

Bible Study ~ PRAYER
Wednesday, JULY 5, 2023, by Pastor Dwight Benoit
Lesson 9

“...LORD, teach us to **pray**...” (Luke 11: 1)

“SPIRITual Warfare!
How to Respond to the Enemy When He Comes after You!

The Theology (Study of) of The Devil!

Q. When The Enemy is Attacking Us, How Should we Respond?

Teaser...

Q. Why Can't You Concentrate When *Worshipping* GOD or **Praying** To GOD?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Answers...

1. Your Mind is busy going over all Your pending Tasks.
2. Respect **GOD** as a Strategy to Concentrate on **HIM**. (Matthew 6: 33, 34)
3. Schedule Your Day in Advance (The Day or Night Before) and Let *Worship* Time be for *Worship* Time and **Prayer** Time Be for **Prayer** Time.
4. Make Sure to Complete Things that may Reduce Your Concentration in *Worship* and **Prayer**.
5. Set Your Time for **BIBLE Reading** (Allowing **The BIBLE** to Read You) so that, in *Worship*, You can be Familiar with **The BIBLE Text** (Read or Preached) to Enhance Your Attention.
6. Cleanse Your Mind and *Spirit* before You Come to **The House of Prayer**, by *Confessing* and *Repenting* to **GOD**, to Keep Focus, when You Arrive.
7. **Prayer** is a Bridge that Creates a Link between You and **The LORD**.

Q. When The Enemy is Attacking Us, How Should we Respond?

Seven Ways to Respond... Acronym for **R.E.S.P.O.N.D.**

1. R – Resist The Devil or His Demon(s) in **JESUS' NAME!**

Read Acts 4: 12... When The Enemy is Attacking, Call on The NAME of JESUS CHRIST.

[Many people '*React*' *negatively* to **The TRUTH** that there is 'no other' than that of **JESUS** to Call on for Salvation (Deliverance, Rescue). Yet this is not something **The Church** decided; it is the *Specific Teaching* of **JESUS CHRIST HIMSELF.**]

(Read John 14: 6)

AND, Reassure Yourself that **GOD through JESUS CHRIST** has *already* Defeated Satan.

[Read Revelation 12: 10-12. And, when **CHRIST JESUS returns**, the Devil and All He stands for will be eliminated forever. Read Revelation 20: 10-15.]

With **The HOLY SPIRIT'S POWER** and **The WORD of GOD**, You can Resist The Devil!

Also, We must “Draw near to **GOD!**” (James 4: 8) How? Five Ways...

1. *Humble* Yourself before **GOD**. (James 4: 7) That is, *Yield* to **HIS Authority** and Will, *Commit* Your life to **HIM** and **HIS Control** and be willing to *Follow* **HIM**.
2. Resist the Devil. [Resist, withstand, hold out against, keep out; *anthistemi* (anth-is'-tay-mee), meaning to stand opposite against—take a complete stand against. Because You are *Positioned* in **CHRIST**, ‘hold Your ground.’”
3. *Wash Your Hands . . . and Purify Your Hearts,*” that is, ‘Lead a Pure Life. (James 4: 8) Don’t be *dirty* in Sin-sinning; replace Your *desires* to Sin with a *desire* to *Please* **GOD**.
4. Be *Sorrowful* and *Mourn* over having Sinned. (James 4: 9) Don’t be afraid to express Heartfelt sorrow for what You have done.
5. *Bow down* before **The LORD JESUS CHRIST**, and **HE** will lift You Up (I Peter 5: 6).

2. **E** – Escape with **SCRIPTURE**. Read I Corinthians 10: 13.

In this Culture filled with Moral Depravity [perversion, wickedness, indecency] and sin- inducing pressures do know **1**. Temptation happens to everyone, so don’t feel You’ve been singled out. **2**. Others have resisted temptation, and so can You. **3**. Any temptation can be *resisted* because **GOD** will show You a way out. **4**. **Pray** for **GOD’S Help**.

5. *Seek Friends* who **Love** **GOD** and can offer help when You are tempted.

* Use **The SCRIPTURES!** (Read Matthew 4: 4, 7, 10. Hebrews 4: 12)

* *Combat Doubt...* Not with Guns and Knives, but with **TRUTH—The WORD of GOD!**
The Power of Displacement. *Displace* the Lie with **The TRUTH!** Darkness with **LIGHT!**

3. **S** – Search for Unconfessed Sin.

There is a difference between Being “tempted” [enticed, persuaded, coax; *peirazo* (pi-rad'-zo,) meaning ‘to make proof of] by Something. And, “tormented” [torture, afflicted, agonized; *basanizo* (bas-an-id'-zo), meaning harassment, distress] by Something. Point: Failure to **REPENT** is to be “tormented!”

4. **P** – Plead The Blood of **JESUS?** [Please Notice the Question Mark “?”!!!]

“Pleading The Blood of **JESUS**” in **Prayer** is a *teaching* common in *Pentecostal* and *Charismatic* circles. When people speak of “Pleading The Blood of **JESUS** in Prayer,” they are referring to the practice of ‘Claiming **The Power of CHRIST**’ over any and every Problem by using the phrase “I Plead The Blood of **JESUS** over _____.”

“Pleading The Blood of **JESUS**” has no clear basis in **SCRIPTURE**. No one in **The BIBLE** ever “Pleads The Blood of **CHRIST**.” Those who “Plead The Blood” often do so as if there were something ‘*Magical*’ in those words or as if by using them their **Prayer** is somehow more Powerful. This *Teaching* is born from a *misguided* view of **Prayer** that **Prayer** is a way of *manipulating* **GOD** to get what we want rather than **Praying** for **HIS Will** to be done.

The “Word of Faith Movement,” which *Teaches* “Pleading The Blood,” is founded on the *false* Teaching that *Faith* is a force and that, if we **Pray** with enough *Faith*, **GOD** guarantees us Health, Wealth, and Happiness.

Some base this aspect of “*Pleading The Blood*” on Revelation 12: 11, “They triumphed over [Satan] by **The Blood of The LAMB and by The WORD** of their testimony.”

SO, PLEAD, I John 1: 9; Colossians 1: 13, James 4: 7 and Hebrews 7: 25!!!

5. **O** – *Overtake* The Ground **GOD** has given You, that You gave to The Enemy.

Read Luke 11: 14-23. *Replace* **GOD** through **JESUS CHRIST** on the Throne of Your mind!

6. **N** – *Name* Someone in Targeted **Prayer!**

Read Ephesians 6: 18... “...**Pray** at All times?” That is, be ‘quick’ and ‘specific.’

Response to every situation You meet throughout the day, with ‘quick’ and ‘specific’ **Prayer**. Let Your Life become a ‘Living **Prayer**.’ **Pray** and **Pray** for Others! Focus on Others in **Prayer!**

7. **D** – *Delight* in **The LORD (JESUS)!**

Read Psalm 37: 4... To delight in someone means to ‘*encounter*’ *great pleasure* and *JOY* in his or her presence. This happens only when We know that **PERSON**

(**The LORD JESUS**) Well. Knowledge of GOD through our LORD JESUS, great LOVE for us will indeed give Us Delight [*JOY, Blessedness, Take Your Breath Away!*]

Read Philippians 4: 4... It seems strange that a Man in prison (Apostle Paul) would be telling **The Church** to ‘Rejoice.’ But Paul’s attitude *teaches* Us an important Lesson:

“Our inner attitudes do not have to reflect our outward circumstances!”

Delight in **The LORD (JESUS)!** Our Identity in **GOD** through **CHRIST JESUS** is in Charge!!!