

INTRODUCTION

- * As we approach our spring week of Prayer & Fasting, I felt compelled of the Lord to spend two weeks focusing on the importance of prayer in the life of the saints. Though prayer is one of the most critical aspects of the life of the believer and the church, it seems to take the least priority in the lives of many believers and churches.
- * Last week, we focused upon The Posture of Prayer. Though we are adopted by God and afforded the privilege of calling Him: "Abba," yet, He is still the Holy God who is the Creator, Sustainer, and Judge of the Universe - and of all mankind. Hence, though I may boldly enter into His presence because of the blood of Jesus, I must always remember: He is the Potter and I am the clay. There must be an attitude (or posture) of humbleness, and not arrogance or pride as I come before His throne. In the Scriptures, this attitude is conjoined with a physical posture of kneeling before Him. In fact, this posture is embedded into the Hebrew word (shakhah) and Greek word (proskuneo) for "worship."
- * Today, we want to consider the powerful impact of prayer in the realm of the Spiritual War that we fight.

INSTRUCTION**I. OUR E _____** (cf. Ephesians 6:11-12; 1:21; 3:10-11; Daniel 10:13,20)

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| A. The Devil (diabolos) | D. The World Emperors (kosmo-krats) of the Darkness of this age |
| B. The Rulers (principalities; arkhais) | E. The Spiritual <i>things</i> of Evil in the Heavens |
| C. The Authorities (powers; exousia) | |

II. OUR E _____

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| A. The Belt of Truth | D. The Shield of Faith |
| B. The Breastplate of Righteousness | E. The Helmet of Salvation |
| C. The Sandals of Peace | F. The Sword of the Spirit - the Word of God! |

III. OUR E _____**A. The P _____ of God** (cf. Ephesians 6:10)

1. BE EMPOWERED IN THE L _____
2. BE EMPOWERED IN THE S _____ (cf. Eph 1:19; 2 Kings 6:15-17; 2 Chron 20:1-4, 13-17)

B. The P _____ of the Saints

1. THE F _____ OF OUR PRAYER (cf. John 14:13; 15:7; 16:23; 1 John 5:14; Psalm 37:4)
 - a. With All Prayer
 - b. With All Supplication
2. THE F _____ OF OUR PRAYER
 - a. With All Vigilance (cf. Matt 24:42; Matt 26:38, 40-41,43)
 - b. With All Perseverance (cf. Exodus 17:8-13; Luke 18:1; 11:5-8; 1 Thess 5:17; Mark 9:14-29)
3. THE F _____ OF OUR PRAYER
 - a. For All of the Saints
 - * James 5:13-16; Galatians 6:1-2; 1 John 5:16 * Ephesians 1:15-21; 3:14-19; Philippians 1:9-11; Colossians 1:9-10
 - b. For All People (cf. 1 Timothy 2:1-4)
 - c. For Your Enemies (cf. Matt 5:44; Luke 23:34)

INTROSPECTION

- * DO YOU BELIEVE THAT WE ARE ENGAGED IN A SPIRITUAL WAR?
- * DO YOU BELIEVE THAT GOD CHOOSES TO USE THE PRAYER OF THE SAINTS IN A DYNAMIC WAY WITHIN THAT SPIRITUAL WAR?
- * HOW FAITHFUL - VIGILANT & PERSEVERING - ARE YOU IN PRAYING FOR OTHERS?
- * ARE YOUR PRAYERS PRIMARILY FOCUSED IN THE PHYSICAL REALM OR THE SPIRITUAL REALM?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND THEREFORE ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * What can we do, as an assembly, to help us become more faithful in the realm of prayer?