

Sermon ~ Sunday, January 22, 2023, by Pastor Dwight Benoit

Text: Mark 1: 35

Title: "PRAY, When, Where, Why, What, How and to WHO?"

Church, it's **praying** time!

Those who do not **pray**, and **pray earnestly** [seriously, sincerely, soberly, thoughtfully] are, "Spiritual infants!" It does not matter how long they claim 'salvation—being born again,' they are "spiritual babies!"

Your **prayers** are ritualistic, mechanical, more about you and very less about others.

You have no appetite for **The WORD of GOD**... no burden for 'lost souls'... it's all about you and your kingdom coming... you and your will being done. No **CHRIST**. All you!

How many wives complain about their husbands, "Always **praying!**"

How many husbands complain about their wives, "Always **praying!**"

How many parents complain about their children, "Always **praying!**"

[I won't ask about 'children' complaining... for they have so much... evident, too much, too soon!]

Q. Are you a stranger to The Throne Room of **GOD'S GRACE**?

Q. Is your life more about 'public ministry' or 'private devotion'?

***When JESUS Prayed?**

1: 35, "...in the morning, rising up a great while before day..."

-- "Early morning **PRAYER** explains the evening of Power! Look back at the day before..."

1: 8, "I... (John the Baptist) ... baptize with water... but HE (JESUS) shall baptize you with **The HOLY GHOST.**"

1: 9, "...**JESUS** came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized of John in Jordan."

1: 10, "And **straightway**... **The SPIRIT** like a dove descending upon **HIM (JESUS)**..."

1: 11, "...a **VOICE** from heaven... **THOU** art **MY** beloved **SON**, in **WHOM I AM** well-pleased."

(The DIVINE Authority!)

1: 12, And **immediately** **The SPIRIT** driveth **HIM (JESUS)** into the wilderness."

(to deal with **the Devil**—40 days of temptations, vs. 13)

1: 14, "...**JESUS** came into Galilee, **preaching The Gospel of The KINGdom of GOD**..."

1: 15, "...**repent and believe**..."

1: 16-20, **JESUS** calls **disciples**... **come after ME, and I will make you to become fishers of men.**"

1: 21, "...**straightway**, they went into Capernaum; on the Sabbath day, entered the synagogue and taught." (**Doctrine**)

1: 23, "And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit..." (**Demon**)

1: 25, 26, **JESUS** said, "...**Hold your peace, and come out of him**...cast the demon out."

1: 29, 30, "And **forthwith**, when they were come out of the synagogue... they went to Simon and Andrew's house, with James and John and Simon's mother-in-law lay sick of a fever..." (**Disease**)

1: 31, "**JESUS** took her by her hand, and lifted her up; and **immediately** the fever left..."

1: 32-34, "And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto **JESUS** all that were diseased... possessed with devils... sick with divers' diseases... devils... **JESUS** healed and delivered."

1: 35, "...in the morning, rising up a great while before day..."

Point: "Early morning PRAYER explains the evening of Power!"

Look back at the day before...

Q. How do you begin your Day? **JESUS** believed in beginning **HIS** day with **PRAYER!**

It helps throughout the day! [Ok, you work the night shift! Start a bit earlier...

"We will not **pray** much if **prayer** isn't earlier, than our daily schedules!]

***Where JESUS prayed?**

1: 35, "...departed into a solitary place and there **prayed**."

Departed, *metairo* (met-ah'-ee-ro), meaning 'I changed my position' ... 'I removed myself.'

Point: JESUS departed from comforts... HE departed from companions... HE went along to pray!

Solitary place, *eremos* (er'-ay-mos), **HE isolated HIMSELF**... moved to an uncultivated, unpopulated place. **HE freed HIMSELF** from disturbance. **HE needed** quietness.

***What, How and WHO, JESUS prayed?**

After a Day like yesterday...

JESUS prayed to **GOD**... not saints, not the Pastor or Priest, not Mary, not apostles...

HE prayed petitions: pleadings, entreating's, supplications. **HE prayed PRAISES to GOD!**

HE prayed *seeing productive results!*

Point: If we spent more time in prayer before we make decisions and confront problems and temptations, we will spend less time in prayer pleading for deliverances!

***Why JESUS prayed?**

1. **HE** was *tried*. The Day before *drained* and *exhausted HIM*... physically, mentally, emotionally.

2. **HE** was launching **HIS** first Missionary and Evangelistic tour. [On a Mission, not a job!]

1: 38, "Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth."

3. Confronted with the *applause* and *praise* of men. 1: 37c, "...all men seek for thee."

Church, we can not give to people in *public*, what you have not gotten from **GOD** in *private*!