PRAYER IS SPIRITUAL

LOCATING THE POWER OF PRAYER UNDER GRACE

"Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto ..."

~ Ephesians 6:19

1. Prayer is Not Natural

- a. It's normal not to know how to pray. Prayer is not natural.
- b. Much of our needs/wants are physical and material, but prayer does not materialize.
- c. "Power of prayer" = supernatural power = not natural power.
- d. "Prayer was the most successful air defense system" re: Iron Dome, 100+ missiles
- e. People use prayer to manipulate the physical. When it doesn't work, "God doesn't work"

2. Prayer is Spiritual

- a. Life, mankind, riches are not merely physical Prov 13:7, Luke 12:15, Mk 8:36
- b. There are things higher & more valuable than our physical self and things. 1 Tim 4:8
- c. God is a Spirit. He made man a living soul with the ability and need to pray.
- d. Prayer does not obey "laws of nature", because it is an act of the spirit. 1 Cor 2:14
- e. Prayer testifies you are spiritual; prayer connects you with the spiritual. 2 Cor 4:13
- f. Praying/communicating to any spirit besides God is doing it wrong (witchcraft, divining)
- g. Spirit concerns how we know/move/walk 1 Cor 2:11-13, 1 Tim 4:1
- h. We pray through our spirit (faith), unto God (Spirit), about spiritual things.

3. Where is the Power of Prayer

- a. Solomon prayed "toward this place" "in the land" 2 Chron 6:19-21, 26, 31
- b. Men of God had power through earthly covenants Num 11:2, 21:7, Jam 5:15-18
- c. The hallmark of this dispensation is spiritual God intervenes with your spirit today.
- d. Paul instructs more on prayer, the spiritual, faith, and the Holy Ghost than any other.
- e. Our apostle says God works by his word in you through faith 1 Thess 2:13
- f. He works today to save souls, quicken spirits, enlighten understanding Eph 1:18
- g. Prayer exercises your faith and can strengthen your inner man Eph 3:16
- h. Where God works has changed, so where the power is has changed Eph 3:20-21

4. Prayer and Your Flesh

- a. Prayer is a weapon against spiritual wickedness Ephesians 6:11-18
- b. Prayer mightily fights knowledge, imaginations, emotions against God 2 Cor 10:3-5
- c. When you are walking after the flesh, a good turn toward the Spirit is to pray.
- d. Prayer sanctifies your mind from the flesh/world/evil 1Tim 4:5, 1Th 5:23, Rom 7:25
- e. Pray works to crucify lusts, reckon dead, yield, renew minds, rejoice Ro 6:11, Gal 5:24

5. Praying Under Grace

- a. We cannot pray as we ought when the flesh is contrary to the Spirit Gal 5:17, 21
- b. We have received the Spirit to help our infirmities when we pray Rom 8:26
- c. We are told to be filled with the Spirit (after the will of God) Eph 5:18
- d. We are told to pray in the Spirit (holding fast to the word of God) Eph 6:18
- e. If you struggle with prayer, a good prayer might be, "Help me to walk in your Spirit"