

November 2007 Prayer

Recently I had the privilege of sharing some of the following teaching with two different groups of people and as I thought about the value of centering our thoughts with united hearts on the Sovereign ownership of the world in which we live, I wanted to share some of this with you. I believe it will help us to have hearts and minds enlarged with prayers for our world, and not our own personal worlds alone. The Holy Spirit will help us to enter into God's mind for prayer purposes, as we contemplate His Word and what it says to us. His Kingdom will benefit from our intercessions.

This morning in my own private devotions, I was drawn to Proverbs 8 and I wonder if you would get your Bibles and read with me from verse 22 to the end of the chapter. It is obvious that Christ is the One speaking. And don't you love verse 34..."Blessed is the man (or woman) who listens to me, watching daily at my doors, waiting at my doorway."

Are we listening? Are we watching? And are we waiting at His doorway? This is very personal and connected entirely to our relationship with Him, reminding us of a New Testament phrase, "Watch and Pray". This cluster of verses informs us of this world's ownership and control...but the last verse also reminds us there are those who fail to find Him because it is a personal choice not to do so.

In John 1:10 we are told, "He was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew Him not". Note the three major statements:

1. The world was made by Him - Divine creation
2. He was in the world - Divine entry (Jesus Christ)

Reasons He came: I John 3:8...to destroy the devil's works
John 10:30 I and my Father are one (make Him known.)
John 1:29 Take away the sin of the world

3. And the world knew Him not...the power of sin.
4. I John 2:2 CHRIST DIED FOR THE WHOLE WORLD
5. I John 5:20 And we know that the Son of God is come, and has given us an understanding that we may know Him that is true, and we are in Him that is true, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life.
6. So what do we need to know? Where are we in this picture? How does all of this affect our prayer lives? II Cor. 5:11-21

And a final statement from His Word: Blessed is the one who reads the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear it and take to heart what is written in it, because the time is near. Rev. 1:3

In our prayer times this month:

1. Ask the Father to give us His world view and His burden for our world's loss and awful condition.
2. Ask Him for faith to believe that our intercessions are used by Him for His work. Ask Him for faith to watch and wait for His involvement and answers to our prayers.
3. Ask God to put in our hearts His concerns for our own countries...that country of our birth and of our choice. Intercede for government leaders and people and places of power in decision making.
4. Ask God in view of His mercy and grace and love for his own lost world, to pour out His Spirit on our spiritual leaders throughout our countries...on churches and ministries and individual hearts and minds of national and local people involved in the work of His Kingdom. Ask Him to send revival to His church and awakening to our countries. And ask Him to give personal revival in our own lives...that we might obey I John 5:21...that prayer would have priority and that servanthood would run a close second.
5. Build a prayer outline as God leads, and daily pray...more than once a day for those things in our hearts...with fervent earnestness.

And always with thankfulness. November is the month of Thanksgiving in the United States. In praise and gratitude, speak the words of thanks to our Father...the Bible says, "always giving thanks"...enumerate your blessings to His listening heart...it will give Him delight. He will meet with you on your special chosen day given to waiting on God.