

PRAYING GOD'S WILL

PRAYER ACCORDING TO THE WILL OF GOD

*"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me:
nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*

~ Luke 22:42

1. Prayer is Not a Democracy

- a. It's normal not to know how to pray. It's normal to think prayer should work for you.
- b. Prayer does not have the purpose of making your voice/vote heard before God.
- c. *"God loves to answer petitions that are signed by more than one signature,"* really?
- d. Prayer has the purpose of aligning our will with God's, not God's will with ours.
- e. We pray by the will of God, according to the will of God, and for the will of God.
- f. For prayer to work for the will of God, *we must know the will of God.*

2. Men Who Prayed God's Will

- a. Abraham prays and a man is healed – Genesis 20
- b. David's heart desire prayers – Psalm 37:4, see 37:5, 9, 11, 23, 29, 31, 40:8
- c. Solomon's prayer of dedication – 2 Chron 7:14 overshadows 6:1, 4, 8, 17, 19, 40-42
- d. Daniel prays to return to Israel – Lev 26:39, Jer 29:10-14, Daniel 9:2-6, 13, 17-21
- e. 12 disciples prayed for a kingdom to come and daily provision/protection – Luke 11:2-4
- f. Jesus knew the will of God that he had to die, and why – Luke 18:33, 22:20
- g. Jesus prayed "not my will, but thine, be done" Luke 22:42
- h. John knows what to pray for with a Spirit unction – 1 John 5:14-15, 3:22-23, 2:27, 1:9
- i. Every prayer prayed the will of God, and their own aligned with it.
- j. How do you get prayer "to work"? Know how God is working.

3. The Will of God Today

- a. Prayer works according to how God works.
- b. How God works (what he does) has changed, therefore prayer has changed.
- c. We are not Israel, not under law, and strangers from the covenants/earthly kingdom.
- d. God's will today in the revelation of the mystery of Christ given to Paul - Rom 16:25
- e. God will have all men be saved and come to knowledge – 1 Tim 2:4
- f. God will have you walk in what you know now, sanctified, grateful – 1 Th 4:1-5, 5:18
- g. It is easy to read and know the will of God than it is to pursue it in prayer.

4. Praying Under Grace

- a. All the physical/political/covenant prayers changed to spiritual/ministerial/grace prayers.
- b. We know not what to pray when we don't understand His will/spiritual things - Col 1:9
- c. Prayer works by understand what God is doing, pray accordingly, and watch - Col 4:2-4
 - i. God's will is revealed, and it is glorious! Are you praying that your will be done?
 - ii. God's grace is sufficient. Are you praying thinking it is not?
 - iii. We are dead, bought with a price, in His service: we work in prayer for His will
- d. You can stand perfect and complete in all the will of God – Col 4:12
- e. Struggle knowing what to pray? A good prayer might be, "Thy will be done. Not mine."