

## October 2008 Prayer

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It should not be difficult to pray for our world these days, as we seem to move from one crisis to another on every level, but it is a blessing for us to focus our hearts and prayers together for some of the same needs keeping the following very important information in mind.

1. God is the God of the whole earth, no matter how it may appear. It is His because He created it...it is His because He still controls it...He has not vacated His place of authority or responsibility...and it is His because He sent One to die in lieu of our rebellious hearts over the whole earth...and this one is Jesus...Saviour and Lord and coming King to rule the earth. Keeping this in mind helps me to know I am praying in cooperation with His heart and work.
2. No matter how powerful certain people are on our planet...God is greater than all...even Satan himself, and this fact gives me the faith to pray for all things, great and small. He is Lord...He is Lord...He has risen from the dead and He is Lord.....Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord!

May I suggest that this month we review the world's horrors that took place in September and will take place in October. This includes countries involved in nature's upheavals, such as hurricanes and floods...etc. The cyclone in Burma is a great example of desperate needs...the biggest disaster since Tsunami and the death toll keeps rising. There are hundreds of thousands without food and medical help of any kind...without water or shelter. In countries closer to the United States the hurricanes have taken their tolls...we live in a suffering world. When we hear the conditions on television news or read our newspapers, our hearts become heavy with the stories...but that heaviness needs to be turned to intercessions. Get your notebooks out and record locations, etc...and pray consistently for the leaders of these countries to know how to help their people...pray for the poor and destitute, hungry and homeless and for other countries to have compassion and mercies, to offer help. These are the physical, material needs of our world.

In our own nation, we are in dire circumstances with an economy on the edge of crisis, because of greed and selfishness in high places and foolishness in managing our finances.. And our economy is affecting our world at large. Should we pray that God will somehow restore our fortunes so we can live happily ever after? I believe not. May we pray that in our need people will turn to God...many need to turn back to the God they once loved and served...many need to ask God to take a look at our personal lifestyles and see if there is "any wicked way in me"...am I simply part of the problem because of greed and selfishness or do I stand before Him, with the needs of others around me as my responsibility and opportunity to serve the God of this whole earth. Before we pray for restoration of funds...may we pray for restoration of faith...faith in the God whom we have recently wanted stricken from our country's money system....don't you find it interesting that while people are trying to have "In God We Trust" removed from our currency, our currency is susceptible to failure. And there are those in the United States who are already suffering from loss of jobs, retirement income, etc. We need to pray for the United

States because our conditions affect the globe. We can pray that God will draw men and women back to sound judgement and righteous living and wisdom.

And of course the other issues here in our country that will affect the world are the elections of the United States. The world will be very much affected by the one chosen to lead our country. Many Christians are praying about this matter and I am sure you are too. Let us hold on to God's authority, since His Word says, "Promotion comes from the Lord who made Heaven and Earth... it is He who puts one man up and the other man down."

The United Nation just held its annual assembly...one of the most critical times each year. It ran from September 20-30, 2008...many leaders from other countries were served with loving words of concern and prayer support in personal appointments by Christians who minister at the U.N. Most of the world leaders admit openly that the problems of our world are extremely grave and most do not know what to do. There are several who are turning to God for His wisdom and help. Pray for the leaders of our world and especially those with whom there were personal appointments for spiritual purposes.

According to the Joshua Project as a source, 40.6% of the world's population has never heard the Gospel. And did you know that 350,000 people are born every day, while nearly 150,000 die. Do they know Christ? Does God care? Does God expect us to care? We can pray that the emptiness of religions will drive people to Jesus. We can pray that the spiritual apathy of Christians will end and God will give the Spirit of Prayer to the heart of all His children...that we might involve ourselves in spiritual warfare battles that will affect these statistics.

Did you know that in Iran which we hear so much about in the news, the number of house churches is growing daily...there are thousands who know Christ and thousands more coming to Christ in this country. We need to pray for these people, believing in Christ in a powerful Muslim society...

May we pray that God will draw leaders, presidents, ambassadors to Christ. Jesus said that no man could come to Him unless the Father draws him....this is why we pray and leave results to God...Our job is to pray....God waits for us to pray...He hears and answers our prayers because He has put them in our hearts. L.E.