

THE POWER OF PRAYER

ROMANS 8:26

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.

ROMANS 8:27

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 8:28

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

EXPECTATION_ LONG. BEACH. CA TUESDAY_ 61-0207

E-9 Prayer changes things. Prayer is the most powerful weapon that was ever put in the--the control of human beings. There's no atomic bomb, or no hydrogen bomb as powerful as prayer.

ROMANS 8:28

28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his *PURPOSE.

PURPOSE: prothesis {proth'-es-is}

Showbread, a setting forth of a thing, placing of it in view, the showbread; twelve loaves of wheaten bread, corresponding to the number of the tribes of Israel, which loaves were offered to God every Sabbath, and separated into two rows,

lay for seven days upon a table placed in the sanctuary or front portion of the tabernacle, and afterwards of the temple; the rite of setting forth the loaves, a purpose

According to his purpose, kata prothesin. An old word, used for "shewbread" in Matt 12:4.

MATTHEW 12:4

4 How he entered into the house of God, and did eat the shewbread, which was not lawful for him to eat, neither for them which were with him, but only for the priests?

ROMANS 9:11

11 (For the children being not yet born, neither having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works, but of him that calleth;)

EPHESIANS 1:11

11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:

EPHESIANS 3:11

11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

II TIMOTHY 1:9

9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,

HEBREWS 9:2

2 For there was a tabernacle made; the first, wherein was the candlestick, and the table, and the shewbread; which is called the sanctuary.

EXODUS 25:30

30 And thou shalt set upon the table shewbread before me alway.

LECHEM PANIM, literally, bread of faces; so called, because they were placed before the presence or face of God in the sanctuary,

called the bread of faces, פנים *panim*, because, as the Lord says, they were set לפני *lephanai*, before my Face.

These loaves or cakes were twelve, representing, as is generally supposed, the twelve tribes of Israel. They were in two rows of six each. On the top of each row there was a golden dish with frankincense,

which was burned before the Lord, as a memorial, at the end of the week, when the old loaves were removed and replaced by new ones, the priests taking the former for their domestic use.

I CORINTHIANS 10:17

17 For we being many are one bread, and one body: for we are all partakers of that one bread.

THE. FUTURE. HOME. OF. THE. HEAVENLY. BRIDEGROOM. AND. THE. EARTHLY. BRIDE_
JEFF. IN V-3 N-5 SUNDAY_ 64-0802

237 If you got Eternal Life, there is only one form, that's God, and you are an expressed attribute. See? If you. . . If you're not, you're not going to be there, anyhow.

"No man can come to Me except My Father has drawed him. " See? Which, "passes away," all these old things; but these Things don't, so it speaks of Eternity. The Holy Ghost is Eternal. Then, you are in Eternity, where you was all the time, but you've just recognized what happened.

238 See, you were made for an Eternal purpose, because you was the--the manifestation of an attribute that was in God, that thought of you and expressed you; and He made a earth to take you out of, and to make you a human being.

And sin come along and perverted His way. You come, anyhow, but you was lost with the world. So He come and redeemed you, the expressed attribute, and also redeems this earth by the same way. Then, His purpose rolls on. See? Oh! Hallelujah!

WHO. IS. THIS. MELCHISEDEC_ JEFF. IN V-5 N-10 SUNDAY_ 65-0221E

117 Being Eternal with Him, at the beginning. . . The Eternal Life that you had, His thought of what you was, only, He wanted you to. . . He wanted me to stand in the pulpit, say. He wanted you to set in the seat tonight.

Then we are serving His Eternal purpose. And the one that left home, only come to the earth to serve His purpose. Is that right? All right. Then, after it's finished, it's brought back in a glorified state; it's matured and brought back again.

149-1 SMYRNAEAN. CHURCH. AGE - CHURCH. AGE. BOOK CPT. 4

Now according to the Word of God, the bride was chosen before the foundation of the world. This choosing of the bride was purposed in Himself. Ephesians 1:9. And in Romans 9:11 it says, "That the purpose of God according to election might stand.

"You can't read it any other way. The heart purpose, the eternal purpose of God was to take a bride of His OWN choosing, and that purpose was in Himself, and being eternal was decreed before the foundation of the world.

JAMES 5:15

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.

JAMES 5:16

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The *EFFECTUAL fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

EFFECTUAL: energeo {en-erg-eh'-o}

Put forth power, to work for one, to effect, to display one's activity, show one's self operative

The word signifies, "wrought by the energy of the Spirit. " The word properly refers to that which has power; which in its own nature is fitted to produce an effect.

JAMES 5:16

16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

Availeth much; is very powerful with God

BE. CERTAIN. OF. GOD_ CLEVELAND. TN WEDNESDAY_ 59-0708E

E-59 Man's not measured by how big a muscle he's got; he's measured by the bag in his knees of his pants where he prays. Man is not measured by muscle; that's beast. He's measured by character

POWER. OF. TRANSFORMATION_ PRESCOTT. AZ V-17 N-1 SUNDAY_ 65-1031M

31 I think, character, it's measured by. . . man, not by the muscles on his arm or by the callouses in his hands, but the bag in the knees of his trousers where he has prayed. I think that's what makes man.

BELIEVING. GOD_ JEFF. IN V-19 N-7 SUNDAY_ 52-0224

107 The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. " Oh, if you only knew, that in your hand Christ gave us the authority with His Name by being Christians,

the most powerful weapon the world has ever known: Prayer, it even changes everything.

MY. ANGEL. SHALL. GO. BEFORE. THEE_ TALLAHASSEE. FL MONDAY_ 53-0216

E-7n He gave us the strongest weapon that there is in all the world, and that's prayer. Prayer is what changes things.

The Christian doesn't realize what a force he has when he kneels on his knees before Almighty God in the Name of Jesus Christ. He doesn't realize what--what power that is.

DO. YOU. NOW. BELIEVE_ OWENSBORO. KY FRIDAY_ 53-1106

E-12 Now, many times it turns dark around the patient. I know death's laying there. And I just say, "The Lord bless you. " Or, "I pray that God will heal you. " And--and send them on off the platform. For I don't know what it will be.

'Cause sometimes God could pronounce death on a person, and then their prayer could change the thing. Do you believe that? It did for Hezekiah, didn't it? When God told the prophet, "Go tell him he's going to die, and not come off his bed. " He turned his face to the wall and wept bitterly.

And God spared his life fifteen years after death had been pronounced by God. Prayer is the most powerful weapon was ever put in the hand of mankind. "The prayer faith shall save the sick. "

EXPECTATION_ LONG. BEACH. CA TUESDAY_ 61-0207

E-9 Prayer changes things. Prayer is the most powerful weapon that was ever put in the--the control of human beings. There's no atomic bomb, or no hydrogen bomb as powerful as prayer

THE BRAIN AND PRAYER CONNECTION

Dr. Newberg a neuroscientist has been scanning the brains of religious people to discover the connection between prayer and brain activity. In one particular study it was shown that the frontal lobes lit up on the screen, when the subject was in meditational prayer.

What was even more fascinating was that the parietal (pe-ri'-e-tal) lobes went dark. "This is an area that normally takes our sensory information, tries to create for us a sense of ourselves and orient that self in the world,"

Newberg explains. "When people lose their sense of self, a blurring of the boundary between self and others, we have found

decreases in activity in that area. " It also means "The more you focus on something.

whether that's math or auto racing or football or God — the more that becomes your reality, the more it becomes written into the neural connections of your brain. "

Prayer releases do-pa-mine, a chemical in the brain that is responsible for relaxation and feelings of elation. Do-pa-mine is a big stress fighter and not only can help students get through the stress of exam week but people who pray were shown to have less illnesses caused by prolonged stress.

So, those who themselves do the praying are less likely to suffer from depression, high blood pressure, ulcers and migraines. Another interesting effect prayer has on an individual's brain is that the parietal (pe-ri'-e-tal) lobes, near the right back of the brain,

which deal with the sense of self become dim and slightly inactive. This means the person in prayer can easily lose track of time itself and over time develop "selflessness" due to the continual reshaping of the brain through concentrated prayer.

Dr. Newberg in further study found that those who made prayer a daily activity had faster reactions in the frontal and parietal (pe-ri'-e-tal) lobes than those who prayed less or not at all.

Prayer warriors had sharpened those lobes of their brains and were more likely to use those areas of the brain unconsciously than others.

Clinical studies have demonstrated that people who pray are:
Less likely to get sick.
Better able to cope mentally and emotionally with their illness.
More likely to recover from surgery.
More likely to recover from illness.

Also, evidence exists for the power of prayer to maintain and improve the function of the immune system. Chemical connections have been identified between molecules produced by the central nervous system and cells of the immune system.

Astrocytes, a type of cell in the brain, can produce interleukin-1 (IL-1), a cytokine that affects immune reactions. Furthermore, lymphocytes, a type of white blood cell, contain receptors for many chemicals synthesized by the central nervous system.

Prayer and the psychological factors involved, including suggestion, expectation, anxiety reduction, conditioning, and the hope and will to live may have a positive placebo effect in nourishing the function of the immune system.

Moreover, the relaxing, altered consciousness, and spiritual effects of meditation and prayer and the resulting inward sense of peace can strengthen the immune system and the body in general.

According to Harold Koenig, Director of the Center for the Study of Religion/Spirituality, Duke University, when prayer uplifts or calms the spirit of people, fewer stress-induced (sometimes termed "fight-or-flight") hormones are produced by the adrenal glands.

Meditation and prayer can:

Decrease stress-induced hormones.

Reduce pre-surgery anxiety.

Lower the risk of development of various serious diseases.

Help the immune system to function.

In addition, many recent studies have shown that patients with serious diseases who are prayed for by others actually heal better and faster than do those who are not prayed for by others. Praying for the healing of others is a form of an alternative medicine method known as "distance healing. "

In prayer by others (termed intercessory prayer), attitudes of prayerfulness and holiness and feelings of empathy, caring, and compassion encourage healing.

Some doctors feel that better recovery of the patients could occur if the doctors prayed with their patients prior to and following operations or the administration of powerful medications.

Because of the positive research on the effects of prayer and these beliefs about the value of prayer in the healing process, certain medical schools in the U. S. are offering classes in faith and medicine.

The relationship between prayer and health has been the subject of scores of double-blind studies over the past four decades. Dr. Herbert Benson, a cardiovascular specialist at Harvard Medical School and a pioneer in the field of mind/ body medicine discovered what he calls "the relaxation response,"

which occurs during periods of prayer and meditation. At such times, the body's metabolism decreases, the heart rate slows, blood pressure goes down, and our breath becomes calmer and more regular.

This physiological state is correlated with slower brain waves, and feelings of control, tranquil alertness and peace of mind. This is significant because Benson estimates that over half of all doctor visits in the U. S. today are prompted by illnesses,

like depression, high blood pressure, ulcers and migraine headaches, that are caused at least in part by elevated levels of stress and anxiety.

In one National Institutes of Health funded study, individuals who prayed daily were shown to be 40 percent less likely to have high blood pressure than those without a regular prayer practice.

Research at Dartmouth Medical School found that patients with strong religious beliefs who underwent elective heart surgery were three times more likely to recover than those who were less religious.

A 2011 study of inner city youth with asthma by researchers at the University of Cincinnati indicates that those who practiced prayer and meditation experienced fewer and less severe symptoms than those who had not.

Other studies show that prayer boosts the immune system and helps to lessen the severity and frequency of a wide range of illnesses.

A recent survey reported in the Journal of Gerontology of 4,000 senior citizens in Durham, NC, found that people who prayed or meditated coped better with illness and lived longer than those who did not.

But the question remains: By what physiological mechanisms does prayer impact our health? Herbert Benson's most recent research suggests that long term daily spiritual practices help to deactivate genes that trigger inflammation and prompt cell death.

That the mind can affect the expression of our genes is exciting evidence for how prayer may influence the functioning of the body at the most fundamental level.

LUKE 21:36

36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.