

## Message Six

# **The Prayer Needed for the Reality and Practicality of the One New Man**

Hymns:

Scripture Reading: Luke 11:1-13; Eph. 6:17-18;

Col. 1:3, 9; 3:1-4, 15-17; 4:2, 12; Heb. 2:17; 4:14; 7:26; 8:1-2; Rev. 5:6

- Luke 11:1 And while He was in a certain place praying, when He ceased, a certain one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray, even as John also taught his disciples.
- Luke 11:2 And He said to them, When you pray, say, Father, Your name be sanctified; Your kingdom come.
- Luke 11:3 Give us each day our daily bread.
- Luke 11:4 And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us into temptation.
- Luke 11:5 And He said to them, Who among you will have a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, Friend, lend me three loaves,
- Luke 11:6 Since a friend of mine has come to me from a journey and I have nothing to set before him;
- Luke 11:7 And that one, from inside, will answer and say, Do not trouble me; the door is already shut and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise up and give you anything?
- Luke 11:8 I say to you, Even though he will not rise up and give him anything because he is his friend, surely because of his shameless persistence he will rise and give him what he needs.
- Luke 11:9 And I say to you, Ask and it shall be given to you; seek and you shall find; knock and it shall be opened to you.
- Luke 11:10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened.
- Luke 11:11 But what father among you whose son shall ask for a fish will instead of a fish hand him a snake?
- Luke 11:12 Or if he shall also ask for an egg will hand him a scorpion?
- Luke 11:13 If you then being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who is from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!
- Eph 6:17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,
- Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
- Col 1:3 We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always concerning you,
- Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one

- Body; and be thankful.
- Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.
- Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
- Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,
- Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a slave of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.
- Heb 2:17 Hence He should have been made like His brothers in all things that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- Heb 4:14 Having therefore a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession.
- Heb 7:26 For such a High Priest was also fitting to us, holy, guileless, undefiled, separated from sinners and having become higher than the heavens,
- Heb 8:1 Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
- Heb 8:2 A Minister of the holy places, even of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

## **Outline**

### **I. The governing principle of our prayer should be that prayer brings us into God—Luke 11:1-13:**

- Luke 11:1 And while He was in a certain place praying, when He ceased, a certain one of His disciples said to Him, Lord, teach us to pray, even as John also taught his disciples.
- Luke 11:2 And He said to them, When you pray, say, Father, Your name be sanctified; Your kingdom come.
- Luke 11:3 Give us each day our daily bread.
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- Luke 11:5 And He said to them, Who among you will have a friend and will go to him at midnight and say to him, Friend, lend me three loaves,
- Luke 11:6 Since a friend of mine has come to me from a journey and I have nothing to set before him;
- Luke 11:7 And that one, from inside, will answer and say, Do not trouble me; the door is already shut and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise up and give you anything?
- Luke 11:8 I say to you, Even though he will not rise up and give him anything because he is his friend, surely because of his shameless persistence he will rise and give him what he needs.
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- Luke 11:11 But what father among you whose son shall ask for a fish will instead of a fish hand him a snake?

Luke 11:12 Or if he shall also ask for an egg will hand him a scorpion?

Luke 11:13 If you then being evil know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father who is from heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!

A. Whenever our prayer does not bring us into God, it is wrong, and we should not continue to pray in this way.

B. The issue of proper prayer is that we find ourselves in God—vv. 2-4.

Luke 11:2 And He said to them, When you pray, say, Father, Your name be sanctified; Your kingdom come.

Luke 11:3 Give us each day our daily bread.

Luke 11:4 And forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us into temptation.

## II. The experience during times of genuine prayer enables us to touch the reality of the one new man—Col. 1:3, 9; 4:12; Phil. 1:20-21a:

Col 1:3 We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always concerning you,

Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a slave of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.

Phil 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

A. During times of genuine prayer, we are in our spirit, and we are one spirit with the Lord; it is at these times that we live Christ—1 Cor. 6:17; Phil. 1:20-21a:

1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

Phil 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I will be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be magnified in my body, whether through life or through death.

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

1. Our daily living should be the same as our experience in times of genuine prayer.

2. Our experience in prayer should become a model of our daily Christian life.

3. When we pray, we enter into fellowship with the Lord and become conscious of the fact that we are truly one spirit with Him and that He is actually one spirit with us—1 Cor. 6:17.

1 Cor 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit.

4. If we keep ourselves in a praying condition, we will be outside of culture, and we will be one spirit with the Lord, enjoying His presence and spontaneously living Him.

B. Whenever we experience genuine prayer, we are outside of our culture; in particular, we are outside of our cultural opinion—Col. 3:10-11:

Col 3:10 And have put on the new man, which is being renewed unto full knowledge according to the image of Him who created him,

Col 3:11 Where there cannot be Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free man, but Christ is all and in all.

1. The more genuine prayer we have, the more we will have the experience of being outside of our cultural opinion.
2. When we pray with others in a genuine way, we are truly one in the praying spirit:
  - a. Then we touch the reality of the one new man.
  - b. Then we realize that the new man is constituted with Christ alone and that in this realm there are no differences of culture.

### **III. We need to persevere in prayer because prayer involves a battle, a fight—4:2; Eph. 6:17-18:**

Col 4:2 Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

Eph 6:17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which Spirit is the word of God,

Eph 6:18 By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,

- A. In order to fight on God's side against Satan, we need to persevere in prayer.
- B. As those who take sides with God, we find that the whole universe is against us and, in particular, against our prayer—Col. 2:1-3:

Col 2:1 For I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you and for those in Laodicea, even all who have not seen my face in the flesh,

Col 2:2 That their hearts may be comforted, they being knit together in love and unto all the riches of the full assurance of understanding, unto the full knowledge of the mystery of God, Christ,

Col 2:3 In whom all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge are hidden.

1. Almost everything in our environment is contrary to prayer.

2. Resistance to prayer lies not only outside of us but even within us—Matt. 26:41.

Matt 26:41 Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

3. To pray is to go against the current, the trend, in the fallen universe:

a. In order to pray, we must go against the current of our environment.

b. If we fail to pray, we will be swept downstream.

c. Only prayer can enable us to go against the current; therefore, we need to persevere in prayer, to pray persistently—Luke 18:1-8.

Luke 18:1 And He told them a parable to the end that they ought always to pray and not lose heart,

Luke 18:2 Saying, There was a certain judge in a certain city who did not fear God and did not regard man.

Luke 18:3 And there was a widow in that city, and she kept coming to him, saying, Avenge me of my opponent.

Luke 18:4 And for a time he would not; but afterward he said within himself, Even though I do not fear God nor regard man,

Luke 18:5 Yet because this widow causes me trouble, I will avenge her, lest by continually coming she wear me out.

- Luke 18:6 And the Lord said, Hear what the unrighteous judge says.  
 Luke 18:7 And will not God by all means carry out the avenging of His chosen ones, who cry to Him day and night, though He is long-suffering over them?  
 Luke 18:8 I tell you that He will carry out their avenging quickly. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on the earth?

#### **IV. Persevering in prayer for the one new man is related to the peace of Christ, to the word of Christ, and to living in union with Christ—Col. 3:15-17:**

- Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.  
 Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.  
 Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- A. The peace of Christ, which is Christ Himself, has made the Jews and the Gentiles one new man, and now we should let this peace arbitrate in our hearts for the Body life and for the practical existence of the one new man—v. 15.

Col 3:15 And let the peace of Christ arbitrate in your hearts, to which also you were called in one Body; and be thankful.

- B. The way for Christ to exercise His headship and to minister His riches to us is through His word—2:19; 3:16:

Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to God.

1. We should not be closed but should open our being to the Lord and to His word and be willing to be filled with the word of Christ.
2. We need to allow the word of Christ to move, act, and have its being within us, letting our whole being be permeated and saturated with the word of Christ.
3. In order for the word of Christ to dwell in us richly for the one new man, we need to let the peace of Christ arbitrate in our hearts.

- C. To live in union with Christ means that in our living we are not apart from Christ; rather, we are one with Him and do everything in His name by acting in the Spirit—v. 17.

Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

- D. We need to be ruled by the peace of Christ, to be inhabited by the word of Christ, and to live in union with Christ.

#### **V. In His heavenly ministry Christ is interceding, ministering, and executing God's administration, and we need to be those who respond to Christ's activities in His heavenly ministry—Heb. 2:17; 4:14; 7:26; 8:1-2; Rev. 5:6; Col. 3:1-4; 1:9; 4:12:**

Heb 2:17 Hence He should have been made like His brothers in all things that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for

- the sins of the people.
- Heb 4:14 Having therefore a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession.
- Heb 7:26 For such a High Priest was also fitting to us, holy, guileless, undefiled, separated from sinners and having become higher than the heavens,
- Heb 8:1 Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
- Heb 8:2 A Minister of the holy places, even of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.
- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
- Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
- Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a slave of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.
- A. As the High Priest, He intercedes; as the heavenly Minister, He ministers; and as the Redeemer with the seven eyes of God, He administers the government of God for the accomplishment of God's purpose.
- B. Christ's ministry in the heavens requires our response—3:1-4:
- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.
1. We need to become on earth the reflection of Christ's heavenly ministry.
  2. To seek the things which are above means that we correspond to Christ's heavenly ministry—v. 1.
 

Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
  3. When we seek the things which are above, we respond to Christ's heavenly ministry and reflect it.
  4. The purpose of our living with Christ is to be one with Him in His intercession for the churches, in His ministry of the heavenly life supply to the saints, and in His administration of God's government.
- C. Through our prayer Christ, the Head, is given a way to carry out His administration through His Body—1:18; 2:19; 3:1-2:

- Col 1:18 And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;
- Col 2:19 And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.
- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.

1. As the Head is working in heaven by interceding, ministering, and administrating, we, the Body, are working on earth responding to the heavenly ministry of Christ and reflecting what He is doing—Heb. 2:17; 4:14; 7:26; 8:1-2; Rev. 5:6.

- Heb 2:17 Hence He should have been made like His brothers in all things that He might become a merciful and faithful High Priest in the things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.
- Heb 4:14 Having therefore a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession.
- Heb 7:26 For such a High Priest was also fitting to us, holy, guileless, undefiled, separated from sinners and having become higher than the heavens,
- Heb 8:1 Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
- Heb 8:2 A Minister of the holy places, even of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, not man.
- Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

2. When we pray, we are a heavenly ambassador on earth as the extension of God's kingdom—Col. 1:9, 12-13; 4:11-12.

- Col 1:9 Therefore we also, since the day we heard of it, do not cease praying and asking on your behalf that you may be filled with the full knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,
- Col 1:12 Giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you for a share of the allotted portion of the saints in the light;
- Col 1:13 Who delivered us out of the authority of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son of His love,
- Col 4:11 And Jesus, who is called Justus; these alone of the circumcision are my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, ones who have become a consolation to me.
- Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is one of you, a slave of Christ Jesus, greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the will of God.

D. If we seek the things which are above and have one life and one living with Christ, we will be wholly occupied with the enterprise of our Master—3:1-4, 17:

- Col 3:1 If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
- Col 3:2 Set your mind on the things which are above, not on the things which are on the earth.
- Col 3:3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
- Col 3:4 When Christ our life is manifested, then you also will be manifested with Him in glory.

Col 3:17 And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

1. Our heart will be with Him in heaven, where He is interceding for the churches, supplying the saints, and administrating God's government.
2. We should aspire to be one with the Lord in His heavenly ministry and to have a heart that is one with His heart, and we should long to be one with Him in His priesthood, ministry, and administration.

E. In order for the recovery to be the Lord's recovery, it must be under His direction—Rev. 5:6; Eph. 1:19-23:

Rev 5:6 And I saw in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures and in the midst of the elders a Lamb standing as having just been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth.

Eph 1:19 And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,

Eph 1:20 Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies,

Eph 1:21 Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come;

Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,

Eph 1:23 Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.

1. Between Christ in heaven and us on earth, there is a divine transmission, a heavenly current—v. 22.

Eph 1:22 And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,

2. If we continuously receive the divine transmission, being infused with a supply from heaven and experiencing the transaction between the heavenly Christ and us, we will respond to Christ's interceding, ministering, and executing of God's administration.