLY!

**Ecc 5:2** Be **not** rash with thy mouth, and let **not** thine heart be hasty to utter *any* thing before God: for God *is* in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.

We do in our day have a generic understanding of the definition of holiness or men would fear before Him but on the other hand we have a great understanding of worldliness because it permeates all of church life in America !

I purposely made bold the words Satan and the devil in past verses, above, to show we are at war and all of us can be attacked. Surely none of us have fallen to lying, surely none of us would take the Lord God's name in vain, and surely none of us could deny the Lord like Peter, we are so much better than he, our savior would never have to pray for us that our faith may stand (*I'm sarcastic!*).

**Heb 12:1** Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

**Heb 12:2** looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Heb 12:3** Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**Heb 12:4** In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood.

**Heb 12:5** And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

**Heb 12:6** For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

**Heb 12:7** It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline?

Do not try to excuse yourself but let what is true be heard and change your heart before God, asking for His sovereign help to make us like his Son. We cannot win our battles in life alone! After saying all this, I can understand why God gave us His Spirit to help us pray (*Rom 8:26-27*). The victory over sin is ours through Christ and Christ alone because our perfection is witness every day by our weakness and demonstrates it can only be by the grace of God that any of us go to heaven. Read Galatians!

You know where I'm going with this; it's our heart before our Savior in humility and submission to the Spirit of Grace through God's eternal word, all wrapped up in our daily practice of faith.

With life's walk before God being so important no wonder one of the disciples asked, "Teach us to pray", even like John's, the faithful preacher unto death, his disciples. There must have been something seen in John and his disciples with regarding their prayers before God.

But Jesus said unto them, "When you pray, say Father, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come."

I cannot and will not go forward without mentioning the blasphemy with regard to whose name is Holy and who Christ taught the disciples to call upon. It's a dreadful thing when any man can think of himself as the "The Holy Father", when that name belongs to God Himself! I'm so glad the introduction of the pray doesn't stop with the holy name of God the Father but calls out for His kingdom to come, then shall men find out whose name is holy and whose name is not and who is the Holy Father and who is not!

**Mat 23:9** And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven.

The above verse is in strong condemnation of the Scribes and Pharisees religious practices before men, even the titles they gave each other with regards to religious standing (*selfexaltation*) among each other. It was to these practices Jesus tells us not to do it. I'm going to trust you understand what I am saying with regards to the name Holy Father.

I'm so very glad Jesus tells us to say "Father", what joy should flood our souls with this word. Many shall call God their Father but only find out that He is not (*Joh 8:42*;) but what joy to those through Christ who find he is their Father and call out to him in faith and love because of the new life God has worked in them. What wonderful words, "Our Father who art in Heaven..." What a glorious name, what a glorious place and what a glorious kingdom to come and a glorious will to be done. It's His kingdom his children wait for and anticipate. These are the ones in whom Christ says when you pray say, Father! It's to these little ones of faith the Spirit of God bears witness within them; crying out Abba, Father!

**Rom 8:14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

**Rom 8:15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father.

**Rom 8:16** The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:

Now, maybe you're confused as to all this talk of prayer but don't be. God always looks upon the hearts men. We can read the word of the Lord concerning His children Israel when they were taken into captivity for seventy years. He (God) tells them, if they would seek him with all their hearts they shall find him and as they found Him back then, so we shall find Him today when our hearts are turned towards him in prayer. We too can learn from their example:

**Jer 29:11** For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith Jehovah, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you hope in your latter end.

**Jer 29:12** And ye shall call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

**Jer 29:13** And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

### *A leading into Prayer*

I have to stop. It's with great Joy, I'm so happy that Jesus has given me new life and God is truly my Father! My heart cries out saying, I love you Lord and thank you a million times over! Thank you, thank you and thank you Most Holy Father, Savior and Lord for the great grace and mercy you have on me! I love you Lord. Help me Gracious Father to be pleasing in your sight that you find nothing displeasing in my actions and my thoughts. Help me give my life as a living sacrifice, acceptable, pleasing in every way to you Lord. Forgive my weakness for sinning repeatedly even after such great salvation has been given to me. Lord, I look to you and you alone for the help, to forgive all my sins and make me clean in your sight. Lord, I plead with you, do not leave me to myself as you have promised in your holy word but change me in a twinkle of an eye with those who have come to know you.

**1Co 15:52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

Amen.