



**APOSTLE
GEORGE AKALONU**

**PRAYER, FASTING AND
SPIRITUAL WARFARE
(3RD EDITION)**

VOLUME - I

PRAYER AND FASTING

**ASIA, MIDDLE EAST & PACIFIC
EDITION**



EDITORIAL TEAM

**AN ORGANIC TEAM IS AT WORK USED BY HOLY SPIRIT TO
MAKE THESE REVELATIONS AVAILABLE TO THE BODY OF
YESHUA, JESUS.**

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USE OF HEBRAIC NAMES OF THE MOST HIGH

Yahweh, Elohim, Yeshua. During our walk with the Lord, we discovered by leading of Holy Spirit how fundamentally flawed was the intrusion of Rome into the gospel from 4th Century AD. Replacement Theology led Rome to take away all Hebraic/Jewish connections as root of what is now called the Christian Faith. What He has led us to do is to call our Father by the Name He revealed Himself to Israel which is Yahweh. In the same way, rather than call our Creator by the generic title, God, we find it more appropriate to call Him by the Hebraic Name He revealed to humanity through Moses which is Elohim. The Name, Elohim properly conveys His Unity in Plurality as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit! We also call our King the Name His Father gave Him, Yeshua, as well as the Anglicized translation, Jesus, derived from the Greek translation, Ioseph.

We do this as led by Holy Spirit, not as part of the so-called sacred Names movement. Neither do we subscribe to the legalistic methods of Judaizers intent on dragging saints into the dead works and rituals of Judaism. We do not condemn or malign those who have not yet caught this depth of revelation. Please feel free to call the Most High by what He reveals to you and what you are comfortable with.



THE NAMES OF GOD

- **Yeshua (Jesus)**
- **Yahweh (Lord, Jehovah)**
- **Elohim (God)**
- **El Shaddai (Lord God Almighty)**
- **El Elyon (The Most High God)**
- **Adonai (Lord, Master)**
- **Jehovah Nissi (The Lord My Banner)**
- **Jehovah-Raah (The Lord My Shepherd)**
- **Jehovah Rapha (The Lord That Heals)**
- **Jehovah Shammah (The Lord Is There)**
- **Jehovah Tsidkenu (The Lord Our Righteousness)**
- **Jehovah Mekoddishkem (The Lord Who Sanctifies You)**
- **El Olam (The Everlasting God)**
- **Qanna (Jealous)**
- **Jehovah Jireh (The Lord Will Provide)**
- **Jehovah Shalom (The Lord Is Peace)**
- **Jehovah Sabaoth (The Lord of Hosts)**

Within the pages of this book you will find that we call our Heavenly Father by His name Yahweh, and our Savior, Yeshua, His name versus referring to Him as a generic god. In no way are we suggesting that you are wrong if you have not yet grasped this revelation.



PREFACE FOR THE KINGDOM CULTURE SERIES

We have tarried before the Lord for some time to receive a rhema concerning how to introduce the books in the series you are about to read. He directed us to share a little bit of how He ordered our steps over a 21-year period between 1996-2017. In 1996, the Lord called us out of denominationalism to serve His Body and Kingdom. As we resigned from a Pastoral calling and began to serve Him and the Body in a community in Africa (Owerri, Imo State of Nigeria), we held on to one critical vision He released beginning August 1996. At that time, we joined other saints to lament the sad state of Africa on almost all fronts of life. It was surreal to hear the Lord comfort us by saying He had appointed His Church in Africa as instrument of a quick work: Rescuing His Kingdom program in the earth realm from corruption in preparation for the return of King Yeshua, Jesus. In August 2006, He directed us to relocate to London which as centre of the world would make our Acts 1:8 assignment more impactful on a global scale. Looking back, because we did not see it then, it is significant that it was 100 years after Azusa Street Revival that the Lord in 2006 birthed Global School of Ministry as a catalyst of Reformation, Restoration, and Revival. Again, we did not see clearly then how extensively it was to be used to rediscover Truths which were missed out by Martin Luther in the Protestant Reformation of 1517. Interestingly, the Lord



used various means to make it clear what, He was about to do was not raise a man or woman, like Martin Luther was raised prominently and publicly. But rather activate a company of saints worldwide with understanding of Him and the Church. A company of saints who embrace His Kingdom pattern and take their place as His sons who would do all His will. In this regard, the Lord made it clear the election of His Church in Africa was not for the purpose of building an 'African Cultural Church'. The wider and more strategic scope was to use His remnant 'out of the seed of Ham' to impact and connect His seed out of Shem and Japheth to constitute the fourth race which is the Elect Remnant or 'one new man' spoken of by Apostle Paul. In other words, the focus of the Lord was simply to use the Global School of Ministry project to activate His elect remnant to walk in unity of the Faith. And, be empowered to represent Him and the Kingdom right where they are in various corners of the world where He preserved them from the claws of Babylon. It was then Holy Spirit provided illumination of this anchor scripture:

Romans 11:5 (KJV) 5 Even so, at this present time also there is a remnant according to the election of grace.

There is a simple, yet grand key to understanding the fundamental difference between the Martin Luther Protestant Reformation and the Kingdom Culture project.



The Reformation of Martin Luther was designed to ‘Protest’ some of the dogma and practices of the Roman Catholic Church when he received revelation of their unbiblical origins.

The Kingdom Culture project, on the other hand, is designed to take the Church back to what it was before the Roman Empire embraced the larger wing of the Church, which was tired of persecution and martyrdom in the 4th Century.

In other words, through the Kingdom Culture project, the Omega or End Time Church will be a logical conclusion of what had started in the Alpha or First Century Church.

Unlike other reformation projects before it, Kingdom Culture, through the Global School of Ministry and annual Master Class series of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program have two simple keys: Get the Church back into the ‘School’ Paradigm where Study of the Word is central to both congregational and general ministry. Second, to challenge all saints to receive the Four-dimensional work of Holy Spirit: He Is the Seal of redemption; He uses the Word to Transform Life of Believers from inside out, He Unites saints to live as one indivisible Body of Yeshua notwithstanding their locations or sects; He releases Power through which saints are able to demonstrate the awesome powers of the Risen Yeshua, Jesus!

These are accomplished when leaders and saints sincerely and diligently embrace the ministry of Holy Spirit and the Word through the T>T>E>A>R process. It is one where leaders are used by Holy Spirit to:



Teach saints the whole counsel of Holy Scriptures

Train saints to discover and take their places as effective members of the Body of Yeshua

Equip saints with what it takes to walk in victory through mentorship and support

Activate the Gifts and callings of Holy Spirit which may lie dormant in them

Release the saints into productive ministry. This may be by public ordination or Commissioning during ministry events.

500 years after the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Lord Yeshua, Jesus is activating throughout the earth realm this framework. The framework through which Holy Spirit will undertake training of Reformers who will receive proper understanding of the Pauline Epistles and Master Plan of the true Kingdom Church contained therein, and build individual lives, ministries and congregations accordingly. This Kingdom Culture project involves release of 40 books on dedicated websites where all saints worldwide who desire to discover, pursue and fulfil their callings as the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek can find the teaching resources to train in the comfort of their own homes.

On the other hand, these 40 books will put in the hands of the great company of elect ministers across the world who know the flock is not theirs but Yeshua's.



These books are tools with which to systematically transform the operating systems of the ministries committed to their trust from 'Theatres' to 'Schools'.

These books collectively make up the curriculum with which to launch their own Global School of Ministry project. The curriculum will ensure every two or three years, fresh sets of fit for-purpose ministers of the gospel who will serve the Lord with all their hearts are produced.

All 40 books on the websites constitute what it takes to root out the leaven of Babylon derived from our various experiences with Christian Religion. They therefore constitute what we need to embrace and walk in true Kingdom Culture. It is through ministry of the Word that the Church will be prepared and made ready for return of her Groom:

Ephesians 5:25-27 (KJV) 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 that he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.



Please intentionally study this and the other resources in the series prayerfully under unction of Holy Spirit with your Bible to confirm all the points made. As you train, necessity is upon you to make your vessel available for Holy Spirit to use to transmit these empowering truths to other saints who yearn for empowerment!

Psalm 68:11 (KJV) 11 The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.

2 Timothy 2:2 (KJV) 2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

May Elohim, our heavenly Father make you the instrument of His Grace, He designed you to be!



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PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 1: PREAMBLE & INTRODUCTION

Between 6-3 BC and about 30 AD Yeshua, Jesus was incarnated in the earth realm, lived like a human in order to experience our pain and went to the Cross where He paid the price with His Own blood to secure our redemption. By this sacrifice, Yeshua literally recovered the Kingdom which Adam lost from Satan. Subsequently, He arose from the dead, conducted a School of Ministry for the disciples for 40 days after which He ascended to heaven bodily (Acts 1:1-4). He was not running away from the earth realm! He had finished His Own part of a divine plan in the earth realm so that those redeemed by His Blood would carry out



the remaining to be done. It is unfortunate that for several centuries, saints have been limited by the cloak of religion from understanding the dynamic and exciting plan of Elohim which is written in high definition in the Holy Scriptures.

An extraordinary plan

From a Kingdom perspective, the divine plan featured four things Yeshua would do for His Church to assure victory in prosecuting the Great Commission:

- 1) Authority in His Name
- 2) His Abiding Presence
- 3) The Holy Spirit to abide within His saints
- 4) Yeshua's present ministry of Intercession as High Priest.



Authority of His Name

Before He left for Heaven, Yeshua released what can be considered unlimited authority to all who believe on him along with a cast iron of His abiding presence.

Mark 16:15-20 (KJV) 15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. 17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; 18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. 19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into



word with signs following. Amen. *heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. 20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the His Abiding Presence.*

Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV) *18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

The Holy Spirit to abide within His saints

John 14:15-18 (KJV) *15 If ye love me, keep my*



commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Acts 1:4-8 (KJV) *4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. 6 When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore*



again the kingdom to Israel? 7 And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. 8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Yeshua's present ministry of Intercession as High Priest

With Holy Spirit in us, Yeshua and His Presence with us, Yeshua had one more extraordinary safety guardrail for His saints in the earth realm: as High Priest of the Royal Priesthood after the order of Melchizedek, He is Personally engaged in one of the humblest assignments on our behalf at the Highest Seat of Authority, The Throne of Grace.



Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV) 14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 2:17-18 (KJV) 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people. 18 For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.



Hebrews 6:18-20 (KJV) 18 That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: 19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; 20 Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec.

Response of the Saints: The 3 Tools to be exercised in Faith

To tap into the fullness of these divine resources in both the earthly and heavenly realms, Yeshua gave His saints a triple slew of resources called Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare which is to be exercised in Faith. Since



there is another work on Faith, this resource presents fresh insights into the subject matter of Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare. The three terms represent specific dimensions of spiritual activity which lead to victory in our earthly walk. When properly understood, practised, and made a lifestyle, both the individual saints and collective Body of Yeshua, Jesus in the earth realm are clothed with His Presence, virtue, and strength. Look at this incredible promise of the power of prayer to the individual saint as well as to the collective:

Matthew 18:18-20 (KJV) 18 Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall the



midst of them. agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in.

Potential abuses

On the other hand, when this vital ministry and spiritual activity is misused, abused, or wrongly applied the outcome is negative fruit. Today, in several countries, prayer has been turned into sessions of railing at Elohim and instructing Him to do what believers want, no matter how outlandish or contrary to His expressed will in the Holy Scriptures. Fasting has been misused to imply it is a means to be powerful. In the process, not much care is exercised to ensure



adequate protection of the most vulnerable. Spiritual warfare has been turned into charismatic witchcraft sessions where people use 'Holy Ghost Fire' to destroy their 'enemies' with loud boasts when those ungodly prayers, based on the Old rather than New Covenant principles seem to 'work.' The Lord deemed it necessary to grant fresh revelation for balanced spiritual understanding of this vital ministry, as laid out in the Holy Bible. As second edition of a wellreceived work, we can only hope that it will turn out to be bigger and better even as the Lord has matured our understanding of His Kingdom and its operating principles over the past 7 years since the first edition rolled out.



Assignment:

- 1. What are the three things Yeshua provided for His saints to walk in victory?*
- 2. What are the three things through which saints can do to walk victoriously indicated in this chapter?*
- 3. Please indicate any other thing(s) you are taking away from this chapter.*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 2: SYNOPSIS & DEFINITION

In order to better understand this subject, these core questions need to be answered:

A. Prayer

- What is Prayer? Definitions
- What are the linkages between prayer and the will of Yahweh?
- In what way can we rightly describe intercession as the birthing of the will of Yahweh or partnering with Him to bring His counsel to pass?
- What kind of example did Yeshua Jesus leave us in the ministry of prayer?
- What is the pattern of prayer He instructs?



- Why are saints torn between setting aside the pattern He taught and making it a rigid religious construct?

B. Fasting

- What is Fasting? Definitions
- When is fasting to be added to prayers?
- How should Fasting be conducted?

C. Spiritual Warfare

- What is spiritual warfare? Definitions
- How do we distinguish between spiritual, spiritism, soulish and devilish operations in the arena of prayer and spiritual warfare?
- What are doctrines of devils (demons) in the ministry of prayer and spiritual warfare?
- Equipments and Instruments for Spiritual Warfare
- Conventional Spiritual Warfare
- Asymmetrical Spiritual Warfare



Part 1 Prayer

Definition

Prayer is the act and lifestyle of communicating with Abba, our Father in heaven. Effective prayer is a function of a real relationship with Elohim which grants saints access to the Throne on the merit of the Blood shed by Yeshua, Jesus and the Authority of His Name. They are sons of Elohim, neither male nor female, who know their identity in Yeshua and who He is in them. Those who cannot pray gracefully and effectively in faith are those who though they go to church yet operate in the 4 negative types of relationship with Elohim: Strangers, Unwilling slaves, Orphans and Babes.

Explanation

Prayer is an act in the sense that it is something



we do, communicating with our heavenly Father, at fixed times such as early in the morning, during mealtimes or late at night. Beyond the specific times, there is a greater and better dimension of Prayer. This is when it becomes a lifestyle of ceaseless communication between our spirit-man, soul, and tongue with Him.

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV) 17 Pray without ceasing.

This dimension of prayer manifests in those who have learnt the blessedness of waiting on Him and depending on Him as the centre of gravity of their lives. When this is so, our hearts, minds, will, emotion and consciousness gravitate towards consciousness of His Omniscience and Omnipresence.



Isaiah 26:3 (KJV) 3 *Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.*

These qualities create value in that they build up the spiritual muscles of saints and cause their faith to be unleashed.

Isaiah 40:30-31 (KJV) 30 *Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.*

Prayer, in a real sense is the instrument through which mortal man with limited strength engages with Elohim Who is an immortal Spirit-Being as Father and God. Through prayer, we praise and worship Him to exalt Him for Who He Is.



Revelation 4:11 (KJV) 11 *Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Through prayer also, we draw down His Divine Power to intervene on our behalf, in the earth realm. No less a Person than Yeshua Himself demonstrated both dimensions.

His regular, fixed prayer time

Mark 1:35 (KJV) 35 *And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.*

His regular, constant prayer time meant constant access to heaven.



John 11:41 (KJV) 41 Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. 42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

The disciples noted the quality of His Prayer Life and desired to emulate Him.

Luke 11:1 (KJV) 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.



Linkages between Prayer and the will of Yahweh: Kingdom Ambassadors in action

Our definition and the explanations imply that Prayer is not just talking to Abba or dumping our needs on Him and hurrying out of His Presence. It implies rather that, by prayer, we take a posture of coming to Him to forge a strategic partnership through which His strength combines with our legal mandate as His assigns on planet earth to bring all things and events in line with His determinate counsel. Understanding of some scriptures will usher us into a whole new dynamic in the arena of prayer and spiritual warfare:

Genesis 1:26-28 (KJV) 26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the



sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. 27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. 28 And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.

Right in the first chapter of the Holy Bible, a critical truth which helps us to pray with burden and authority is established:

- we are created in the image and likeness of Elohim



- we are planted on earth to be His assigns or legal representatives.

Look at this way: those who walk with Elohim, the creator of the universe, and align with Him, in the understanding of why He created them, as expressed in this passage will come to a place where they have a healthy spiritual self-esteem of their mission and mandate. As Ambassadors of the Kingdom of heaven in the earth realm, they know instinctively that reporting for duty before the Throne of the Most High is a normal activity. No Ambassador can successfully represent a King if he has no real relationship. In the same way, that no Ambassador can successfully represent a Kingdom without constant recourse to the capital city of his nation. No prayer warrior can



represent heaven on earth without constant visits to the Throne Room of the Most High!

Genesis 2:15 (KJV) *15 And the Lord God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.*

Let this truth sink into us that we are planted in the earth realm to 'dress it and keep it'. This means we cannot be indifferent to things happening in our immediate environment, within our loops of influence and anywhere on the face of this planet. We cannot assume that anything does not concern us. If we truly understand our **Genesis 1:26-28 and Genesis 2:15** mandate, we will surely seek to know the will of Abba in ALL things so we can align our will and prayers with same!



Psalm 115:16 (KJV) 16 The heaven, even the heavens, are the Lord's: but the earth hath he given to the children of men.

This scripture establishes with finality, that the earth realm is given to humans to manage! We may not have political, economic, social, or financial power as humans count such. But if we understand and walk in our spiritual standing as Legal Ambassadors of the Most High who created the earth and dare to constantly seek His will and purpose in everything and pray accordingly, He will simply use us to re-direct the course of life and natural events on earth!

From the day that Yeshua, Jesus was conceived in the womb of Mary, heaven invaded the earth realm. The prophecy of the



Seed of the woman Who would crush the head of Satan was activated to be fulfilled on Calvary when Yeshua, Jesus pronounced with finality 'It is finished'! Mankind is the legal assign of Yahweh to manage and rule the affairs of the earth. That legal right was stolen by the Devil through subtlety when he deceived Adam and Eve in **Genesis 3**. At the Cross, Yeshua, Jesus broke that legal right Satan plucked off man and restored us to pre-eminence in Yeshua, Jesus. In teaching us how to pray, Yeshua made the will of The Father a fulcrum:

Matthew 6:10 (KJV) 10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

As long as our lives are under submission to *confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask*



Abba and as long as His Word is our will, we will pray prayers that are after His heart, and we will receive His positive response.

1 John 5:14-15 (KJV) 14 And this is the anything according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

In a real sense, those who truly pray act as spiritual mid-wives who posture to know and bring to pass the counsel of the Most High in the earth realm! In prayer, we do not try to dump a wish list on a tight-fisted, impersonal 'God' but come to the fountain of wisdom, helps the infirmities of saints for two reasons. The first is that our finite minds may not always



intelligence, and knowledge. He knows exactly what is best for us and has a pre-determined plan of when and how to release it. Aligning ourselves to his heart and frame of mind draws down His blessings! To this end, Holy Spirit comprehend the infinite mind of Yahweh. Secondly, on a day-today basis, saints may have allowed clutter and cares of this life to block their spiritual senses. Holy Spirit comes to our rescue at such times.

Romans 8:26-27 (KJV) *26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh*



intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

Implications of Prayer

1. To pray therefore is to exercise confidence and trust in Yahweh our Father and to rely wholly on His ability to take care of the issues we bring to Him!

Whatever therefore that keeps us away from communing consistently with Yahweh in prayer is actually part of the web of intrigue spun by Satan to make saints lose their precious axe head! It is time to recover the axe head and begin to grow our prayer life to the degree that we all – regardless of gender, age, race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status can literally demonstrate the Kingdom wherever we are on



planet earth! The Kingdom to which we are called is not in words but in power so much so that the word “impossible” should never feature in the lexicon of saints.

1 Corinthians 4:20 (KJV) 20 For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

This is serious business, saints: we must rise up from slumber and go forth as Ambassadors of the King of Kings with the trademark ability to call forth things that be not as if they were and see them manifested, because we dare to pray with importunity and unwavering faith. This is an inheritance from Abraham who secured the gift of righteousness or right standing with Yahweh by simply trusting Him and hanging on to His word of promise by prayer that is released in



unwavering faith!

Romans 4:16-22 (KJV) 16 Therefore it is of faith, that it might be by grace; to the end the promise might be sure to all the seed; not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Abraham; who is the father of us all, 17 (As it is written, I have made thee a father of many nations,) before him whom he believed, even God, who quickeneth the dead, and calleth those things which be not as though they were. 18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be. 19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sarah's



womb: 20 He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; 21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform. 22 And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness.

With this introduction, we are now ready to dig into deeper waters of this critical subject. A prayerless saint is a powerless saint. A praying saint will tap into the authority of King Yeshua, Jesus and activate the power of His Blood to attract divine intervention into natural issues in the earth realm. Heaven needs more of such people to bring back the fire into the cold pews and altars! Once prayer life of the Church is truly activated anywhere, Evangelism, Discipleship and other expressions of Kingdom



Church life can run smoothly! This is why Satan works overtime to quench the fire of prayers of Faith in the Body of Yeshua, Jesus on earth!

Assignment:

- 1. Define Prayer.*
- 2. Please explain the difference between Fixed Prayer at specific times and what it means to pray without ceasing.*
- 3. What is the linkage between Prayer, the Will of Elohim and functioning as Ambassadors of the Kingdom?*
- 4. Please summarise 3 other things you learnt from this introduction.*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 3: RELATIONSHIP IS KEY TO PRAYER

According to our working definition, Prayer is the act and lifestyle of communicating with Abba, our Father in heaven. Effective prayer is therefore a function of a real, lively relationship with Elohim which grants saints access to the Throne on the merit of the Blood shed by Yeshua, Jesus and the Authority of His Name.

John 15:16 (KJV) 16 *Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*



John 16:23-24 (KJV) 23 *And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.*

Hebrews 10:19-22 (KJV) 19 *Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*



Hebrews 4:15-16 (KJV) 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Those who walk in these realities as basis of their prayer life are sons of Elohim, neither male nor female, who know their identity in Yeshua and who He is in them. Those who cannot pray with knowledge of this relational consciousness and manifest lack of faith are those who go to church as inside buildings of brick and mortar on so called 'holy days' to perform religious rituals. They therefore live dry religious lives devoid of relational vibrancy. This is why they



operate in the four negative types of relationship with Elohim: Strangers, Unwilling slaves, Orphans and Babes. There is a prophetic context in which Yahweh, our heavenly Father instructed us to begin this study on Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare. Satan knows his time is coming to an end and is therefore unleashing the full capacity of evil on inhabitants of the earth.

Revelation 12:7-12 (KJV) 7 And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, 8 And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and



his angels were cast out with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of his Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down, which accused them before our God day and night. 11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death. 12 Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.

While he labours to keep unbelievers in blissful ignorance, Satan unleashes all manner of attacks against saints, seeking to make them



orders for each day and circumstance of life we stumble or fall permanently. In prayer, we learn the excellent Kingdom habit of regularly reporting for duty at the court of our King to commune with Him and receive marching face! It is also by prayer and spiritual warfare that we can engage and rout out Satan and his agents!

Components of Prayer

However, in order to pray effectively, it is important that 8 distinct but integrated components be present in our actions as part of a package:

1. Knowledge of the Will of Yahweh concerning the matter we want to pray for.



No saint is permitted to pray for anything outside the will of Yahweh. Emotion-driven desires fluctuate but the will of Yahweh is ever valid. The will of Yahweh is revealed through two principal avenues:

1.1. The Word of Scriptures

The Word is the express, revealed will of Abba with no shadow of turning. The word is inspired by Him and preserved in the Bible for our study.

Psalm 119:89 (KJV) 89 *Forever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven.*

Proverbs 30:5 (KJV) 5 *Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.*



Knowing the Word therefore implies knowledge of the will of Yahweh on a broad range of issues. That is why we are encouraged to study, meditate on, and apply the Word to everyday life. When the Word is made flesh in us, we have an internal compulsion to pray according to the will of Yahweh. If any thought or idea for prayer crosses our mind which is contrary to the Word or if our emotions are stirred to desire anything contrary to the word, Holy Spirit will not allow us to proceed to ask and our conscience will not be at peace. It makes sense therefore to diligently search the scriptures, base our desires and needs on what is written and steadfastly refuse anything which is contrary.



These scriptures reveal the vital necessity of the Word of Yahweh as basis of our Kingdom lives, including the context and content of our prayers:

Joshua 1:8 (KJV) *8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.*

Psalms 1:1-3 (KJV) *1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate*



words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

John 15:7 (KJV) 7 If ye abide in me, and my

Colossians 3:16 (KJV) 16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Let no man or woman deceive you with sweet words! Any desire that you have that is contrary



to express provisions of the Holy Scripture is unholy! It is called lust. Lust is a desire for what is not permitted by Yahweh.

2 Peter 1:4 (KJV) *4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.*

James 4:1-3 (KJV) *1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.*



1.2. Fresh revelation from Holy Spirit.

Holy Spirit is still speaking today, bringing forth the mind of Yahweh, our Father to His own people. We need to keep our lives fresh and wholesome so that Holy Spirit will find them fit as His dwelling place. When He is comfortably resident, the outcome is obvious: He guides us into all truth; reveals the mind of Yahweh to us and guides our decision-making processes.

John 16:13 (KJV) 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.



- He is able to quicken scriptures and turn general promises for all saints into specific divine plans for our lives.

- He ministers and speaks to us in various ways: an audible voice, prophecy, word of knowledge, word of wisdom, burdens laid on our hearts, impressions on our spirit man, a quickening or illumination of Scriptures or just the simple way of ordering our steps into the will of Yahweh, among many other ways.

Here is a principle of life: 'Thus says the Lord' cannot and should not contradict 'It is written'.



Let this be said with clarity: Holy Spirit does not speak of Himself but of Yeshua! He reveals to us the meaning of the written Word and brings illumination that aligns what we read with the mind of the Father. Neither through prophecy nor any other means through which He speaks will He contradict the written Word! Rhema does not contradict logos but rather clarifies it. As you get set to pray over anything, make sure that 'thus says the Lord' does not contradict 'it is written'. If there is a contradiction, know with certainty that the enemy is at work!

It is needful to remember that Satan accuses Yahweh before saints as shown with what happened with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden!

Genesis 3:1-7 (KJV) 1 Now the serpent was



more subtle than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? 2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: 3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. 4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: 5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. 6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. 7 And the



eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons.

If a Prophet therefore gives you a 'word' which contradicts The Word, know with certainty that he or she is not speaking from Yahweh but from the flesh or a backslidden spirit! Understanding the specific ways, the Holy Spirit ministers to you is essential to true spiritual growth and a victorious Kingdom life where all things are possible. He is the voice of Yeshua, our King and Saviour! If we cultivate an intimate communion with Him, we will always hear the voice of Yeshua, Jesus!

John 10:27 (KJV) *27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:*



In summary therefore, to pray according to the will of Yahweh is to be certain that the blessings asked for are already granted!

1 John 5:14-15 (KJV) *14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

In effect, the highest ideal of the redeemed is to be used of Him to birth the will of Yahweh in the earth realm. Yeshua exemplified this lifestyle:

John 4:34 (KJV) *34 Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.*



John 5:30 (KJV) 30 *I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.*

John 6:38 (KJV) 38 *For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.*

We should emulate His example and enter the realm of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit where we do not expend our prayer lives asking for bread and butter or things which catch our fancy but rather, we want His desires to be our desires.

Romans 14:17-18 (KJV) 17 *For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness,*



and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost. 18 For he that in these things serveth Christ is acceptable to God, and approved of men.

By doing this, we become mature sons that the world awaits the manifestation of, with our highest ideal being simply to see His will come to pass. This will be our desire regardless of whether it is convenient to us or not. All we want is for His Kingdom to come!

Matthew 6:10 (KJV) *10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.*

Romans 8:18-23 *explains a principle: as vessels, who occupies our heart will invariably drive our lives.*



2. Understanding the Nature and Power of Yahweh that inspires Trust and Confidence in Him. The truth is that you simply cannot pray with certainty unless you first come to an understanding of Who Elohim is and the awesomeness of His power to do all things and answer as it pleases Him!

Hebrews 11:6 (KJV) *6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.*

To pray effectively therefore, we must settle it in our hearts that we are coming to a Supreme God, Who alone is Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omni benevolent and All Merciful! This inspires us to trust Him wholly and bring



our causes with confidence to His Throne of Grace.

Proverbs 3:5-7 (KJV) *5 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. 7 Be not wise in thine own eyes: fear the Lord, and depart from evil.*

Jeremiah 32:27 (KJV) *27 Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?*

Jeremiah 33:2-3 (KJV) *2 Thus saith the Lord the maker thereof, the Lord that formed it, to establish it; the Lord is his name; 3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and show thee great*



and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

The Lord wants us to pray with confidence to Him as a caring Father and the Supreme ruler of the universe Who created and orders it. Those who are unable to grasp this reality about Him often end up in religion of rituals and empty words. This is why a great number of believers are today suffering the effects of oppression of Satan and attacks of his assigned demons, unable to push back. They end up unfulfilled, lacking the health and resources to fulfil their assignments and destiny. The Lord wants to break that tendency.

3. A Release of Faith in what we are assured by His Word and Holy Spirit is His will for us.

Faith is specific, quantifiable receiving in our spirit-man and mind, the things we desire of the



Lord based on a prior apprehension of what He has desired for us. The manifestation of answers to prayer generally follows a prior tangible receipt of those things with the eye of faith.

Hebrews 11:1 (KJV) *1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

In the Kingdom, whatever is not of faith is sin as written in **Romans 14:23**. It is our duty therefore to overcome wavering and double mindedness and hold on to what we have received as ours by the Word and ministration of Holy Spirit. The Word warns against doubt and double mindedness in prayer.



James 1:5-8 (KJV) *5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

Throughout His earthly ministry, one thing was clear: Yeshua, Jesus placed a great premium on the faith of those who came to Him to receive what they desired. In **Mark 11:22–24** we are told that prayer and faith are two wings of miracle creating action.



4. Accept Yahweh's invitation to Pray!

It is interesting that the Ruler of the whole earth beckons us to come and pray. He wants us to pray all kinds of prayer appropriate for all situations. He invites us in very clear language to make our relationship and communion with Him and His perspectives the hub on which everything about our lives and circumstances revolve! This is an awesome privilege which the redeemed of the Lord should not shun in any way. Yeshua is seated on the Throne of Grace as our High Priest, inviting us to come boldly by authority of His Name to receive all that the Father has for us.

Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV) *14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast*



our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 10:19-22 (KJV) *19 Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.*



*In **Jeremiah 33:1-3**, Yahweh introduced Himself to Prophet Jeremiah and also us. He calls on us to pray and receive answers beyond the scope of what we asked for! The following scripture makes this clear:*

Ephesians 3:20 (KJV) *20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,*

In **Jeremiah 32:27**, He asks the question “is anything too hard for me?” In this scripture below, we see that fervent prayers are the key to secure our destinies:



Jeremiah 29:11-13 (KJV) 11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 12 Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Assignment:

1. What did you understand about correlation between quality of relationship we have with Elohim and our strength in prayer? How many types of relationship were discussed?
2. Please summarise the 4 Components of Prayer.
3. What new thing did you learn that you will apply in your prayer life?



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 4: COMPONENTS OF PRAYER

(PART 2)

In the previous chapter, we considered 4 components which make prayer complete. In this lesson, we will dwell on the other components.

5. Importunity in Prayer

In **Matthew 7:7, 8**, King Yeshua, Jesus calls on us to ASK; SEEK and KNOCK! To illustrate the seriousness of the divine perspective, Jesus in **Luke 11:5-10 and Luke 18:1-8** exhorts us to a life of importunity in prayers of faith where we do not give up until manifestation of the promises! Yeshua, Jesus Himself exhorts us to remain in steadfast faith until the breakthrough



of what we need from our heavenly Father comes through. This is the grace to continue praying until the result that conforms to will of the Most High is manifested. Many times, the enemy may try to weaken our faith or ability to hang on to what the Most High said. Those who are easily discouraged may be swayed by various reasons Satan will bring to imply that Yahweh is not interested in answering certain prayers. It is important to emulate Abraham just as he did with the promise of Isaac. Scripture is very clear that we are to emulate Abraham in matters of faith!

Isaiah 51:1-2 (KJV) 1 Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the Lord: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged.



2 Look unto Abraham your father, and unto Sarah that bare you: for I called him alone, and blessed him, and increased him.

King Yeshua Himself emphasised importunity in prayers. Let us consider the import of the story Yeshua, Jesus told of the person who needed favour from his friend because of an urgent need at midnight:

Luke 11:5-13 ((KJV) *5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. 8 I say unto you,*



Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Let us also examine the case of the widow who



refused to take no for an answer from the unjust Judge:

Luke 18:1-8 (KJV) *1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint; 2 Saying, There was in a city a judge, which feared not God, neither regarded man: 3 And there was a widow in that city; and she came unto him, saying, Avenge me of mine adversary. 4 And he would not for a while: but afterward he said within himself, Though I fear not God, nor regard man; 5 Yet because this widow troubleth me, I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me. 6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unjust judge saith. 7 And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them? 8 I tell you that he will*



avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth? It is obvious that Yahweh expects us to never give up on any matter we bring to Him that does not contradict His will and nature”.

1 John 5:14-15 (KJV) *14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.*

He who called us commends prayer in and with faith on a pedestal of righteousness as the principal means of receiving all that pertains to life and godliness which is part of our rich inheritance in Him! Pray what you believe and



mean; and believe and mean what you pray! In this regard, we need to grasp an essential core of true prayers: Pray what you believe and believe what you pray! In other words, pray what you truly mean and mean what you truly pray! Hang in there, as long as it is in the will of Yahweh and leave the issue of timing of manifestation to Him because His sense of timing is not the same as ours!

Mark 11:22-24 (KJV) 22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto



you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

James 4:1-4 (KJV) *1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. 4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.*

Saints, we have no excuse to spend our



productive hours in unproductive activities which weary soul and body – social media platforms chatting, texting, speaking on phone, complaining, gossiping, office and church politics, stoking tension in the home, watching TV, video games, and reading newspapers for disproportionate periods of time daily while there are mountains that confront us which need to be moved. Yahweh expressly invites us to cast all our cares on Him.

1 Peter 5:7 (KJV) *7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*

Dare to remove clutter from your life and make your time with Abba the central spindle or hub around which everything else rotates. Give Abba our heavenly Father quality time to cultivate an intimate relationship with Him in:



prayer, study of the Word, meditation, petition, and intercession and see how great changes will come! Build your prayer life on your constitution. If you are an early bird, don't change that nature. By all means go to bed early and wake up early like Jesus did.

Mark 1:35 (KJV) 35 *And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.*

If you are one who stays up late, free yourself of unproductive activities by 9.00pm and spend quality time thanking Yahweh for the day as well as possessing the incoming one. If you are able to possess the gate of 12 midnight, by all means do so, provided you will not be knocked out in the morning. Yahweh receives your prayers according to how He made you!



We have examined five components so far. Let us continue to press forward and receive the full measure of the mind of Yahweh which He wants to release to us as members of His family on earth and Ambassadors of His eternal Kingdom. The ministry of prayer, when executed in understanding and by Faith, equips us with the spiritual capacity to fulfil destiny on earth in intimacy with our Father and arms us for effective wars that Satan will challenge us to at periodic intervals. As no one knows when he will strike next, it makes sense to heed the admonition given by Peter and be ever ready!

1 Peter 5:8-9 (KJV) *8 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: 9 Whom resist steadfast in the faith,*



knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.

6. Express Gratitude to Yahweh even as you pray in faith, trusting Him to deliver.

Because we walk by faith and not by sight, we are able to receive things in the Spirit, knowing assuredly that manifestation is coming in due season.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (KJV) 7 *(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)*

For this reason, as we pray, according to His will, assurance of answers received should move us from requesting to thanksgiving mode.



Philippians 4:6-7 (KJV) 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (KJV) 16 Rejoice evermore. 17 Pray without ceasing. 18 In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Practice of this principle will take our faith to a whole new level.

Whenever we make the transition in our hearts from desiring to receive what we asked for in the spirit, we have the sure evidence of faith (***Hebrews 11:1***).



Mark 11:22-24 (KJV) 22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

7. Receiving Answers

Prayer is incomplete until the answers are manifest. It may be immediate, or it may take time. However, one thing is clear: one day, what we asked for will be made manifest! Praying without expecting answers is engagement in



dead religious works! Come off religion and get into the Kingdom life where our prayers are powerful and effectual as were those of saints of old who walked with Yahweh. Consider the prayer life of Elijah, a man of like passions.

James 5:17-18 (KJV) *17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.*

For this reason, the true Church must come into its own heritage which is the manifestation of the Kingdom of God in all situations.

James 5:13-15 (KJV) *13 Is any among you afflicted? let him pray. Is any merry?*



*let him sing psalms. 14 Is any sick among you?
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: 15 And the prayer of faith
shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him
up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be
forgiven him.*

One may ask, what happens to prayers that seem unanswered? The answer is simple: such prayers are gathered like incense in the vials that are before the Throne of Grace awaiting the maturation of time!

Revelation 5:8 (KJV) *8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of*



odours, which are the prayers of saints (See also Revelation 8:3-4).

8. Ascribing all the Glory to Yahweh

No matter how much we pray, it is essential that we do not touch the glory of Yahweh by claiming credit for the miracles. Ultimately, it is the Lord who is the author and finisher of all the miracles we desire and receive! Let us therefore learn to give Him unrestrained praise out of grateful hearts.

Psalm 103:1-6 (KJV) 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name. 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: 3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; 4 Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who



crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies; 5 Who satisfieth thy mouth with good things; so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. 6 The Lord executeth righteousness and judgment for all that are oppressed. Many times, prayer warriors and intercessors inadvertently claim credit for the miracles they prayed for. The result is that they heap up a reputation for being men and women of prayer on themselves with weaker brethren looking up to them, rather than Yahweh for blessings. The reality is that such reputation is enough reward and will cause Yahweh to back off.

Matthew 6:5-8 (KJV) 5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be



seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Even fivefold leaders and ministers generally must go out of the way to train the people they lead to cultivate an independent prayer life rather than make them their hope. John the Baptist knew that Yeshua, rather than himself was the Bridegroom to whom the Church is



betrothed. He therefore gladly pointed his disciples to Yeshua and gladly took the back seat!

And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth, and all men come to him. 27 John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. 28 Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. 29 He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. 30 He must increase, but I must decrease. 31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and



*speaketh of the earth: he that cometh from heaven is above all. 32 And what he hath seen and heard, that he testifieth; and no man receiveth his testimony. 33 He that hath received his testimony hath set to his seal that God is true. 34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him. 35 The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand. 36 He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him. **John 3:26-36 (KJV)***

May we do likewise, or else idolatry will set in when the people we lead see us and our prayers as the solution to their problems. Testimonies of answered prayers should be



profusely shared for four main reasons:

1. That all glory may go to the Most High who intervened on our behalf.
2. Remembrance of His Mighty acts strengthens the faith of saints and increases their confidence in Him and themselves.
3. Testimonies of divine intervention shame the Devil and beat back the frontiers of fear, darkness, and doubt!
4. Testimonies are also great tools Yahweh uses to soften the hearts of sinners and make them ready to receive His saving grace by faith



Assignment:

- 1. What did you understand about correlation between quality of relationship we have with Elohim and strength in prayer? How many types of relationship were discussed?*
- 2. What new thing did you learn that you will apply in your prayer life?*
- 3. Please summarise any 4 of the Components of Prayer.*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 5: INQUIRY PRAYER AND PRAYING IN THE SPIRIT

As we continue to mine the depths of this critical topic, it is needful that we take a little time to be challenged on two dimensions of prayer which will change us for good and equip us with the capacity to pray with certainty. If we grasp the concepts to be discussed in this Chapter and practice them to excellence, there will be no more wearing out of ourselves through praying in a 'hit and miss', fashion. We will rather hit the mark always and enjoy our times of encounter with the Supreme Ruler of the universe who wants to exercise His Authority through and with us as Ambassadors of the Kingdom of heaven in the earth realm!



Part A. Inquiry

Where we do not have an idea of what the will of Yahweh is, the right thing to do is to go into inquiry mode. In inquiry prayer, we desist from clutching at any position or opinion. Rather, we come before our heavenly Father in a childlike manner to ask what His will is. If we cultivate the habit of hearing and knowing His voice, He will speak expressly, and we will hear it. There are three pathways to achieve excellence in this regard.

1. The first is developing an attitude of making the will of our heavenly Father, the fulcrum of our lives, just as Yeshua did.
2. Practically speaking, this calls for an attitude of waiting on the Lord until He gives specific direction concerning the direction we need to go.



*Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. **Isaiah 40:30-31 (KJV)***

*Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord. **Psalms 27:14 (KJV)***

Wait on the Lord, and keep his way, and he shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.

Psalms 37:34 (KJV)

Let not them that wait on thee, O Lord God of hosts, be ashamed for my sake: let not those



*that seek thee be confounded for my sake, O God of Israel. **Psalm 69:6 (KJV)***

Say not thou, I will recompense evil; but wait on the Lord, and he shall save thee.

Proverbs 20:22 (KJV)

3. Furthermore, we need to develop an intimacy of relationship with Elohim which enables us to walk in knowledge of His voice, according to the specific ways He speaks to us. In this regard, the Lord desires that we recognise His voice so that we do not give room for the enemy or flesh to deceive us.

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me. 26 But ye



believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you. 27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

John 10:25-27 (KJV)

Case Study: David

David was a man who Yahweh approved greatly. Part of the reason He found favour with Yahweh is, we believe, his constant tendency to inquire of Him whenever he was between two directions, thus avoiding presumption and supposition which could be deadly. The life of David teaches us an important principle of inquiry prayers: never take His will for granted and never rely on an old pattern of what He said or how He responded when faced with a fresh challenge or assignment. Let us examine a passage where David faced two problems and



in each case was saved because He inquired from Yahweh and did not trust his own judgement or intuition. In these last days when Satan would let loose the full arsenal of evil at his disposal, we must learn the great safety in being in the centre of the will of our heavenly Father in all things, including prayer!

Then they told David, saying, Behold, the Philistines fight against Keilah, and they rob the threshingfloors. 2 Therefore David enquired of the Lord, saying, Shall I go and smite these Philistines? And the Lord said unto David, Go, and smite the Philistines, and save Keilah. 3 And David's men said unto him, Behold, we be afraid here in Judah: how much more then if we come to Keilah against the armies of the Philistines? 4 Then David enquired of the Lord



yet again. And the Lord answered him and said, Arise, go down to Keilah; for I will deliver the Philistines into thine hand. 5 So David and his men went to Keilah, and fought with the Philistines, and brought away their cattle, and smote them with a great slaughter. So David saved the inhabitants of Keilah.

1 Samuel 23:1-5 (KJV)

Even though he was a very successful warrior in his own right and commander of an indomitable army of fiercely loyal troops, David did not just proceed presumptuously to fight the Philistines. He needed a word from Yahweh. Once He heard the word of Yahweh, he acted promptly and gained victory. It is also interesting as we shall see in verses 7-13 of the same passage that when Saul came to besiege



the same city of Keilah that was saved by his intervention, David did not assume their gratitude and loyalty. He inquired of Yahweh if he would be betrayed by the same people he saved. Once Yahweh signalled the truth, David immediately fled, thus saving himself unnecessary trouble.

And it came to pass, when Abiathar the son of Ahimelech fled to David to Keilah, that he came down with an ephod in his hand. 7 And it was told Saul that David was come to Keilah. And Saul said, God hath delivered him into mine hand; for he is shut in, by entering into a town that hath gates and bars. 8 And Saul called all the people together to war, to go down to Keilah, to besiege David and his men. 9 And David knew that Saul secretly practised



mischievous against him; and he said to Abiathar the priest, Bring hither the ephod. 10 Then said David, O Lord God of Israel, thy servant hath certainly heard that Saul seeketh to come to Keilah, to destroy the city for my sake. 11 Will the men of Keilah deliver me up into his hand? will Saul come down, as thy servant hath heard? O Lord God of Israel, I beseech thee, tell thy servant. And the Lord said, He will come down. 12 Then said David, Will the men of Keilah deliver me and my men into the hand of Saul? And the Lord said, They will deliver thee up. 13 Then David and his men, which were about six hundred, arose and departed out of Keilah, and went whithersoever they could go. And it was told Saul that David was escaped from Keilah; and he forbore to go forth.

1 Samuel 23:6-13 (KJV)



Let us also read another account of how one of the most accomplished military Commanders to walk on earth responded to an emergency situation which involved the carrying away into captivity of his own household. Ego and anger could have driven David to act rashly but he had the presence of mind to inquire from Yahweh which way to go.

And it came to pass, when David and his men were come to Ziklag on the third day, that the Amalekites had invaded the south, and Ziklag, and smitten Ziklag, and burned it with fire; 2 And had taken the women captives, that were therein: they slew not any, either great or small, but carried them away, and went on their way. 3 So David and his men came to the city, and, behold, it was burned with fire; and their wives,



and their sons, and their daughters, were taken captives. 4 Then David and the people that were with him lifted up their voice and wept, until they had no more power to weep. 5 And David's two wives were taken captives, Ahinoam the Jezreelitess, and Abigail the wife of Nabal the Carmelite. 6 And David was greatly distressed; for the people spake of stoning him, because the soul of all the people was grieved, every man for his sons and for his daughters: but David encouraged himself in the Lord his God. 7 And David said to Abiathar the priest, Ahimelech's son, I pray thee, bring me hither the ephod. And Abiathar brought thither the ephod to David. 8 And David enquired at the Lord, saying, Shall I pursue after this troop? shall I overtake them? And he answered him, Pursue: for thou shalt surely overtake them, and



without fail recover all. 9 So David went, he and the six hundred men that were with him, and came to the brook Besor, where those that were left behind stayed. **1 Samuel 30:1-9 (KJV)**

To pray inquiry prayers sincerely, our heart disposition must first be that of willingness to obey, no matter what Yahweh says. You cannot pray inquiry prayer with an existing idol of your preferred answer in the heart, otherwise, Yahweh will answer you according to what you want! In other words, He will not say anything but allow you to be deceived by your own deceptive heart!

*With the merciful thou wilt shew thyself merciful;
with an upright man thou wilt shew thyself
upright; 26 With the pure thou wilt shew thyself*



pure; and with the froward thou wilt shew thyself froward. **Psalm 18:25-26 (KJV)**

This principle is further amplified in an encounter Prophet Ezekiel had with elders of Israel who came to him, supposedly to inquire of Yahweh but had their hearts and minds stuffed with their own agendas. Yahweh is very emphatic that He would allow such people to be deceived and caught in their own craftiness.

Then came certain of the elders of Israel unto me, and sat before me. 2 And the word of the Lord came unto me, saying, 3 Son of man, these men have set up their idols in their heart, and put the stumblingblock of their iniquity before their face: should I be enquired of at all by them? 4 Therefore speak unto them, and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord God; Every man



of the house of Israel that setteth up his idols in his heart, and putteth the stumblingblock of his iniquity before his face, and cometh to the prophet; I the Lord will answer him that cometh according to the multitude of his idols; 5 That I may take the house of Israel in their own heart, because they are all estranged from me through their idols. **Ezekiel 14:1-5 (KJV)**

In this matter of inquiry prayer, our best example again is our King and Savior, Yeshua Ha Mashiach, Jesus the Messiah! He clearly divested Himself of the ability to think independently of the Father and by doing so, learnt obedience by the things He suffered (**Hebrews 5:8**).

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will



of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 4:34 (KJV)

*I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. **John 5:30 (KJV)***

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 6:38 (KJV)

A classic example of this lifestyle was the issue of Calvary when the time was due for the for Yeshua to pay the ultimate price of death on the Cross. At Gethsemane, we see Yeshua in His humanity commit the ultimate decision of whether to go forward or not to the Father.



Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. 37 And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. 40 And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What, could ye not watch with me one hour? 41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. 42 He



went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.

43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45 Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46 Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me.

Matthew 26:36-46 (KJV)



It is important that those who form the habit of reading and applying instructions on prayer and spiritual warfare based on the experience of mere human beings, no matter how mightily used of God they may seem with prayers that are documented as prayer books or manuals, to realize that they can be easily led astray. It is far better to understand the Scriptures and have them made flesh in us so that when we are faced with peculiar challenges, no matter how similar to our past, the Holy Spirit alone becomes a reliable compass to interpret the whole counsel of Yahweh already deposited in our spirit and soul to chart the way forward. Let us therefore build our faith on the Word and the Holy Spirit rather than on the opinions of mere mortals! If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father,



and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

John 14:15-18 (KJV)

These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. 26 But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 14:25-26 (KJV)

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye



cannot bear them now. 13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

John 16:12-13 (KJV)

Part B: Praying in the Spirit

Far more significant than inquiry prayer is the sweet practice of praying in the Spirit. This is not necessarily the effusion of fleshly display found in many Pentecostal and Charismatic circles where people try to show off their skills by publicly speaking in tongues, drawing gaping admiration and ignorant applause from those who are not mature in the faith! Unfortunately, such actions also create a negative image for the Church which turns off many sinners as



1 Corinthians 14 reveals. If we are willing, and open, Holy Spirit undertakes the serious assignment, when we yield completely to Him, to take over the exercise of praying from us! This is what is referred to as praying in the Spirit. Here, the Holy Spirit – who knows the mind of the Father on the Throne of Grace – comes upon the yielded saint in earnest prayer mode, borrows the vocal cord and brings forth prayer in unlearned tongues which ascends with express speed to Yahweh and receives His speedy response. That is the point made in these two scriptures.

For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. 1 Corinthians 14:2 (KJV)



*He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church. **1 Corinthians 14:4 (KJV)***

For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

1 Corinthians 14:14 (KJV)

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.
*27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 8:26-27 (KJV).***

This is why we must reject the praying in



tongues that proceeds from the human memory which is marked by repetition of certain syllables and words every time saints purport to flow in this blessed experience. True praying in tongues is an original and creative release of prayers inspired by the Holy Spirit who cannot be monotonous. The Holy Spirit may also choose to bring forth the words of prayer in deep groaning that cannot be uttered. We also pray in the Spirit when we forgo our agendas, let go and surrender our entire wills to the Holy Spirit to lead us on as to what to ask for. In this state, we are so sensitive to His promptings that we do not exceed the circumference of the prayers He charts for us! He thus ministers to us what we need to ask for in prayer.



Major Benefits of Praying in the Spirit

1. In this dimension of prayer, we are able to bypass satanic opposition because he and his agents have no idea what we are praying since Holy Spirit is the one involved in the act!

2. Our spirit-man is greatly built up when we truly pray in the Spirit.

But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Jude 1:20 (KJV)

3. Our mind and physical body is not wearied but rather refreshed. There is no tiredness because the prayer is not done by might or by the power of the flesh or exertion of the mind and will which are engaged when forming words and logic in natural prayer.



Let us receive these insights on praying in the Spirit from the Course on The Holy Spirit of Elohim – Who He Is and What He Does:

1. Tongues are not the same but vary in scope. Some are tongues of humans (language) while others are of heavenly origin such as those spoken by the angels.

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

1 Corinthians 13:1

2. Tongues are given to enable saints to pray more effectively and efficiently without intrusion of the soul (mind, will and emotion). In this way, prayer is pure, devoid of fleshly motives and align perfectly with the will of Elohim.



*For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries. **1 Corinthians 14:2***

3.As our Advocate and Comforter, the Holy Spirit helps saints to pray the perfect will of Elohim when tired, weary or mentally drained, He takes over and grants us utterance to pray in tongues. He often does so at the end of our human ability.

Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.²⁷ And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because



he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 8:26-27**

4. Praying in tongues edifies the spirit-man of saints to develop the right level of strength to rule over the flesh (soul and body).

He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church **1 Corinthians 14:4**

5. Praying in the spirit builds up the spiritual muscle of saints, enabling them to be stronger in facing life issues. The act of speaking in tongues builds up the spirit-man so that it functions above the capacity of the soul and body.

20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on



your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,²¹ Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. **Jude 20-21**

6. Praying in the Spirit is not exclusive to praying in tongues. It can include prayer that is specifically directed by the Holy Spirit. It can also include silent prayer where our spirit-man communes with the Holy Spirit without words. The only sound may be groanings.

Likewise, the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Romans 8:26



Oh, that we may learn to give way to the Holy Spirit! Then He will simply bypass our minds, the seat of reasoning and simply speak through our tongues. No wonder there is such a refreshing, peace, and joy whenever we truly pray in the Spirit.

Assignment:

- 1. What is Inquiry Prayer? Please share any 3 things you learnt on it*
- 2. What is praying in the Spirit? In what way is praying in the Spirit an effective way of communicating with the Father.*
- 3. Share any 3 other things you learnt from this chapter.*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 6: THE BIG 6 OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER

This is a very practical course with a clear objective to transform our prayer lives and empower us to exercise dominion in the earth realm just as Elohim intended in Genesis 1:26-29. For that reason, we approach the subject matter through various angles. Each chapter therefore delivers a unit of truth which empowers us to walk in victory. In this chapter, we will learn the 6 core factors that cohere to make prayers effective. They work together to create the synergy we need to produce desired outcomes:



1. Right Relationship with Yahweh is basis of effective prayer

A right relationship with Elohim is the basis on which we are able to approach Him in the first place. In His mercy, Yahweh can respond and does respond to the needs of people in distress, including sinners. In real terms however, the very first need of those outside His family and Kingdom is to come into right relationship with Him which is offered freely through the blood Shed by Yeshua, Jesus at the Cross of Calvary. This is why the most meaningful prayer a sinner should pray is for grace to recognise how odious sin is and to therefore repent and be converted.

Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of



refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. Acts 3:19 (KJV)

When Holy Spirit mediates this process, the sinner is able to recognise the need for Yeshua as Saviour, embrace His finished work on the Cross and becomes a new creature for whom the gift of righteousness and justification brings forth a brand-new creature.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

*Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
2 By whom also we have access by faith into*



*this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. **Romans 5:1-2 (KJV)***

When people become members of the family of Elohim and His kingdom, His grace makes them averse to sin and willing to grow in righteousness. Knowing how destructive sin is, the saints have no desire to go back to their vomit.

For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. 21 For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment



delivered unto them.22 But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

2 Peter 2:20-22 (KJV)

To claim to be saved and still indulge in sin as a habit and lifestyle is to make the grace of God of no effect.

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. 2 Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 3 And every man that



hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. 4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. 5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. 6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. 7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 10 In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil:



whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother.

1 John 3:1-10 (KJV)

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? 2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? 3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. 5 For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: 6 Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. 7 For



he that is dead is freed from sin. 8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him: 9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him. 10 For in that he died, he died unto sin once: but in that he liveth, he liveth unto God. 11 Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. 12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. 14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace. 15 What then? shall we sin,



because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. 16 Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? **Romans 6:1-16 (KJV)**

For those who are part of the family of Yahweh, here is what His word says about coming to Him presumptuously: *If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:*

Psalms 66:18 (KJV)

He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)



2. Right Relationship with other humans is critical for effective Prayer

*Coming to Yahweh to ask for any blessing that is not based on a right relationship with Him or fellow humans will only produce a religious ritual. This is why **Hebrews 12:14** urges us to follow peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. We may not be able to dictate how fellow human beings will act towards us, but the Word enjoins us to do as much as lies within us to live peaceably with all men. If they pursue the path of enmity with us, we should diligently guard our hearts and ensure that no root of bitterness takes hold, so that we are not defiled.*

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:



*15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; **Hebrews 12:14-15 (KJV)***

*Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not. **Romans 12:14 (KJV)***

*Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. 19 Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20 Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21 Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good. **Romans 12:17-21 (KJV)***



*Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? 2 He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. 3 He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour. 4 In whose eyes a vile person is contemned; but he honoureth them that fear the Lord. He that sweareth to his own hurt, and changeth not. 5 He that putteth not out his money to usury, nor taketh reward against the innocent. He that doeth these things shall never be moved. **Psalm 15:1-5 (KJV)***

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn



deceitfully. 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. 6 This is the generation of them that seek him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Selah.

Psalm 24:3-6 (KJV)

*Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. **Matthew 5:8 (KJV)***

In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother. 11 For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another. 12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous. 13 Marvel not, my brethren, if the



*world hate you. 14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. 15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him. 16 Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. 17 But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? 18 My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. **1 John 3:10-18 (KJV)***

The Kingdom Church is designed to be a holy family of Elohim, the very Body and Bride of



Yeshua in the earth realm. The community spirit of unity, which is held together by the glue of love/charity is not optional. We are truly better, together! The truth is that claiming to love Elohim is insufficient when there is no love of the brethren. And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him. 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked. 7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.



8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth. 9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. . 10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him. 11 But he that hateth his brother is in darkness, and walketh in darkness, and knoweth not whither he goeth, because that darkness hath blinded his eyes.

1 John 2:3-11 (KJV)

If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? 21 And this commandment have we from him,



That he who loveth God love his brother also.

1 John 4:20-21 (KJV)

Saints who love their brethren and forgive those who offend them have the right legal ground to access the Throne of Grace and obtain their desires which are consistent with the will of Elohim. Regarding the connection between loving, and forgiving brethren relative to our relationship with Elohim which leads to answers to prayer let us examine some scriptures.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. 14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if



ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:12-15 (KJV)

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. 25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father



which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Mark 11:22-26 (KJV), Ephesians 4:32 (KJV)

32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

See that none render evil for evil unto any man; but ever follow that which is good, both among yourselves, and to all men.

1 Thessalonians 5:15 (KJV)

(The Video for this lesson, titled as Chapter 7 was split into 2 here)

3. Knowledge of the Will of Yahweh

Let us remember that prayer is an instrument of relationship with Yahweh as Father. Yeshua postured as an obedient, submissive son Who trusted the Father so much that all He sought



was to do His will.

Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

John 4:34 (KJV)

*I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. **John 5:30 (KJV)***

For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me.

John 6:38 (KJV)

That is why He was very effective in the arena of prayer and spiritual warfare. The will of Yahweh is crucial in prayer because asking



outside His will is merely wearying of our souls, tasking our bodies, and vexing of our spirits. Yahweh has a personality and will. Therefore, it makes great sense to know His will concerning all that we should ask.

*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. **Matthew 6:10 (KJV)***

14 And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

1 John 5:14-15 (KJV)

Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that



begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

1 John 5:1-3 (KJV)

4. Knowledge of the Word

The Word of Yahweh is a reliable storehouse of His will. The Scriptures are essentially a documentation of His will for mankind generally and the redeemed in particular. Studying and meditating on the Word is an extraordinarily healthy spiritual exercise that provides grounds on which to walk in tandem with Yahweh.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and



is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (KJV)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

Colossians 3:16 (KJV)



Anyone who desires to succeed in the ministry of prayer should do well to study, meditate upon and approach Elohim based on what the word says before asking anything.

*This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success. **Joshua 1:8 (KJV)***

Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And



*he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. **Psalm 1:1-3 (KJV)***

The saint who knows and pray within framework of the Word will not hit and miss in prayer but will rather be right on the mark, always! To seek knowledge and understanding of the Word of Elohim creates the right environment for true relationship with Elohim.

Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord. 2 Blessed are they that keep his testimonies, and that seek him with the whole heart. 3 They also do no iniquity: they walk in his ways. 4 Thou hast commanded us to keep thy precepts diligently.



5 O that my ways were directed to keep thy statutes! 6 Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all thy commandments. 7 I will praise thee with uprightness of heart, when I shall have learned thy righteous judgments. 8 I will keep thy statutes: O forsake me not utterly. 9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word. 10 With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments. 11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Psalm 119:1-11 (KJV)

5. Faith. Faith is active reliance on the Word of Yahweh.

It is the grasping on His Word as true and



certain, even when there is nothing physically manifested. The attitude of faith is this

“If it is in the Word, then I receive it” and, if God said or says it, I believe it”. The heroes of faith all had one central thread which ran through their lives: they lived by faith in Yahweh and His word regardless of what their senses suggested. In this, they fulfilled a vital law of the Spirit expressed in this short but powerful passage:

(For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

2 Corinthians 5:7 (KJV)

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report. 3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by



the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. 4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. 5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God. 6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Hebrews 11:1-6 (KJV)

Paul the apostle was to clarify this factor as a vital fulcrum on which his incredible ministry



was based and for which he suffered incredible opposition and pain:

For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day. 17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory; 18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

2 Corinthians 4:16-18 (KJV)

Interestingly, our faith is increased with hearing and studying of the will of Yahweh in His Word.

*So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. **Romans 10:17 (KJV)***



Faith is not the exercise of mere positive confession. It is rather standing on the sure promises of God as true and reliable.

6. Prayer

Prayer brings all the five factors above together. In prayer therefore, we come with a penitent heart to Yahweh by the way of the Blood, receiving mercy and grace to rely on His sure Word. Standing on His received will, we ask in faith and hang in there before Him in importunity until we receive that which He says is ours!

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;



21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:19-23 (KJV)

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

Matthew 7:7-8 (KJV)

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. 23 For verily I say unto you, That



whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. 24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Mark 11:22-24 (KJV)

What do you do when you do not know what to do?

Just pray, seeking to know what Yahweh is saying in the situation; His will in and through it. Those who rush to respond to challenges often end up relying on their own strength which is dangerous. Elohim wants us to always depend upon Him. Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the



man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord.

6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. 7 Blessed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, and whose hope the Lord is. 8 For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

Jeremiah 17:5-8 (KJV)

To depend upon Him alone requires us to trust Him completely and wait upon His word of direction and divine intervention.



For evildoers shall be cut off: but those that wait upon the Lord, they shall inherit the earth.

Psalm 37:9 (KJV)

*Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31 But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint. **Isaiah 40:30-31 (KJV)***

Those who live in this way have their minds constantly stayed on the Lord.

In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks. 2 Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in. 3 Thou wilt keep him in



perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee:

*4 Trust ye in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord
Jehovah is everlasting strength:*

Isaiah 26:1-4 (KJV)

*If we allow the principle in **Colossians 3:1-3** to
be real in us and get lost in Yahweh, He takes
over all our battles and we rest in His divine
providence!*

*If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things
which are above, where Christ sitteth on the
right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things
above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are
dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.*

Colossians 3:1-3 (KJV)

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to



*the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. **Colossians 3:15 (KJV)***

It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle. 2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi. 3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. 4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord. 5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the



house of the Lord, before the new court, 6 And said, O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? 7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? 8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, 9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help. 10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel



invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not; 11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. 12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee. 13 And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. 14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation; 15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be



not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. 17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you. 18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. 19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high. 20 And they rose early in the morning,



and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever. 22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. 23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end



of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another. 24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. 25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much. 26 And on the fourth day they assembled themselves in the valley of Berachah; for there they blessed the Lord: therefore the name of the same place was called, The valley of Berachah, unto this day.

2 Chronicles 20:1-26 (KJV)



Last word: Pray only what you mean and mean what you pray! Pray according to your Faith! Do not pray for praying sake or to fulfil all righteousness but because you truly believe that Elohim can give what you desire of Him!

Assignment:

- 1. Please summarize any 4 of the 6 things we studied today.*
- 2. What other things are you personally taking away from the chapter?*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 7: THE BIG 6 OF EFFECTIVE PRAYER

In this lesson, we will take an immersive look at the Yeshua, Jesus School of Prayer. Let us start with an interesting account in this passage:

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.

Luke 11:1 (KJV)

We see the disciples make a request to Yeshua, Jesus, to teach them how to pray just as John taught His own disciples. Knowing that what they desired of Him was right and proper,



He proceeded to lay out a framework of how saints should pray effectively. He was by no means telling them a ritual to recite or a religious box to be trapped in. The focus of Yeshua, Jesus rather was to show His disciples, by practical illustration, the things which matter in the lives of saints which they need the Father's grace and help to deal with. His pattern of prayer illustrated clearly one of the key principles of the Kingdom: that a man's life does not and should not consist in the abundance of goods accumulated nor should man live by bread alone.

Thus, it is needful to examine what is now called the Lord's Prayer in detail to see the point He was making and the way He wanted His saints to think outside the box of cares of



this life. To do justice to this prayer, we shall break down and examine all the constituent parts therein from the lenses of the man who was the assigned biographer of Yeshua, Matthew the former revenue officer.

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking. 8 Be not ye



*therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. 10 Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen. 14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. **Matthew 6:5-15 (KJV)***

The 3 Broad Divisions of the Prayer Pattern

Part A. Verses 5-6: Let us note that Yeshua



was not dealing with congregational prayers in this teaching but the Kingdom culture lifestyle of individual saints who need to communicate regularly with our heavenly Father. In other words, Yeshua was clear that private Prayer should be private indeed. There is no need to seek to impress other people with our prayer life. To try to have a reputation of praying power with humans is to receive your reward from them. This is a meaningless mindset and attitude because the human ego, rather than Elohim is the one that is ministered to when it receives applause of men in prayer.

Part B. Verses 7-8: The word used is 'when you pray', not 'if you pray' which means we are expected to be invested in the Kingdom business of prayer. Yeshua warned against



praying with a religious mindset. This is one which is ritualistic where prayer consists of chanting certain words from the lips rather than the heart at Elohim. He advocates a situation where prayer is preceded by a realisation of the awesomeness of Elohim Who already knows all about us and our need. As a good Father, He is more than willing to grant those things which we truly need. We should approach Him with Faith in His providence and benevolence. If that is the case, there is no need engaging in vain repetitions which simply weary both us and Him.

Part C. He was teaching us a Pattern. He was not telling us the specifics of what to say but rather providing a strategic Pattern to follow so that all key issues will be covered in our



prayers. Let us take note of this vital key that unlocks what Yeshua was saying in

Matthew 6:9:

“After this manner therefore pray ye”.

In contemporary language, He was saying ‘Let this be a model or pattern of what to cover in prayer’. Orthodox groups which make people to recite this prayer without understanding that it is a pattern lead the people into deeper realms of religion.

The 8 Components parts of the model prayer pattern

1. Our Father in Heaven Matthew 6:9(b)

This speaks of relationship. He who comes to Yahweh must understand that we are called to a life of relationship with Him. We are not called



into a dead religious system which relates with a cold, distant uncaring 'God'. Though He is The Supreme Being, we are called to a personal relationship with Yahweh based on the blood that was shed by Yeshua, Jesus. In Him, divinity became humanity so that sinful mankind can be restored back to the glory lost when Adam and Eve lost their first estate in Eden. If you are redeemed by the blood therefore, your Father beckons you to come boldly to His Throne by the way of the Blood. We have express access to Him.

For as much then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 And deliver them who through fear



of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. 16 For verily he took not on him the nature of angels; but he took on him the seed of Abraham. 17 Wherefore in all things it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in *things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people.* 18 *For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted.*

Hebrews 2:14-18 (KJV)

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God; 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in



full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

Hebrews 10:19-23 (KJV)

The Concept of Family: You are not just invited to come. It is also significant to note that the model did not teach us to say, 'my Father' but 'our Father'. This introduces the concept of Family! We are part of one Family of Yahweh on earth! When we approach Him, selfishness must give way to the overall interest of the collective good! As a member of His family, Abba asks us to come in faith and trust to Him as the El Shaddai Who is the All Sufficient One with capacity to meet all the needs of all His



children. Yahweh says if earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children, how much more would He who is the Father of lights bless His own?

Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you : 8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 9 Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? 11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

Matthew 7:7-11 (KJV)



In prayer, we communicate with our heavenly Father in the Name of Yeshua, by the leading/inspiration and power of the Holy Spirit!

2. Hallowed be Your Name Matthew 6:9 (c)

We commence prayer in reverence of Elohim. Replacement theology has so distorted the mindset of saints that they have forgotten that we do not serve a distant, unknown God with no name. The term 'God' is a generic description of the Supreme Being various people groups of the world worship. Our God has Names that are holy and powerful! He revealed Himself to Moses as The I Am Who I Am otherwise known as Yahweh (YHWH). He is The El Shaddai or All Sufficient One. He is Jehovah Rapha the Great Healer. The best description of the Triune Godhead is Elohim. Our Saviour was given



some specific Names by His Father such as Yeshua (Yahweh's Salvation) and Emmanuel (God with us). It is at the Name of Yeshua; every knee shall bow. We lose nothing but gain all when we intentionally call upon and exalt the holy Names of Elohim as part of Adoration and Worship. We need to develop the holy habit of learning how to exalt His Holy Name before asking Him to meet any of our needs. That we have the privilege of Him as Father should in no way detract from our approaching Him with an attitude of worship and humility. Furthermore,

3. Thy Kingdom come Matthew 6:10 (a)

Here Yeshua, Jesus is asking us to align ourselves with the ultimate purpose of Yahweh which is to finally consummate His Kingdom on earth one day. The Kingdom at this present



time is in the realm of the hearts of the redeemed (Kingdom Within/Now). All who have enthroned Him as King make up one universal Kingdom of priests and kings called the Kingdom Nation (**1 Peter 2:9-12**). The Manifest Kingdom otherwise called Kingdom to come is what will be instituted worldwide on a day and at an hour which no one knows.

This is the day Yeshua, The King of Kings and Lord of Lords will return to finally establish the the fullness of the Kingdom. We must constantly live in remembrance of the fact that this event will surely happen. Knowing that the world will not enjoy Peace and Joy until that time, our attitude should be, like John: 'Lord Yeshua, Jesus, come quickly'!

(Revelation 22:20, 21)



Of the fullness of that blessed Kingdom which will take over from the kingdoms of this world at their expiration as noted in Daniel Chapter 2, let us note that it will be personally ruled by King Yeshua, Jesus with no room for Satan and powers of evil (**Revelation 20:1-6**).

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever. **Revelation 11:15 (KJV)**

To participate in the Kingdom to come, we need to submit to the rulership of Yeshua, in the present. Yeshua in us is the hope of glory.



4. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6:10 (b)

This is the heart of this model prayer. The highest ideal of the redeemed is to see a shifting that will cause every authority and person in the earth realm to be wholly submitted to the will and purpose of Yahweh. The will of Yahweh is thus the dwelling place of the saints! If it is so, saints who pray must deliver themselves of the error that we are to impose our wills on Yahweh and expect His acquiescence. If that is so, saints in effect enthrone their self-nature as 'god'!

To pray this prayer in good conscience is to simply posture our hearts and minds in such a way that Yeshua, Jesus reigns as Sovereign, determining by the Holy Spirit and the Word,



what we desire or ask of Abba. In effect, our attitude in prayer is that of spiritual 'mid-wives' who are set to align with Abba for the birthing of His will in all circumstances of life, no matter what the five senses suggest to them. It is in this posture of abiding in Yeshua and allowing Him to abide in us that real mountain moving prayers of faith can truly take place because we are then one with the Almighty concerning any matter! **(John 15:1-7)** This posture enables us to be sensitive to know and pray His will, not what the five senses or emotions suggest.

And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: 15 And if we know that he hear us,



whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

1 John 5:14-15 (KJV)

5. Give us this day, our daily bread.

Matthew 6:11

Deep down in the body of the model prayer, only one verse and line is focused on our daily needs. The Yeshua model and the pattern encourages us depend wholly on Elohim who guarantees provision of our daily needs. We therefore ask for those needs as they come daily. There is no room in the Kingdom for covetousness over so many things or worrying over cares of this life. We are called to have absolute trust in Yahweh as a loving, caring Father. The economic principle was first enunciated in the wilderness when Moses



commanded Israel to fetch enough manna and quail for the day. Those who had much more than they needed invariably gave to those who had less so that there was equality. Those who tried to take more than was needed for the day discovered to their dismay that they became maggots, in the morning. The lesson here is this: In the Kingdom, Yahweh has enough for all our needs but not enough for our greed! He is calling on His own to get into the Kingdom economic model which requires us to focus on the Kingdom and its righteousness, trusting our heavenly Father to provide all that we need.

Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put



on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after



all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Matthew 6:25-34 (KJV)

The redeemed were not designed to chase after things. Things are rather ordained to chase after us.

But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.



But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (KJV)

It is strange therefore that 'so called' poster men of the Kingdom message in the Western world are simply men and women who have craftily used the sneak peek they claim to receive into the Kingdom to pile up ungodly wealth for generations unborn; men and women who charge exorbitant fees for highly condensed superstar appearances called Kingdom conferences and price their so-called



revelations of the Kingdom in books and tapes out of the reach of ordinary saints! Yahweh, have mercy!

6. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. *Matthew 6:12*

Here is a simple two-edged sword. We normally desire to have any debts and sins we incur forgiven. In the same measure, Yahweh requires us to have a heart which freely forgives any offence inflicted by other people. You cannot approach Him for mercy when you refuse to show mercy to people

(Ephesians 4:28-32).

Even in matters of finances and other debts owed us, we are called upon to release people from yokes of debts which they cannot repay.



The principle of Jubilee is not just an Old Testament construct

(Leviticus 25:1-38 Deuteronomy 15:6).

The hardness of heart with which believers pursue their debtors is amazing! We ought to give some people the jubilee treatment!

Let us let them off the hook and write off those debts. As they breathe the air of freedom, so shall the joy of the Lord flood our hearts. In every situation where we obeyed Elohim and did this, there were amazing visitations of financial breakthrough and more importantly, a great peace and joy in our hearts! Try it saints, it works!



7. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from the evil one. Matthew 6:13 (a)

Here Jesus wants us to realize that Satan is a present threat to the earthly pilgrimage of the redeemed. To deny the reality, power and craftiness of Satan is to walk in denial. If Satan could tempt Jesus sorely and dogged His steps till He hung on the old rugged cross, so shall he seek to tempt us out of the will of Yahweh. Yeshua, Jesus wants us also to walk in the understanding that Abba has all the power to order the affairs of His creation. On the basis of this, He wants us to recognize that though temptation can be very devastating, the best defence is to proactively ask Yahweh to deliver us from situations that may lead to falling away from Him. In 2 Thessalonians 3:2 we are also asked to pray for deliverance from wicked and



ungodly human beings who have no faith. This pray is a sign of real humility that we recognise the frailty of the human nature and depend on Elohim to maintain our walk with Him and overcome temptations.

8. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and Glory, Amen Matthew 6: 13.(b).

Yeshua wants us to recognize that Yahweh is not a hard task master who will save us and leave us to our own devices. He has established the present dimension of the Kingdom in our hearts. The Kingdom will be fully manifest as global governance by Yeshua, Jesus Christ from His Throne in Jerusalem in due course of time and we must yearn for it and pray about the time of full manifestation. All the power and glory are ascribable unto Him. Saints



should walk in a 24/7 consciousness of this reality. It is interesting that Yeshua began the model prayer with exalting the name of our heavenly Father and ends it with a similar theme. We need to emulate Him.

Assignment:

- 1. Please summarise any 6 of the 8 components of the Model Prayer Pattern King Yeshua, Jesus instituted.*
- 2. What other things are you personally taking away from the chapter?*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 8: HINDRANCES TO PRAYER

WHICH WE NEED TO OVERCOME (PART 1)

One thing that should be obvious to many saints is that getting into a consistent, productive prayer life often seems to be quite a struggle. The reason is that various forces work together to create all manner of hindrances and blockages. Knowledge of these hindrances and rejecting them will make us effective in the ministry of prayer and spiritual warfare. Let us examine 18 hindrances that confront most believers.

1. Satanic Opposition

We have a cunning adversary who knows that



prayer is the vital tool with which saints can unleash the authority of the Name of Yeshua, Jesus and Power of the Blood against Him

(Revelation 12:10-11; Philippians 2:5-11).

He also knows that it is through prayer that what was purchased for saints at Calvary is possessed, in spite of his antics. If he can get saints busy with a thousand and one seemingly justifiable activities which limit their capacity to pray or hinder their prayer lives, he has a chance to prevent them from fulfilling their destinies and the Great Commission. He knows that prayerless saints cannot occupy for Yeshua, Jesus! For this reason, Satan often dispatches his demonic army to hinder the prayer lives of saints.

Solution: We need to know what we are up



against in the unseen realm of the spirit so that we can persist in prayer until breakthroughs are achieved, in spite of Satanic opposition as Daniel modelled in **Daniel 10:1-13**. Satanic powers are real! We also overcome Satan through various tools of spiritual warfare that will be outlined in a later chapter ***(Ephesians 6:12)***.

2. The flesh of man

which is the combination of his soul and body. The flesh has a natural tendency to love what is easy and convenient. The soul is the realm of the mind (including the imagination and memory), the will and the emotions (which is seat of attitudes).



The soul is the realm of expression of our humanity, our preferences, likes and dislikes. It is the engine room which when cluttered by so many non-essentials, causes little foxes to roam the unguarded vineyard! The flesh then becomes weak when it comes to the holy estate of prayer. Even Jesus in His humanity acknowledged this truth as He wrestled with the unpleasant cup of death at the Garden of Gethsemane **(See *Matthew 26:36-45, especially verse 41*)**. The motion of the soul is an active realm of life which often gets in the way of faith and prayer. Consider these realities: it is the realm where thoughts wander, where inconvenient desires and even vivid solicitations of sin can flash when a weak believer is in prayer. It is the realm that wants to gather its thoughts and frame the prayer



requests in beautiful language which ends up causing more weariness. . It is also the realm where ought against fellow saints and other people are stored in the memory and emotion. The soul trusts itself more than Elohim.

*Thus saith the Lord; Cursed be the man that trusteth in man, and maketh flesh his arm, and whose heart departeth from the Lord. 6 For he shall be like the heath in the desert, and shall not see when good cometh; but shall inhabit the parched places in the wilderness, in a salt land and not inhabited. **Jeremiah 17:5-6 (KJV)***

When the mind and emotions drive prayer, it is often to ends that are contrary to the express will of Elohim. For they that are after the flesh do mind the



*things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. **Romans 8:5-8***

Solution: We need to die to self and be crucified with Yeshua as Galatians 2:20 says. Elohim demands death of the self-nature so that Holy Spirit will drive the spirit-man which will in turn lead the being of saints. It is then that we can surrender to the Holy Spirit to drive our prayer lives.



3. Sin

Those who are redeemed by the Blood have a default setting of righteousness and holiness so that they can walk intimately in relationship with a Holy Father.

But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

1 Peter 1:15 (KJV)

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. 5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin. 6 Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. 7 Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous,



even as he is righteous. 8 He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. 9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.

1 John 3:4-9 (KJV)

As they love righteousness and hate iniquity, just like Yeshua (**Hebrews 1:9**), they are able to see and transact with their heavenly Father.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Matthew 5:6 (KJV)

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God. Matthew 5:8 (KJV)



Sin breaks relationship with Elohim. All acts of sin are, in practice, breaking of His commandments. Any day, any time, unconfessed and unrepented sin will hinder prayers. If a believer lives in sin, the truth is that the heavens above will be closed. Whoever can pray freely in spite of sin unrepented of, is a hypocrite, unfortunately deceiving none else but him or herself.

*Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in his holy place? 4 He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. 5 He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. **Psalms 24:3-5 (KJV)***



If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me **Psalms 66:18(KJV)**

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination.

Proverbs 28:9

13 He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy. **Proverbs 28:13 (KJV)**

And when ye spread forth your hands, I will hide mine eyes from you: yea, when ye make many prayers, I will not hear: your hands are full of blood. **Isaiah 1:15 (KJV)**

Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it



cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. 4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. 6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their



*thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace. 9 Therefore is judgment far from us, neither doth justice overtake us: we wait for light, but behold obscurity; for brightness, but we walk in darkness. **Isaiah 59:1-9 (KJV)***

Solution: A tender heart which is sensitive to the glory of Elohim is what will make a saint to receive conviction of Sin from Holy Spirit. When properly responded to, the saint who committed sin of any type is expected to run towards and not away from Yahweh in penitence and receive His abundant mercy. Repentance restores our relationship with Elohim and breaks the flow of sin.



*If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth: 7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin. 8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. **1 John 1:6-10 (KJV)***

*My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: 2 And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world. **1 John 2:1-2 (KJV)***



4. Unforgiving Spirit.

Yahweh loves equity. He Who forgives sins and debts we owe requires us to willingly do likewise to fellow men. Whoever hardens his heart and refuses to forgive fellow humans denies him or herself the privilege of access to the Throne of Grace and Mercy.

Solution: It is in our best interests to forgive those who offend us and to guard our hearts from becoming evil due to bitterness, spirit of vengeance and all sorts of negativity.

Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Matthew 5:23-24 (KJV)



43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

*44 But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; 45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same? 47 And if ye salute your brethren only, what do ye more than others? do not even the publicans so? 48 Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. **Matthew 5:43-48 (KJV)***



*And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. **Matthew 6:12 (KJV)***

For if ye forgive men their trespasses your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Matthew 6:14-15 (KJV)

*And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses. 26 But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses. **Mark 11:25-26 (KJV)***

Colossians 3:12-13 (KJV) 12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of



mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; 13 Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye. Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: 15 Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled; 16 Lest there be any fornicator, or profane person, as Esau, who for one morsel of meat sold his birthright.

Hebrews 12:14-16(KJV) Matthew 18: 21–35 and Ephesians 4: 26-27 & 31-32.

5. Disobedience of the Word of Yahweh or His revealed will.

Going to Yahweh to ask afresh when you are



living in active disobedience to His word or His expressly revealed will is abominable in His sight. Yahweh requires you to do the first works: obey what He has already spoken so that you will have access to His throne. Whoever will hear and refuse to do the will of Yahweh is in an active state of rebellion.

*And Samuel said, Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. 23 For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry. Because thou hast rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king. **1 Samuel 15:22-23 (KJV)***



Solution: *The Lord wants our hearts to be inclined to know and obey His commandments – whether convenient or not.*

If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love. 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full. 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

John 15:10-14 (KJV)

20 For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things.



21 Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. 22 And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.

1 John 3:20-22 (KJV)

Yahweh is inclined to those who obey Him

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.

1 Peter 3:12 (KJV)

6. Family dysfunction.

There is a divine order in marriage which when maintained by the saints, causes the home to be an oasis of love and care. Where the man is



the covering over his wife and children, paying the price to receive what they need to meet their needs with the wife a real helpmeet, pillar of support and encourager, there is a connection with the authority of Yeshua to whom the man is subject.

When on the other hand, a woman pursues a life of rebellion against the authority of her husband, the heavens above the couple can close. In the same vein, where a man oppresses and treats his wife despicably, withholds from providing for her wellbeing, his conduct can release a negative force which closes up the heavens. The result is that the couple struggles and may not walk in favour with Yahweh.



Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered. **1 Peter 3:7 (KJV)**

Dysfunction also occurs when children rebel against the authority of the parents and veer into the world and sin. This can create an an atmosphere of a covering cast over the prayers of the family.

Solution: It is in the best interests of saints to travail before Yahweh to seek healing of their dysfunctional marriages. The individual who will discern this and be willing to pay the price in terms of being the fool for the sake of the Lord and healing of the dysfunction is the more spiritual of ***Galatians 6:1-2***.



This could be the wise man or woman or even child. Ultimately, each marriage should reflect the picture of Yeshua and His Church which is graphically outlined in

Ephesians 5:21-33, Colossians 3:18-25, Ephesians 6:1-4, Malachi 2:13-17.

7. Misuse of Authority and rebellion of workers in the Market Place. There are two dimension of this:

pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in a day of slaughter. 6 Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you.

James 5:1-6 (KJV)



7.b. On the other hand, Christian employees who do wrong, steal or do not put in their best into their work are actually raising spiritual forces which will hinder their prayers. Though they labour ceaselessly, the blessings of Elohim may be withheld. If they make money by unrighteous means, they heap up to themselves divine displeasure which can manifest in future when they may not be aware.

Let as many servants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honour, that the name of God and his doctrine be not blasphemed. 2 And they that have believing masters, let them not despise them, because they are brethren; but rather do them service, because they are faithful and beloved,



partakers of the benefit. These things teach and exhort. 3 If any man teach otherwise, and consent not to wholesome words, even the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the doctrine which is according to godliness; 4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings, 5 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself.

1 Timothy 6:1-5 (KJV)

Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. 19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 20 For what glory is



*it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God. 21 For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps: **1 Peter 2:18-21 (KJV)***

Part 2 continues in the next lesson

Assignment:

- 1. Please summarise any 4 of the 7 hindrances of Prayer*
- 2. What other things are you personally taking away from the chapter?*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 9: HINDRANCES TO PRAYER WHICH WE NEED TO OVERCOME (PART 2)

As part of our holistic approach to all issues in the Gospel of the Kingdom, we began to receive a biblically sound presentation of prayer not just as an act but more importantly, a way of life for those who are citizens of the Kingdom. In the previous lesson, we examined 7 potential hindrances to prayer. We will examine 10 more in this lesson.

5. Covetousness and Idolatry.

A covetous heart will not hear from Yahweh because it is a terrible form of idolatry. Covetousness includes the love of money



*or possessions. A lusting after things will block our ability to hear and know the real will of Yahweh (**Ezekiel 14:1-3**).*

Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Colossians 3:5 (KJV)

But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil:



which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (KJV)

*According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. 2 **Peter 1:3-4***

6. Impure Motives.

This includes asking for things out of pride, spirit of strife, competition with others or plain love of the world. They hinder prayers because



impure motives put off the Lord! The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?10 I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings.

Jeremiah 17:9-10

*From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. **James 4:1-3 (KJV)***

Love not the world, neither the things that are in



the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV)

Solution: Get deliverance from impure motives by fresh encounter with the Lord Who sanctifies the heart and mind. When He searches us, He should find the purity which attracts Him to answer our prayers.

7. Unbelief and Anxiety

These two hinder prayers to a great degree. Unbelief is lack of trust in Yahweh and His



goodness and therefore a Satan inspired accusation against Him. And when he was come into his own country, he taught them in their synagogue, insomuch that they were astonished, and said, Whence hath this man this wisdom, and these mighty works? 55 Is not this the carpenter's son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas? 56 And his sisters, are they not all with us? Whence then hath this man all these things? 57 And they were offended in him. But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, save in his own country, and in his own house. 58 And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

Matthew 13:54-58 (KJV)



Anxiety over what we prayed for represents a spirit of distrust. Anxiety is like planting seed and uprooting same each day to see if it has sprouted and borne fruit. It cannot workl.

Solution: Saints need to recognise that unbelief is the sin of mistrusting God and repent from the depths of their hearts.

If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.

James 1:5-7 (KJV)



Elohim says we should shun anxiety and rather have hearts full of expectation.

*Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.⁷ And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. **Philippians 4:6-7***

8.Confusion

This is a state of not knowing what one really wants from Yahweh. There are many who come to Elohim without definite purpose because of the spirit of confusion.

Solution: If one is tender hearted and tells Yahweh sincerely of the confusion, the Holy



Spirit can take over and intercede according to the perfect will of the Father.

*Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God. **Romans 8:26-27 (KJV)***

What do you do when you do not know what to do? Stop consideration of all options, wait on the Lord and do nothing until He gives clear directions on the way forward. An excellent case study if the encounter of King Jehoshaphat with the three war like nations of



Moab Amon and Mount Seir in

2 Chronicles chapter 20.

9. Wrong Priority

When saints are filled with the cares of this life and subjugate the Kingdom to same, they develop a wrong perspective which manifests as wrong priorities. This grieves Yahweh because it runs contrary to the elementary principles of the Kingdom enunciated in the Sermon on the Mount.

Solution: The way to overcome is to change direction: begin to seek first the Kingdom and His righteousness, trusting the Lord that He will take care of all our needs.

Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth,



where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also. 22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. 23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! 24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. 25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your



body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?



32 *(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:)* for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. 34 Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Matthew 6:19-34 (KJV)

10. Familiarity tendencies and Bypassing the Authority of the Name of Yeshua, Jesus.

He is our only valid legal ground of praying effectively.

Solution: Our Prayers are directed essentially to the Father, on the merit of and through the Name of Yeshua, Jesus and by the power or prompting of the Holy Spirit. When we



reverentially approach the Father in the Name of Yeshua, it puts Him squarely in the picture and activates His Heavenly intercession.

*And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you. 24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full. **John 16:23-24 (KJV)***

Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. 15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. 16 Let us therefore come boldly



unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV).

11. Self-Righteousness, Pride, Hypocrisy

Prayer emanating from this negative lifestyle or attitude stinks in the nostrils of Elohim..

And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Matthew 6:5 (KJV)

Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with



himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. 12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. 13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. 14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

Luke 18:10-15 (KJV)

Refusal to abide in Yeshua and in the Word. It is by abiding in Him that there is surety that we are in the Faith! We are not to switch off Him even for a moment or to look away to other 'gods' including self-strength!



Solution: Let us avoid the tendency to run to Elohim only when under pressure for certain miracles or blessings. We need to abide in Yeshua and let His Word abide in us.

I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. 2 Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. 3 Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you. 4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. 5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing. 6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast



forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned. 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

John 15:1-7 (KJV)

15. A Stingy spirit and absence of compassion for the needy.

Saints who are hard hearted, unloving, and uncaring contradict the very nature of Yahweh Who is love! Because Yahweh is in heaven, He desires to meet the needs of poor brethren through caring saints here on earth.

Solution: The Lord wants us to realise that we, His children, are called to be channels through which He blesses others! We need to accept to



be His River of living water, not brackish ponds that have no outlets and become filthy! Armed with compassionate hearts and generous disposition, we become conduits through which the Lord blesses those in need as unto Him. In time and in eternity, there are rewards for such saints.

Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.

Luke 6:38 (KJV)

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. 7 Every



man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: 9 (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. 10 Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) 11 Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God.

2 Corinthians 9:6-11 (KJV)

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he



sit upon the throne of his glory: 32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: 33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. 34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and



*clothed thee? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. **Matthew 25:31-40 (KJV)***

16. A Wrong concept of Yahweh due to Culture or religion.

In many cultures, the operating concept of Fatherhood is an angry, fierce man who bellows threats and curses his children constantly. Any saint who has this fixed image may not be able to see and approach Yahweh as a loving, caring Father. To compound this situation, many Christian religious sects foster this strange picture of a distant, impersonal 'god' who is ever angry at humans. Consequently,



their members may not be able to approach Yahweh with the right perspective of Who He really is. This can hinder prayers because it is an unfair accusation against Yahweh and also makes of none effect the Blood that was shed at the Cross!

Solution: We need to grow to the place where our relationship with the Lord is such as we see and approach Him as a loving Father Who is more than willing to answer our prayers and bless us with what we need.

17. Disregard of Holy Spirit.

All saints are indwelt by Holy Spirit who is the seal of our redemption! Due to religious concepts that are not true, some Christians deny Holy Spirit a place in running of their lives.



This affects their ability to pray. They labour in the flesh when they refuse to accept the ministry of the Helper from heaven!

(John 7:38-39, John 14:26, John 16:13-15, Romans 8:15, 26-27, 1 Corinthians 2:10-12 Ephesians 2:18, Jude 20).

Solution: As children of Yahweh, we need to recognise the Person of Holy Spirit and incline our hearts to cooperate with Him. He alone can show us the particular hindrances to prayer at work in our lives. Laying hold of the promises of Yahweh, especially the power of repentance, we can rend our hearts and obtain His mercy.

As saints we must learn the concept of justification. Any time a saint genuinely repents of any sin, Yahweh does not just forgive



*but also wipes the slate clean with the blood of the Lamb! Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy. 19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. 20 Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old. **Micah 7:18-20 (KJV)***

Hebrews 10:16-17 (KJV) 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no



more. When this happens, we are justified and stand before Him as one who never sinned because He no longer has record of what the Blood of Yeshua, Jesus, blotted away! To refuse to repent of any sin, no matter how 'tiny' is to inflict the worst wound on oneself! This is why Yahweh calls us to let go and allow Him to take over our prayer life. The greatest antidote to prayerlessness is to walk in the fullness and overflow of the Holy Spirit Who knows the mind of The Father and knows when He can use our weak vessels to pray great prayers!

Assignment:

1. Please summarise any 7 out of the 10 hindrances to prayer outlined in this chapter.



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 10: DEEPER DIMENSIONS

Before we proceed into the realms of Fasting and Spiritual Warfare where our Father will unfold deep mysteries that will equip us for the time that now is, it is needful that we conclude the section on Prayer with some reflections.

A. Hallowing the Name of Elohim

The first is the fact that our King and model, Yeshua Mashiach taught us to pray 'Hallowed be Your Name'. This raises the very critical issue that the Name of our Father is to be 'hallowed' or made 'sacred' and 'honorable'! Is it then not implied that He has a Name and is not just a generic 'God'?



In this, we who live in these last days must discern the extraordinary damage Babylon tried to do to our esteem of our Father in Heaven when it took away His Holy Name and replaced it with a generic title which, the gods of the nations and religions of this world can appropriate!

It certainly was not an accident that in seeking to foster a new religion that was designed to replace Judaism, everything Hebraic was tossed down the drain: a case of throwing away the proverbial baby with the bath water. The degree of anti-Semitism with which Babylon promoted its brand of 'Christian Religion' shows how 'effective' it has been, enfolding nearly over 1.8 billion people on earth who are supposedly named by the Name not of Yeshua Ha



Mashiach but of Jesus Christ yet lack the power of the New Creation in Him and clear translation from the kingdom of darkness to the Blessed Kingdom of Yahweh in Him!

Unfortunately for humanity which has embraced this mysterious religious construct of men with its opiate properties, no one on earth can successfully wish away the Election of Abraham and his progeny through Isaac and Jacob as the blood line Yahweh chose, first to be His appointed Kingdom of Priests to nations of the world and secondly, to manifest the Incarnate Yeshua in due season through whom His universal family on earth will be birthed – neither Jew nor Gentile! Romans chapters 9,10 and 11 need to be read, understood and believed so that we can escape the snare of



anti-Semitism. Yahweh has not cast away Israel permanently! The next agenda of His dealing with humanity will focus intensely on Hebrews and their spiritual and physical redemption! Of all the things that became victims of this invidious 'replacement theology' the greatest was the taking out of the Holy Name of Yahweh which out of reverence is spelled by the Jews as YHWH and the compound name of the Creator, Elohim! The second is the taking away of the name which He Who was incarnated as the Lamb was called when He walked this earth: Yehoshua or Yeshua (Yahweh's Salvation)

Look at it this way: Yeshua taught us to start our prayers by hallowing the name of Yahweh. In so doing, He wanted saints to be



conscious of His Fatherhood, thus invoking a relationship which should be the basis of all else we are to say. By failing in this simple rule, saints, no matter how well intentioned, have been led onto a path which 'potentially' (mark the phrase) alienates our God to whom we are supposed to come. Is this possibly one of the reasons many saints burn out in the soul and body, not experiencing answered prayers or the transformation of character, attitude, and perspectives you expect from those who purport to have intimacy which derives from constant access to the Throne of Grace? Ultimately, no one can or should decide for us how to respond to this revelation of what Matthew 6:9 says. But as for this vessel of clay, the decision is fixed: we will call Yahweh by His name and pray that it will be hallowed in the heart and mind of the



redeemed! Let the earth also hallow His Holy Name as the events of the end times unfold as clearly stated in the Holy Scriptures!

B. Seek His Heart and Face, not His Hands!

The Father beckons on His Sons to emulate the man who had access to His Presence when all else worshipped from afar. even Moses. Of this man, the Scriptures bear this eloquent testimony:

He made known his ways unto Moses, his acts unto the children of Israel. ***Psalm 103:7 (KJV)***

What was it about Moses that moved the heart of Yahweh to reveal His ways to him? As you all know, the ways of Yahweh are far higher than



His Acts. His acts are His miracles, His provisions, those things He does to encourage people to know He is at work for them. But Yahweh expects those who will receive the holy ministry of intercession to go beyond seeking proof that He is 'there' to celebrating the reality of His Presence.

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen. 2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.

Hebrews 11:1-2 (KJV)

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. ***Hebrews 11:6 (KJV)***



C. The New Covenant does not make room for selfishness or self-centredness, even in prayer.

Those who come to Elohim with selfish hearts tend to elevate their needs above His needs. In effect, their motivations, for becoming Christians is essentially to use Elohim to achieve their ambitions. This is a raw form of idolatry! Unfortunately, many believers have been programmed to see prayer as imposing their wills on Elohim, without consideration of His will. Verse 11 of this scripture is often quoted out of context to justify the anomaly.

Woe unto him that saith unto his father, What begetteth thou? or to the woman, What hast thou brought forth?¹¹ Thus saith the Lord, the Holy One of Israel, and his Maker, Ask me of



things to come concerning my sons, and concerning the work of my hands command ye me.¹² I have made the earth, and created man upon it: I, even my hands, have stretched out the heavens, and all their host have I commanded. ¹³ I have raised him up in in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build my city, and he shall let go my captives, not for price nor reward, saith the Lord of hosts.¹⁴ Thus saith the Lord, The labour of Egypt, and merchandise of Ethiopia and of the Sabeans, men of stature, shall come over unto thee, and they shall be thine: they shall come after thee; in chains they shall come over, and they shall fall down unto thee, they shall make supplication unto thee, saying, Surely God is in thee; and there is none else, there is no God.¹⁵ Verily thou art a God that hidest thyself, O God



of Israel, the Saviour.¹⁶ They shall be ashamed, and also confounded, all of them: they shall go to confusion together that are makers of idols. **Isaiah 45:10-16**

D. The Dimensions and Scope of Prayer

The scope of activities that are broadly termed as prayer is vast.

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;
Ephesians 6:18 (KJV)

1. Worship, Adoration – Exaltation of Elohim for Who He Is as The Supreme Being, Creator and Sustainer of the universe. In this dimension He is the focus of prayer as His glory is made manifest.



Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. ***Revelation 4:11 (KJV)***

Most of what musicians release as ‘worship’ is not really about Him but for attracting more adoring fans, increasing sales and popularity. Elohim is not fooled!

2. Praise and Thanksgiving – This is prayer to exalt Elohim for answered prayers as well as for the purpose of projection of our Faith that He will answer. People of Faith are exhorted to Praise Him in advance because we believe He will hear and answer. This attitude keeps our heart at peace.



4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. 5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. 6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. ***Philippians 4:4-7 (KJV)***

Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee. ***Isaiah 26:3 (KJV)***

3. Supplications – This is prayer backed by expressive attitude of reverence by way of kneeling, prostrating, or bending over as one is in earnest prayers.



4. Petitions – *In this dimension of prayer, we lay out needs to Elohim for divine intervention as in a law court, pleading a cause or causes. Here we remind Him of specific promises in the word which Holy Spirit illuminates or any word received prophetically concerning the matter we are praying for.*

Produce your cause, saith the Lord; bring forth your strong reasons, saith the King of Jacob.
Isaiah 41:21 (KJV)

5. Individual Prayer. At the individual level, each saint has awesome capacity, in deploying the authority of the Name of Yeshua to bind and loose which will be honoured by heaven

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and



upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.19 And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Matthew 16:18-19 (KJV)

Verily I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.. **Matthew 18:18(KJV)**

6. Prayer of Agreement. *When in alignment with one or two more saints in perfect agreement of faith, prayer secures extraordinary results. It is critical however that those who will pray prayers of agreement must truly agree!*



Again I say unto you, That if two of you shall agree on earth as touching any thing that they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them **Matthew 18:19-20**

Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

1 Corinthians 1:10

7. Intercession – *This is prayer on behalf of other people. When we mature beyond caring for our own needs and graduate to stand in the gap for needs of other people – who may be close or far.*



Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.

Jeremiah 5:1 (KJV)

And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.

Ezekiel 22:30 (KJV)

Assignment:

1. Please share 3 key things you personally received from this chapter.



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 11: ADDITIONAL DIMENSIONS AND SCOPE OF PRAYER

Let us discuss these additional dimensions of Prayer in the lives of saints.

A. An expression of humility and entire dependence on Elohim

The way it is presented in the Bible, everything we desire, plan and do should be preceded, undergirded, executed in and prayer and thereafter, sealed with prayer of thanksgiving. Prayer should not be an after thought or side issue but the central or main issue! The reason is that in real prayer, we do not just speak to Elohim



or dump our desires on Him but more importantly, He responds with direction, and affirmation or correction, and rebuke. To get into this interactive discuss is to ascend to the height of communion with our heavenly Father. Herein lies the key to safety in navigating the challenges of life in the earth realm with Him always with us, just as He promised:

Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

Matthew 28:20(b)

Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.⁶ So that we may boldly say, The Lord is



*my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me. **Hebrews 13:5-6***

Prayer is thus an expression of humility where we deem ourselves incapable of solving our problems. This leads us to trust Elohim so much that we cast all your care upon Him

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.⁸ Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

James 4:6-8

Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty



*hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
7 Casting all your care upon him; for he careth
for you. 1 Peter 5:6-7*

**B. Instrument of deliverance from carnality,
so that Sanctification and spiritual growth
and until the fruits are evident.**

The worst adversary we can ever face as Christians is the flesh (combination of the body and the soul (mind, memory, emotion and self will)). The greatest instrument of dealing with them is the Holy Spirit and the Word through the act of sanctification, to the intent that what was started at Salvation can be complete in terms of bearing the fruit of the Spirit as we abide in Yeshua.



*Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: **Philippians 1:6***

Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.¹³ For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.¹⁴ Do all things without murmurings and disputings:¹⁵ That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;¹⁶ Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

Philippians 2:12-16



*Abstain from all appearance of evil.²³ And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.²⁴ Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it. **1 Thessalonians 5:22-24***

*For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.¹³ Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do. **Hebrews 4:12-13***

Both the Holy Spirit and the Word require our



willing cooperation(to work out our salvation with fear and trembling). This is accomplished through earnest, persistent prayer which rejects all traces of sin, fleshly behaviour and manifestation of repulsive attitudes such as anger, unforgiveness and inability to embrace the command to love unconditionally. In these and other manifestations, we honestly report ourselves to Elohim, state our rejection of those undesirable manifestations of flesh and set our sight on the True North of the Kingdom, Yeshua Himself as our model.

19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders,



drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,²³ Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:19-23

*Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. **Hebrews 1:9***

Ultimately, it is through such prayers that the flesh is brought under subjection to the spirit-man which is then empowered as it is subject to the Holy Spirit.



*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.¹⁷ For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.¹⁸ But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. **Galatians 5: 16-18***

C. Through prayer, we are able to apprehend when Elohim allows a persistent challenge to be the instrument of catching our attention. He then releases grace for growth

It is not expedient for me doubtless to glory. I will come to visions and revelations of the Lord.² I knew a man in Christ above fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;) such an



one caught up to the third heaven.³ And I knew such a man, (whether in the body, or out of the body, I cannot tell: God knoweth;)⁴ How that he was caught up into paradise, and heard unspeakable words, which it is not lawful for a man to utter.⁵ Of such an one will I glory: yet of myself I will not glory, but in mine infirmities.⁶ For though I would desire to glory, I shall not be a fool; for I will say the truth: but now I forbear, say the truth: but now I forbear, lest any man should think of me above that which he seeth me to be, or that he heareth of me.

⁷ And lest I should be exalted above measure through the abundance of the revelations, there was given to me a thorn in the flesh, the messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I should be exalted above measure.⁸ For this thing I



besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me.⁹ And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.¹⁰ Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.

2 Corinthians 12:1-10

D. Standing in the gap for leaders, thrones, communities and nations

Saints are global citizens with responsibility for the whole earth realm as **Genesis 1:26-29**, **Genesis 2:15**, **Psalms 115:16** reveal. We need to recognise the reality that ultimately, it is Elohim



Who either raises up or allows/permits specific people to occupy specific political offices in order to ensure that the earth realm does not descend into chaos before the appointed time of divine judgement.

*Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:21 And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. **Daniel 2:20-22***

Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.2 Whosoever therefore



*resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation.³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same:⁴ For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil.⁵ Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also For for this cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing.⁷ Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour. **Romans 13:1-7***



This is one of the reasons we must shun partisan politics and no matter how an electoral outcome is manifested, saints are to detach themselves from emotions and stand in the gap for those who lead their nations. As saints mature or embrace the ministry of intercession, they need to embrace the Kingdom assignment of praying for persons, thrones and nations of extreme strategic interest in the end times we are in. They include: Heads of State and Government of the USA, China, Russia, United Kingdom, France, Italy, European Union, Israel, Iran, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkey as well as global and regional military and economic blocs such as NATO, CIS, BRICS

The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

Proverbs 21:1



I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men;² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.³ For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:1-4

United Congregational Prayers

Spontaneous – *this is best when every one is mature and have their emotions under control. The early church engaged in such prayers when they were persecuted, under threat or needing divine intervention.*



Targeted. This is where the brother or sister leading prayers has the anointing to move the congregation to pray and agree in one accord, thus channelling all to one synergistic effect at the throne of Grace.

The PUSH Principle: Do not stop praying until something desired of the Lord happens. Caveat: as long as the will of Elohim is discerned and prayed for! If outside His will, such prayers are potentially dangerous. If Elohim honours His word and grants prayers that are fruits of mere importunity, they represent His permissive will and therefore ultimately unprofitable



Sonship: the Key to Intercession

True intercessors graduate through a process. This starts with being just servants of Yahweh, doing whatever He says. From there they proceed through personal spiritual growth in grace to passionately seek intimacy with Yeshua to become His friends to whom He bares His heart.

*Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you. **John 15:14-15 (KJV)***



The next step is the transition to sons of Yahweh, in the image of Yeshua. Incidentally, Yeshua did not come to start a religion, to be known as Christian religion. His coming was essentially to bring forth sons in the earth realm who would continue the assignment of the Father!

*For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings. **Hebrews 2:10 (KJV)***

When saints come to this realm of life, they become worthy vessels that Yahweh can entrust with the mysteries of the Kingdom and good pleasure of His will. Knowing His determinate counsel becomes the motivating principle of their



life on earth! The highest dimension of prayer is the holy practice of inclining our hearts to seek, know, do, and then rise up as partners to enforce the heart of Yahweh in the earth realm. This is Kingdom praying at its best level! To do this, Yahweh calls on us to switch from seeking His hands to seeking His heart and His face!

Elohim is a Living Being Who has a will. He has emotions which are variously described in the Holy Scriptures. He derives great joy from pure worship, which is bereft of idolatry in any form, including our self needs. When our minds, will, heart and emotions are fixated on His Person without intrusion of what we think we need from Him, we in effect elevate our trust in Him and His providential care to levels which can move heaven without our even asking for anything!



But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. 24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

John 4:23-24 (KJV)

Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

Matthew 6:25,32

Now unto him that is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us,

Ephesians 3:20



The mature son in the ministry of intercession is therefore one who manifests these qualities of His grace:

1. Is absolutely grateful for redemption received as a gift through the sacrifice of Yeshua.

2. Counts membership of the family of Yahweh and citizenship of His Kingdom of such great importance that even if, for the sake of argument, he or she does not receive any tangible 'blessing' as people count such from the Yahweh in this life, will not directly or indirectly accuse Him of being a bad Father.

3. Sees his/her life as a vessel for receiving, holding, and expressing the will of Yahweh.

4. While the vast majority of saints lay hold of the



Ask, Seek, Knock promise to literarily 'bombard' heaven with their personal wish list, this kind of intercessor takes the posture of a 'spiritual mid-wife' to birth His will in the earth realm generally and the sphere of influence assigned to him/her specifically. To be able to do this properly, the intercessor submits to the authority and sovereign rule of Yeshua as King. In other words, the Kingdom is within their hearts and enforcing His will in the earth realm is the principal reason they exist.

*Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. **Matthew 6:10 (KJV)***

5. This kind of life is therefore lost in Yeshua and totally liberated from the clutches of Satan, Sin, the world, poverty, or any other thing which keeps average Christians under water.



If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. 2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth. 3 For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

Colossians 3:1-3 (KJV)

Satan is scared of this quality of life! Because of these qualities, Yahweh is more than willing to reveal to these vessels information of things to come!

*Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. **Amos 3:7 (KJV)***

The truth is that saints who live this way can be trusted with true Kingdom resources both in the now and in the age to come!



Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? 26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? 27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? 28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: 29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? 31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall



*we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? 32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. 33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. **Matthew 6:25-33 (KJV)***

Then answered Peter and said unto him, Behold, we have forsaken all, and followed thee; what shall we have therefore? 28 And Jesus said unto them, Verily I say unto you, That ye which have followed me, in the regeneration when the Son of man shall sit in the throne of his glory, ye also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. 29 And every one that hath forsaken houses, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands,



for my name's sake, shall receive an hundredfold, and shall inherit everlasting life.

*30 But many that are first shall be last; and the last shall be first. **Matthew 19:27-30 (KJV)***

Trust in the Lord, and do good; so shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. 4 Delight thyself also in the Lord: and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. 5 Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass. 6 And he shall bring forth thy righteousness as the light, and thy judgment as the noonday. 7 Rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for him: fret not thyself because of him who prospereth in his way, because of the man who bringeth wicked devices to pass

Psalms 37:3-7 (KJV)



Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Proverbs 3:5 (KJV)

*And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. **Isaiah 65:24 (KJV)***

*Please thank Elohim for the gift of 68 years in the earth realm! What a birthday treat to share this word with brethren today!

Assignment:

1. Please share 3 key things you personally received from this chapter.



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 12: PART B FASTING - WHAT, WHY, WHEN & HOW! (1)

As we continue this epic and intensely practical discourse on Prayer, Fasting and Spiritual Warfare, prayer goes forth that you, the reader, may through studying, understanding, prayer and faith receive the impartation therein and become the sons of Yahweh that He has ordained you to be in your sphere of Kingdom influence, amen! Speaking of the Kingdom of Yahweh, our singular model is Yeshua in His days in the flesh. Whatever Kingdom Culture we desire to see manifested in us today has been displayed before in Him. Let us therefore take this segment on Fasting from a New Covenant perspective as



*modelled and taught by Him as **Matthew 17:5** and **Hebrews 1:1-2** recommend.*

A. Critical Introduction

To understand the subject, let us first remember that humans are three dimensional beings. A human first and foremost is an eternal spirit being having a soul which is the realm of self-expression housed in a physical body. The spirit-man was designed to rule our beings. At the fall of Eve and Adam, a dislocation took place, and the soul began to rule humans, making fleshly decisions in cahoots with the physical body in response to external stimuli. This is why many people easily fall short to fleshly lusts, even though active in Church and though Spirit filled.



Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

1 John 2:15-17 (KJV)

From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? 2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. 3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. 4 Ye adulterers and



*adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.. **James 4:1-4 (KJV)***

The Holy Spirit resides in our spirit-man and from there enables us to live right. Unfortunately, the soul does not often give the spirit man right of way to lead. This is the reason why many end up with works of the flesh which are simply products of soul driven lives as **Galatians 5:15-21** shows. Let us take note that through the ministry of the Word, this re-alignment of spirit, soul and body can take place as saints tap into the mercy of Yahweh through His grace and are sanctified by the Word and the Blood.

For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and



sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. 24 Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.

1 Thessalonians 5:23-24 (KJV)

The Example of Yeshua, Jesus.

The Bible mandates us to look up to Yeshua, Jesus if we truly want to please our heavenly Father:

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about



with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, 2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1-2 (KJV)

After 30 years in obscurity, the time came for Yeshua to proceed into public ministry. The first thing He did was to be affirmed by John the Baptist who was already established as the voice of Yahweh and national Prophet of Israel after about 400 years of heavenly silence. As Yeshua was baptized by John, the heavens opened, and the Father and Holy Spirit affirmed His identity as



the Mashiach (Messiah) Israel had waited for. You would expect that after 30 years of learning obedience by the things which He suffered, Yeshua would blaze forth and take over Israel. Scriptures paint a different picture of what He did first: Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.

Matthew 4:1-2 (KJV)

The One who was incarnated to redeem humanity began His public ministry with a 40 day fast! Even though He received the Holy Spirit without measure and had the full endorsement of Yahweh as affirmed in ***John 3:34-35***, Yeshua undertook a lengthy fast. The first fruit of that exercise was the grace which strengthened him



for victory against the Devil during the temptation that followed. Satan tempted Yeshua with exactly the same issues he brought up against Eve and Adam: Lust of the Flesh, Lust of the Eyes and Pride of Life. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. 5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy



God. 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. 11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.

Matthew 4:3-11 (KJV)

The bible records that the Second Adam was tempted but overcame.

For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Hebrews 4:15 (KJV)



It is also obvious that the three and half years He lived thereafter culminating in the epic victory over Satan at the Cross were largely settled in this battle in which Satan tried the same bag of tricks he used to snare Eve and Adam: Lust of the Flesh, Lust of the eyes and Pride of Life! If the Father has called saints to service, - whether in Pulpit Ministry, Market Place Ministry or Public Service, the least we owe ourselves is to emulate the Ultimate Son by bringing our flesh under subjection before proceeding with the assignment!

What is Fasting? Definition.

Fasting is the dimension of Prayer where we willingly deny our physical body food (and drink) and where our soul is denied the pleasures which



can get in the way of proper functioning of the spirit-man. It is the time when our flesh (soul and body) is brought under subjection so that our spirit man can rise in the dimension of sonship to apprehend the voice of our Father and be strengthened in the inner man (the spirit) by the indwelling Holy Spirit! It is the act of abstaining from even legitimate needs in order to make our vessels better available to Yahweh for His holy use. It is an effective instrument of self-discipline! According to Derek Prince, Fasting is abstaining from food for spiritual purposes.

How are we not to fast? Are there things to avoid?

1. Not as hypocrites! We are not to seek to impress any human or fast



for show off! Whoever does so, has already been rewarded with the adulation of fellow humans and should not expect divine intervention.

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

Matthew 6:16 (KJV)

2. We should not fast as a religious exercise. This happens when fasting is by rote. How do you know fasting is by rote? When it is determined by a fixed Church calendar (monthly, quarterly, or annual fixed days to fast) even when there is no heart connection in repentance or change of lives. This is also so when saints in the same local assembly have ought, unforgiveness,



do not truly interact or even hate each other yet they 'fast because there is a fast' and continue to live thereafter with no change of heart!

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. 2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. 3 Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours. 4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye



do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. 5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? **Isaiah 58:1-5 (KJV)**

3. Don't fast without agreement of your spouse, if married. Marriage introduces a bond where the couple have equal claim on each other's body. Neither the husband nor wife should, without consent of the other, go into a fast which requires withholding of due benevolence, on demand.

Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. 4 The wife hath not power of her own



*body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. 5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. **1 Corinthians 7:3-5 (KJV)***

How do we fast? What happens when you fast?

Our King whose voice is to be heard, understood, accepted, and obeyed gave us a very clear command on how to fast:

Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.



17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

Matthew 6:16-18 (KJV)

Our King says our fasting should be done in such a way that it is only our Father in heaven who **knows what we are going through!**

- 1.We recognise here that the King expects us to fast when the need occasions it.
- 2.We should go to great lengths to ensure that no one outside of ourselves knows what we are doing.
- 3.Tap into the mystery of humility – by doing your fasting as privately as possible



“Fasting is a God appointed way to humble ourselves” according to Derek Prince. He asserted that pride is the greatest barrier to answered prayers and fasting is one way to break it.

Exaltation follows humility.

The bible states clearly the connection between humility of Yeshua and His exaltation

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. 9 Wherefore



*God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. **Philippians 2:5-11 (KJV)***

We are also called to humble ourselves

But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. 9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.



*10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord,
and he shall lift you up. **James 4:6-10 (KJV)***

*Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty
hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:
1 Peter 5:6 (KJV)*

*But as for me, when they were sick, my clothing
was sackcloth: I humbled my soul with fasting;
and my prayer returned into mine own bosom.
Psalm 35:13 (KJV)*

*The inimitable Teacher, late Derek Prince once
said: “The stomach is a wonderful servant but a
bad master”. Most times, the quantum of food
and drink can dull the spiritual senses making
them ineffective.*



The concept of humility is supported by the principle articulated in the Book of Joel where the emphasis is that we rend our hearts, not our garments.

Therefore also now, saith the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

Joel 2:12-13 (KJV)

Repentance when truly made with fasting produces great results of changed behaviour! These days, people 'repent' without any changes in behaviour or attitudes. Paul recommended that



repentance needs to be backed up with godly sorrow.

For though I made you sorry with a letter, I do not repent, though I did repent: for I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry, though it were but for a season. 9 Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. 10 For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 11 For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, what clearing of yourselves, yea, what indignation, yea, what fear, yea, what vehement desire, yea, what zeal, yea, what revenge! In all



things ye have approved yourselves to be clear in this matter. 2 Corinthians 7:8-11 (KJV)

When do we fast?

A. When faced with tough situations that seem unresponsive to the twin tools of Faith and Prayer, Fasting is brought into the mix as a special tool of grace. Here again, we need to take our bearings from our King. One day, the disciples who He was training for ministry were confronted with a demonic possessed boy and could not deliver him. Yeshua used the occasion to teach us a vital principle: Fasting is occasioned by spiritual need! And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a certain man, kneeling down to him, and saying, 15 Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed: for oftentimes he falleth



into the fire, and oft into the water. 16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him. 17 Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me. 18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour. 19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? 20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. 21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Matthew 17:14-21 (KJV)



In order words, saints will encounter situations where prayer and faith may not seem to produce the required effect. In that case, there is need for a reality check:

- Could it be that the physical body which houses the inner man is weary, unfocussed, or simply too heavy with food and drink?
- Is it possible that the soul (mind, will and emotions) is so satiated with pleasure that it presses down on the spirit-man (where Holy Spirit resides)?
- It possible that the soul is filled with negative thoughts, is fearful unbelieving; is unloving and caring or simply seeking vain glory which touches on the glory of Yahweh?

Whichever is the case fasting will cause the soul to be still, and the body rested to give way for the



spirit-man to be activated and energized by Holy Spirit. Victory is thus secured as Yahweh intervenes.

Lesson: Fasting can be applied to back up Prayer and Faith to unleash the potent power of the indwelling Holy Spirit! Saints should never accept any abnormality which runs contrary to what Yeshua purchased at the Cross! Whether:

- demonic oppression
- Near success syndrome
- Crushing poverty or lack
- Absence of Favour before orders
- Pharaoh like oppression
- Persistent infirmity or sickness or

Whatever the abnormality is, do not be like Job and in ignorance accuse Yahweh of inflicting it on



you or your loved ones! King Yeshua told us in **John 10:10** that it is the enemy who comes to steal, kill, and destroy! We can tap into the realm of abundant life by seeking His face and where necessary, back same up with Fasting for breaking out of all adverse situations.

B. When the End Times occasion it.

Our King also did a periscope of the generation we are in when he was confronted by the disciples of John who invested considerable time with their master in prayer and fasting. Then came to him the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?¹⁵ And Jesus said unto them, Can the children of the bridechamber mourn, as long as the bridegroom is with them? but the



days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken from them, and then shall they fast.

Matthew 9:14-15 (KJV)

Our King is saying that in these last days, we need fast, as prompted by Holy Spirit, on issues concerning the End Times. This could be to pray into certain developments or some specific causes such as Revival. Fasting can also be used to precede or back up local evangelism projects or world evangelization. Saints should feel free to seek the hands of Yahweh or His divine intervention where necessary! In the days of Esther, she sought divine intervention through a fast. In the days of King Jehoshaphat **(2 Chronicles 20)**, he proclaimed a fast when great evil came against the nation. In the days of Daniel, it was through persistent fast that he



broke through (**Daniel 10**). Even the King of Nineveh obtained mercy through a fast he proclaimed **Jonah 3:1-10**. We will discuss them in detail in the next chapter.

C. When we need to deal with the works of the Flesh to manifest the fruit of the Spirit

Fasting, when properly done, leads to an inward re-alignment that makes our spirit-man soar outside the stifling bondage it was previously subjected to by the flesh (soul and body). Through fasting as we are sincere before our Father, there will be revelation of attitudes, affections, and actions which when dealt with by the Holy Spirit and the Blood, lead us to manifest fruit of the Spirit rather than works of the Flesh. But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed



that ye be not consumed one of another. 16 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. 18 But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law. 19 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness,



temperance: against such there is no law.

Galatians 5:15-23 (KJV)

Fasting should be Spirit-led, and not religious ritual.

Fasting is not necessarily confined to absence of food. There could be food fasts as well as fasts from anything which gives us undue pleasure or feeds our ego or soul desires. These could include things like the non-alcoholic wines or beverages which give us much pleasure. It could include abstaining from popular TV programs or shows. The most important principle is 'abstinence' or abstaining from whatever it is that we normally enjoy or need when our intention is to free our spirit-man from human or satanic restrictions. The length of fasting should be



determined by the Holy Spirit as we remain sensitive to His voice. If He prompts us to do a dry fast (no food, no liquid), He will sustain us. He could prompt us to fast solid food, eating only Salad (Daniel Fast) or Juice. He could prompt us to fast from 6 am to 6pm or from 6pm to 6am. He could also prompt us to fast for a single hour of not taking anything or a particular number of hours (like 6am – 9am or 6am to 12 noon or 6am to 3pm). Be open to hear His voice of direction!

Exclusion clause:

Do not fast presumptuously or according to a religious tradition even when your body is weak or unable to carry through a length of fast. Those who are sick, recuperating or convalescing should not fast as well as those who are pregnant, nursing babies, old or too young.



To engage in long fast in isolated locations in search of 'power' can open people up to satanic powers!

Assignment:

- 1. Please define Fasting*
- 2. What is the connection between Pride, Fasting and Humility?*
- 3. When is Fasting needful?*
- 4. How best should Fasting be done?*



PRAYER, FASTING & SPIRITUAL WARFARE

(3RD EDITION)

VOLUME I - PRAYER & FASTING

CHAPTER 13: THE BENEFITS/OUTCOMES OF PERSONAL AND CORPORATE OF FASTING

In chapter 13, we began to examine the subject matter of Fasting. The Holy Spirit illuminated the scriptures, and we received extensive understanding of this critical subject. In this chapter, we will proceed further to examine the practice and benefits of Personal and Corporate fasting with specific case studies in the New and Old Testaments.

The Benefits

As we have seen in this course, Fasting when properly done, attracts Divine attention and intervention. There is substantial evidence that



fasting also leads to a number of specific benefits for those who do so properly, with the right spirit.

1. Spiritual strength. Fasting builds up the spirit-man of saints and helps them to experience humility in a practical way.

2. Fasting attracts Divine attention and Intervention.

3. Discipline. Through proper observance of fasting guidelines, saints build up the ability to control their appetites and practice moderation. With time, they build up their spiritual muscles.

4. Health benefits. It controls appetite; readjusts the body and can deliver from unhealthy cravings. In some cases, it can aid weight loss and reduction of Obesity. Negative things such as Cholesterol can be reduced when the food items which cause them are no longer consumed.



5. Wellness and wholeness can result from fasting because of purification of the internal organs.

6. In spiritual warfare, fasting can prepare saints to war more effectively as their spirit-man is freed from bondage to the flesh.

7. In fasting, saints are able to bring the flesh (soul and body/carnal nature) under subjection to the spirit-man which, in turn, is easier to align with and submit to leadership of the Holy Spirit.

8. Fasting often engenders greater and deeper spiritual alertness. This enables the saint to have better perception and insight.

Caution: When not handled well, Fasting can exacerbate existing health issues. That is why we need to reiterate the Exclusion clause in the previous lesson: Do not fast presumptuously or according to a religious tradition even when your



body is weak or unable to carry through a length of fast. Those who are sick, recuperating or convalescing should not fast as well as those who are pregnant, nursing babies, too old or too young. To engage in long fast in isolated locations in search of 'power' can open people up to satanic powers!

A statement by the late Derek Prince on Fasting is powerful: to Hunger is when you do not have food, to Fast is when you have food but forsake it for the sake of prayer.

From what we shared in the previous Chapter, fasting can be done according to assessment of needs of an individual, to meet personal needs. On the other hand, fasting can be done at the corporate level. This may be by prayer partners who declare a fast, or a family dealing with a



challenge which is persistent. A local assembly, ministry or network can declare a fast based on a need. Leaders of Cities, States, ethnic nationalities, or sovereign Nations can also declare a fast when faced with strong issues that require divine intervention.

Personal Dimension.

1. As long as at least one person is within a group seeking divine intervention, the merciful heart of Elohim can be touched. The Lord is looking for holy saints to use as vessels to do great exploits.

Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it.

Jeremiah 5:1 (KJV)



*And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none. **Ezekiel 22:30 (KJV)***

2. In the New Testament, Paul the Apostle declared that a consistent fasting life was one of the marks of his apostolic ministry.

We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. 2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.) 3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: 4 But in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much



patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, 5 In stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; 6 By pureness, by knowledge, by long suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, 7 By the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, 8 By honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; 9 As unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; 2 Corinthians 6:1-9 (KJV)

Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. 24 Of the Jews five times received I Forty stripes save one. 25 Thrice was I beaten



*with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep; 26 In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness. **2 Corinthians 11:23-27 (KJV).***

3. Danger can be averted. It was the fast of Paul which attracted divine intervention for those with him on the seas journey to Rome.

And when we had sailed slowly many days, and scarce were come over against Cnidus, the wind not suffering us, we sailed under Crete, over



*against Salmone; 8 And, hardly passing it, came unto a place which is called The fair havens; nigh whereunto was the city of Lasea. 9 Now when much time was spent, and when sailing was now dangerous, because the fast was now already past, Paul admonished them, 10 And said unto them, Sirs, I perceive that this voyage will be with hurt and much damage, not only of the lading and ship, but also of our lives. 11 Nevertheless the centurion believed the master and the owner of the ship, more than those things which were spoken by Paul. **Acts 27:7-11 (KJV)***

4. National Redemption: Though a single individual, Daniel offers us a classic example of what individual fasting of a holy vessel can accomplish.

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of



the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; 2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. 3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4 And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: 6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the



prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; 2 In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. 3 And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4 And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:



6 Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. 7 O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, that are near, and that are far off, through all the countries whither thou hast driven them, because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee. 8 O Lord, to us belongeth confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee. 9 To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgivenesses, though we have rebelled against him; 10 Neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in his laws, which he set



before us by his servants the prophets.

Daniel 9:1-10 (KJV)

According to late Derek Prince, John Wesley required all those to be ordained for ministry to make a commitment to fast every Wednesday (of every week!).

Corporate/Group Fasting:

There is also enough record in the Holy Scriptures that Elohim is moved by corporate fasting.

i. In the new testament, one of the best examples of corporate fasting was what happened with a group of Prophets and Teachers who waited on the Lord at Antioch. They suspended every other thing to humble themselves before the Lord in



order to hear from Him. He spoke and gave them clear directions of the first apostolic missionary work outside the Day of Pentecost.

Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them. 3 And when they had fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them, they sent them away. 4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

Acts 13:1-4 (KJV).



ii. There is ground to assume that the disciples in the Upper Room who waited for promise of the Father as commanded by Yeshua may have been in fasting for the 10-day period between ascension of Yeshua and the Day of Pentecost. Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. 13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren. 15 And in those days Peter stood up in the midst of the disciples, and said, (the number of names



together were about an hundred and twenty,)

Acts 1:12-15 (KJV)

The case of Judah under King Jehoshaphat when faced with extinction by three warlike nations, the case of Hebrews in Persia during the time of Queen Esther and response of the King and people of Nineveh following the warning of Jonah speaks volumes. We will examine the scriptures in detail.

iii. Judah under siege. When Judah under Jehoshaphat was confronted with destruction by three warlike nations, the corporate response included fasting.

It came to pass after this also, that the children of Moab, and the children of Ammon, and with them



other beside the Ammonites, came against Jehoshaphat to battle. 2 Then there came some that told Jehoshaphat, saying, There cometh a great multitude against thee from beyond the sea on this side Syria; and, behold, they be in Hazazontamar, which is Engedi. 3 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. 4 And Judah gathered themselves together, to ask help of the Lord: even out of all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord. 5 And Jehoshaphat stood in the congregation of Judah and Jerusalem, in the house of the Lord, before the new court, 6 And said, O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee? 7 Art not



thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? 8 And they dwelt therein, and have built thee a sanctuary therein for thy name, saying, 9 If, when evil cometh upon us, as the sword, judgment, or pestilence, or famine, we stand before this house, and in thy presence, (for thy name is in this house,) and cry unto thee in our affliction, then thou wilt hear and help. 10 And now, behold, the children of Ammon and Moab and mount Seir, whom thou wouldest not let Israel invade, when they came out of the land of Egypt, but they turned from them, and destroyed them not; 11 Behold, I say, how they reward us, to come to cast us out of thy possession, which thou hast given us to inherit. 12 O our God, wilt thou not judge them? for we have no might



against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee. 13 And all Judah stood before the Lord, with their little ones, their wives, and their children. 14 Then upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, the son of Benaiah, the son of Jeiel, the son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, came the Spirit of the Lord in the midst of the congregation; 15 And he said, Hearken ye, all Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem, and thou king Jehoshaphat, Thus saith the Lord unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. 16 To morrow go ye down against them: behold, they come up by the cliff of Ziz; and ye shall find them at the end of the brook, before the wilderness of Jeruel. 17 Ye shall not need to fight in this battle: set yourselves, stand ye still, and



see the salvation of the Lord with you, O Judah and Jerusalem: fear not, nor be dismayed; to morrow go out against them: for the Lord will be with you. 18 And Jehoshaphat bowed his head with his face to the ground: and all Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem fell before the Lord, worshipping the Lord. 19 And the Levites, of the children of the Kohathites, and of the children of the Korhites, stood up to praise the Lord God of Israel with a loud voice on high. 20 And they rose early in the morning, and went forth into the wilderness of Tekoa: and as they went forth, Jehoshaphat stood and said, Hear me, O Judah, and ye inhabitants of Jerusalem; Believe in the Lord your God, so shall ye be established; believe his prophets, so shall ye prosper. 21 And when he had consulted with the people, he appointed singers unto the Lord, and that should



praise the beauty of holiness, as they went out before the army, and to say, Praise the Lord; for his mercy endureth for ever. 22 And when they began to sing and to praise, the Lord set ambushments against the children of Ammon, Moab, and mount Seir, which were come against Judah; and they were smitten. 23 For the children of Ammon and Moab stood up against the inhabitants of mount Seir, utterly to slay and destroy them: and when they had made an end of the inhabitants of Seir, every one helped to destroy another. 24 And when Judah came toward the watch tower in the wilderness, they looked unto the multitude, and, behold, they were dead bodies fallen to the earth, and none escaped. 25 And when Jehoshaphat and his people came to take away the spoil of them, they found among them in abundance both riches with



the dead bodies, and precious jewels, which they stripped off for themselves, more than they could carry away: and they were three days in gathering of the spoil, it was so much.

2 Chronicles 20:1-25 (KJV)

iv. Nineveh. Divine judgement was determined upon Nineveh.

When Jonah went to deliver the message, the response of the people and their King through fasting and repentance touched the heart of Elohim. Judgement was averted.

And the word of the Lord came unto Jonah the second time, saying, 2 Arise, go unto Nineveh, that great city, and preach unto it the preaching that I bid thee. 3 So Jonah arose, and went unto Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceeding great city of three



days' journey. 4 And Jonah began to enter into the city a day's journey, and he cried, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown. 5 So the people of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast, and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them even to the least of them. 6 For word came unto the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, and he laid his robe from him, and covered him with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. 7 And he caused it to be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king and his nobles, saying, Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste any thing: let them not feed, nor drink water: 8 But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands.



*9 Who can tell if God will turn and repent, and turn away from his fierce anger, that we perish not? 10 And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not. **Jonah 3:1-10 (KJV)***

v. Seeking Divine Intervention to prevent annihilation.

When Queen Esther realised that Jews in the empire could be annihilated except, she secured reprieve from King Ahasuerus, she called for a Fast so that the Law of the Medes regarding access to the King could be nullified.

And Mordecai told him of all that had happened unto him, and of the sum of the money that



Haman had promised to pay to the king's treasuries for the Jews, to destroy them. 8 Also he gave him the copy of the writing of the decree that was given at Shushan to destroy them, to shew it unto Esther, and to declare it unto her, and to charge her that she should go in unto the king, to make supplication unto him, and to make request before him for her people. 9 And Hatach came and told Esther the words of Mordecai. 10 Again Esther spake unto Hatach, and gave him commandment unto Mordecai; 11 All the king's servants, and the people of the king's provinces, do know, that whosoever, whether man or women, shall come unto the king into the inner court, who is not called, there is one law of his to put him to death, except such to whom the king shall hold out the golden sceptre, that he may live: but I have not been called to come in unto



the king these thirty days. 12 And they told to Mordecai Esther's words. 13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. 14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this? 15 Then Esther bade them return Mordecai this answer, 16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish. 17 So Mordecai went his way, and did according



to all that Esther had commanded him.

Esther 4:7-17 (KJV)

Some godly principles that enhance effectiveness of fasting.

Isaiah 58:6-14 shows a list of things which make a fast have great value before Yahweh. Let us see the practical applications in our lives today.

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. 2 Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. 3 Wherefore have we



fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

Isaiah 58:1-3 (KJV)

Commentary: Ideally, when Fasting, it is best to abstain from normal pleasures of life. If you are self-employment, it may be best to scale back on business. If employed, you can fast and still be at work.

4 Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. ***Isaiah 58:4***

Commentary: *It is unprofitable to Fast for strife*



or engage in prayer with wickedness in the heart or out of a mind filled with vengeance (dangerous prayers!).

*5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? 6 Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? **Isaiah 58:5-6***

Commentary: In corporate fasting, there needs to be clear focus to break bands of wickedness and destruction of yokes Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor



that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? 8 Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward. 9 Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; 10 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day: 11 And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. 12 And they that



*shall be of thee shall build the old waste places:
thou shalt raise up the foundations of many
generations; and thou shalt be called, The
repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to
dwell in. 13 If thou turn away thy foot from the
sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day;
and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the
Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not
doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own
pleasure, nor speaking thine own words: 14 Then
shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord; and I will
cause thee to ride upon the high places of the
earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob
thy father: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken
it. **Isaiah 58:7-14 (KJV)***

Commentary: Great are the blessings which the
Lord promises for those who fast rightly as



articulated in Isaiah 58. Those who fast should consider acts of mercy and charity for the benefit of the poor and vulnerable. If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; 14 If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

2 Chronicles 7:13-14 (KJV)



Assignment:

- 1. What are the benefits of fasting?*
- 2. What did you learn about Personal Fasting, the benefits /outcomes, and some illustrations in biblical passages?*
- 3. What is corporate fasting, the benefits/outcomes, and some illustrations in the Bible?*



COURSE IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Please write an essay of at least 500 words on PRAYER & FASTING: Conclude with a presentation of how you personally intend to apply the lessons learnt.

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Course 104: The Glorious Truths

Course 105: The Fundamental C's (responses of the Truly Redeemed)

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Course 107: Grace

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Course 109: Kingdom Oriented Church Growth

Course 110: The Church of His Vision

Course 111: The Kingdom of Elohim



Course 112: The Ascension Office – Gifts (Fivefold Leadership Gifts)

Course 113: Spiritual Gifts: What, Why, How

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Course 115: Authority

Course 116: The Great Commission

Course 117: Ministerial Ethics

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Course 120: Personal Spiritual Growth and Maturity

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Course 123: Rewards of the Faithful

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Kingdom Leadership



Kingdom Culture in Marriage & Family

Kingdom Finances and Stewardship

Introduction to Christian Counselling

Dispensations, Seasons, and Times

Understanding the End Times

Priesthood and the Kingdom Church

Completing the Unfinished Reformation

7 Letters from Heaven: Interim Assessment PERSONAL

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Strategic Kingdom Leadership

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Prayer Fasting and Spiritual Warfare

All that Yeshua Jesus Said and Did

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Apostle George Akalonu and his wife, Pastor Grace Akalonu were called out of denominational Christianity in 1996 and set apart by the Lord to be instruments of connecting, manifesting and empowering saints to function as His one single Body and Kingdom Church held together by Love.

They are visionaries of the Global Advanced Mentorship Program (Annual Master Class series). Global School of Ministry, Global Missions Board and Arise Metropolitan Assembly. From their base in Hornchurch, London, England where they live with their five children: Favour, Elect, Arise, Praise and Destiny, they are vessels through which Holy Spirit empowers countless saints and ministers worldwide through the unique Teach, Train, Equip, Activate and Release process committed to their trust. They also serve as International President of International Ministers Fellowship worldwide. They co-labour with a dynamic army of Principal officers, mentors and other volunteers across the Globe.