

THE POWER OF PRAYER II

JAMES 5:14

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:

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.

JAMES 5:17

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.

JAMES 5:18

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

GET. THE. PEOPLE. TO. BELIEVE_ HAMMOND. IN THURSDAY_ 52-0717

E-58..... . We realize that--that prayer changes things. Prayer changes a sinner to a Christian. Prayer changes a sick man into a well man.....

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

E-7.....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. If the people could only realize that the--that what is given right unto them, anything that you ask for will be given if you can appropriate the faith to believe it. For God's Word is true.

JESUS. CHRIST. THE. SAME. YESTERDAY. TODAY. AND. FOREVER_ CHICAGO. IL
SUNDAY_ 55-0116E

E-45.....What a power and a privilege has been given to the Church of the living God. When you fall to your knees in prayer even the devils tremble, to the weakest of them. Think of it.

THE. HEALING. OF. JAIRUS. DAUGHTER_ PHOENIX. AZ SUNDAY_ 55-0227E

E-15..... . if Jesus had to spend much time in prayer to stay in fellowship with the Spirit that was in Him, how much more do you and I have to spend in prayer? Much time in prayer.

If you only knew what time in prayer meant. What. . . . Sometimes when you're in prayer, God changes the--the complete destination of different things that's going to happen. Do you believe that? Might be something fixing to happen, and your prayer could change the whole situation.

JOB 42:7

7 And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath.

JOB 42:8

8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you:

for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

JOB 42:9

9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

JOB 42:10

10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

THE. GREAT. COMMISSION_ CHATTANOOGA. TN SATURDAY_ 58-0301B

E-12. If you want to be a blessing, and get a blessing, when a man has done you wrong, and he has absolutely justly, he. . . I mean he has done you wrong and you know that he's done you wrong; he's done you evil.

Don't mention that; you take him to prayer before God. And don't take it in a way of just a selfish and say, "Well, I'm supposed to do this."

But stand with your shoulder to his shoulder, and stand in the Presence of God our Father, way a prayer should be made in the Presence of God, say, "Father, here's my brother, and he--he is justly; he deserves punishment because he has--he's done me evil. And I don't see why he did it. "

THE. GREAT. COMMISSION_ CHATTANOOGA. TN SATURDAY_ 58-0301B

E-13 Then let God go to talking to you. And you'll see maybe, what that man's been through. The devil has twisted him up somewhere and caused him to do that.

Though he's absolutely wrong, before you leave the throne of God you'll be feeling sorry for that man. You'll be sympathizing with that brother.

And when you get back down to where--earth again, you'll go over to that brother and shake his hand, 'cause you know what he's been through.

You can't stand with a mortal in the Presence of God and condemn anybody, I don't believe, no, sir, even if he is a rank sinner. And what about a brother that has made a mistake? Though I say he's wrong. Sometimes he's accused wrong when he's not wrong.

But if he is wrong, well, if we will take him to the throne of God, stand there shoulder-to-shoulder with our brother, knowing he's a mortal, and maybe his destination rests upon our attitude towards him,

when we come back from the throne of God, we'll realize that we're every one guilty, and we all need help one from the other. And the best way to do is pray.

JOB 42:10

10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

PSALM 32:6

6 For this shall every one that is godly pray unto thee in a time when thou mayest be found: surely in the floods of great waters they shall not come nigh unto him.

PSALM 32:7

7 Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance. Selah.

PSALM 141:1

1 A Psalm of David. LORD, I cry unto thee: make haste unto me; give ear unto my voice, when I cry unto thee.

PSALM 141:2

2 Let my prayer be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

REVELATION 5:8

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.

REVELATION 8:3

3 And another angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer; and there was given unto him much incense, that he should offer it with the prayers of all saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

REVELATION 8:4

4 And the smoke of the incense, which came with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God out of the angel's hand.

PROVERBS 15:8

8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

PROVERBS 15:29

29 The LORD is far from the wicked: but he heareth the prayer of the righteous.

MATTHEW 21:22

22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

I TIMOTHY 4:3

3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

I TIMOTHY 4:4

4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:

I TIMOTHY 4:5

5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

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.

WHY. ARE. PEOPLE. SO. TOSSED. ABOUT_ JEFF. IN V-2 N-14 SUNDAY_ 56-0101 35-7. The Bible says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much. "

See, Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are. He prayed earnestly that it wouldn't rain; and it didn't rain for three years and six months. Then he went and prayed earnestly again; and the heavens give rain. Prayer changes things. I can't change it. You can't change it.

It's prayer that changes it.

God told a man one time he was going to die, set his house in order, sent the prophet up to tell him.

And the man turned his face to the wall, and begin to cry, and asked God for fifteen years longer to live. And God changed the course, give him fifteen years longer. What is it? Prayer.

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-7.....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. COUNTDOWN_ SHREVEPORT. LA SUNDAY_ 62-1125E

E-33 The natural astronaut is controlled by a unit of radar on the ground. This radar controls it. You've watched this perhaps on television.

When they go up, how miles and miles and miles away you couldn't see nothing or anything, and yet this radar's pointing right to it. It's controlled by radar, the natural astronaut. And the spiritual astronaut is controlled by a unit also, a unit of prayer.

That controls the spiritual astronaut, keeps him lined up, is prayer. Oh, it's good, I tell you. God had a little unit setting on earth one time when His first Astronaut was here. And you know, one little touch of faith stopped Him, and that answered him back. Prayer changes things.

It changes positions by prayer that can control. See, we see what can be done in the natural, and it's a type of the spiritual, the spiritual happenings. It can be controlled that way.

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.

