

## *Prayer, the Key to Open Heaven's Door*

### **(Part 1)**

David experienced the presence of God when he prayed. He, more than anyone we read about often sought the Lord, for his life was a life of trouble. Persecuted by King Saul until Saul died, he was a fugitive without means and position that entitled his deliverance from the king, the most powerful man in the country. But David was a king in God's eyes waiting for the right time to be crowned so. He was also a fugitive from his son Absalom, who tried to take his throne. But David sought the Lord and called on His name. When we read his prayers in the book of Psalms it confirms that he had a relationship with God. When he committed sins of adultery and homicide he returned to God in repentance and grief of soul. He prayed, Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity and guilt and cleanse me and make me wholly pure from my sin, for I am conscious of my transgressions and I acknowledge them; my sin is ever before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done that which is evil in Your sight, so that You are justified in Your sentence and faultless in Your judgment... create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me (Psalm 51). And again, I acknowledge my sin to You, and my iniquity I did not hide... then You forgave me the guilt and the iniquity of my sin (Psalm 32); I waited patiently and expectantly for the Lord; and He inclined to me and heard my cry...He has put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. **Many shall see and fear and put their trust in the Lord** (Psalm 40: 1, 3); my sacrifice to God is a **broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, such O God, You will not despise** (Psalm 51: 17). When we admit our sins to Him, heaven acknowledges and forgiveness flows to us; when we praise Him angels join us in worship to God. David acknowledged the answers to his prayers, and it encouraged and helped others to know that God is faithful and He is a loving God.

Elijah prayed, O Lord, the God of Abraham and Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and that I have done all these things at Your Word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You, the Lord, are God, and have turned their hearts back to You. Then fire of the Lord came and consumed the burnt sacrifice and the wood and the stones and the dust, and also licked up the water that was in the trench. When the people saw it, they fell on their faces and they said, The Lord, the Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God! (I Kings 18: 36-39). What a powerful testimony! Elijah

prayed a prayer of faith that unlocked heaven and the Lord responded. The people saw the light of truth and rejoiced proclaiming that the Lord was God!

Moses prayed, Now therefore, I pray You, if I have found favor in Your sight, show me now Your way, that I may know You [progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with You, perceiving and recognizing and understanding more strongly and clearly] and that I may find favor in Your sight... and the Lord said, My presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest. And Moses said to the Lord, If Your Presence does not go with me, do not carry us up from here!...And the Lord said to Moses, **I will do this thing also that you have asked, for you have found favor, loving-kindness and mercy in My sight and I know you personally and by name** (Exodus 33: 13-15,17). God was pleased with Moses' humble heart. Moses, like no one else, experienced God's presence, for God spoke to him face to face, as a man speaks to his friend (vs.11). God assured Moses of His favor toward Him and answered Moses, "I will do this thing also that you have asked." The Presence of God was of great importance for Moses. He completely depended on Him to lead the people to the Promised Land.

Prayer opens the channel of communication from man to God. It opens heaven in a way that moves the heart of God toward man. When YAHSHUA died the veil of the temple was torn from top to bottom giving men access to God.

Daniel prayed with supplications, fasting and sackcloth and ashes, in humbleness of heart as he interceded for his nation. He prayed confessing his own sin, the sin of his nation, and the sin of his forefathers. The motives of his prayer was to seek the Lord concerning the duration of Judah's captivity, which according to Jeremiah was to last **seventy** years. His heart longed to see His people returning home. At the same time, Daniel recognized the reason for their captivity and did not take the faithfulness of the Lord for granted. O Lord, (he prayed) righteousness belongs to You, but to us confusion and shame of face, as at this day – to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and to all Israel, to those who are near and those who are far off, through all the countries to which You have driven them because of the trespass which they have committed against You (Daniel 9). While Daniel was praying, he said, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the former vision, being caused to fly swiftly, came near to me and touched me about the time of the evening sacrifice. He said to Daniel, At the beginning of your prayers the word went forth and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly

beloved... (Vs.20-23). The answer to Daniel's prayer came through vision of the most important prophetic events in the lives of his people: The Seventy weeks of years decreed to Israel which is from the times of the rebuilding of Jerusalem to YAHSHUA's death, to the time of their covenant signing with the antichrist. There is one more week left given to Israel when it will be marked by the great tribulation or Jacob's trouble according to Jeremiah: Alas! For that day will be great, so that none will be like it; it will be the time of Jacob's trouble, but he will be saved out of it (30: 7) and according to YAHSHUA'S word in Matthew 24. If we want answer to our prayer perseverance is the key to receive it. Daniel went to the courts of heaven with perseverance and assurance that he was going to be heard, because he prayed in agreement with the promise of God to his people; he prayed the word of God and God heard and answered him.

Bringing the Lord to remembrance of His promise is praying His word. Isaiah 62: 6-7 says "I have set watchmen upon your walls, O Jerusalem, who will never hold their peace day or night; you who put the Lord in remembrance, keep not silence, and give Him no rest until He establishes Jerusalem and makes her a praise in the earth." The Lord will never deny those who pray in agreement with His word. Praying His word is bringing Him to fulfill that which He has promised. He said, For as the rain and snow come down from heavens and return not there again, but water the earth and make it bring forth and sprout, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth out of My mouth: it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please and purpose, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it (Isaiah 55:10-11). To be successful in praying the word of God we must know the word of God. If you are dealing with disease for a while and can no longer pray, pray the words of Isaiah 53: 5b: By His stripes we are (I am) healed and made whole. Keep believing even if you don't see immediate results. Believe that this is the word of God and it will not return to Him without doing what it is intended to do in your life. Enter the courts of heaven with a humble and contrite heart, confessing your sins and acknowledging God's holiness with praise and thanksgivings.

King David entered the presence of God with brokenness and sorrow for his sins and he was forgiven; Elijah prayed recognizing God to be the only true God. His prayer was answered with fire coming from heaven and all around praised and magnified the only true God; Moses, the most humble man in the face of the earth, prayed to know God's way in order to know Him better. His prayer was

answered and confirmed with these words: I will do this thing also that you asked, for you have found favor in My sight; the Prophet Daniel prayed to bring God to remembrance of His people's captivity with confession and repentance of sin and he was found to be beloved by God. The answer to his prayer came complete with the revelation of the most important future of his people, Israel.

Seek the Lord while He may be found; call upon Him while He is near (Isaiah 55:6). This is the opportune time; this is your day of salvation!