

# **BATTLE PRAYERS!**

**Part 1**



***OUR DAILY BREAD***

***Junior Edition***

***5-25-08***



## **SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:**

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.*

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. *For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.* (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

*Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

(John 14:6 KJB)

*Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.* (Acts 16:31 KJB)

Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! *But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.* (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.*

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

Last week we ended a very long study about how we can RESIST TEMPTATION! We learned lots about the SPIRITUAL ARMOR that God gives to all His children for their souls to PROTECT them from all the devil's tricks & schemes to get them to drift away from obeying God their Father. We learned that there is a SPIRITUAL BATTLE going on in this world which is INVISIBLE to our human eyes! Here is just ONE of the many, many parts of God's Word which tell us that this is so! We hope you know it well so that the next time YOU are tempted to do things that God your Father says are WRONG, you will remember that this temptation is all part of this INVISIBLE BATTLE!

"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

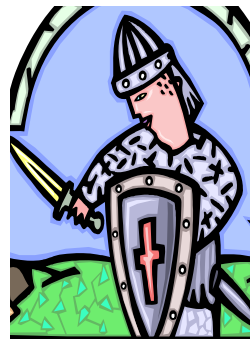
Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles (tricks, schemes) of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood (we aren't fighting against people), but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Ephesians 6:10-13 KJB

God's Word ( which is TRUTH) tells us that when we dress our souls - our THINKING) - in all His special spiritual ARMOR, we'll be able to STAND & NOT GIVE IN TO the



temptations of Satan & all his followers. With all of God's special armor on our souls, the devil won't be able to **KNOCK US DOWN!** He won't be able to make a mess of our lives. When we have all our armor on & use it correctly, the devil won't be able to lead us down the wrong paths in life! And, if you read the rest of that Scripture through to verse 19, you'll see that the very last things we learned is that



## PRAYER

is part of this **BATTLE!**

Prayer is our way to **TALK TO GOD.** It is one of the ways God has given us to make it known that we want to **OBEY HIM & not Satan!** Our prayers are one way we can make it known that **GOD is our BOSS & we LIKE it that way!** After all, there is **NO ONE** except God who can tell us what is **PERFECTLY RIGHT & GOOD** for us to think, say & do!

Our prayers also give God the opportunity to show us that He is **REAL**, that He cares about us, that He is **WISE & FAITHFUL & POWERFUL!** As we watch how God answers our prayers - in **HIS time & HIS way** - we learn all these things about God. Then those answered prayers help us **TRUST Him more.** Our **FAITH** grows stronger!

But, you see Satan wants to be our **BOSS!** Satan does **NOT** want us to learn that God is **REAL**, that God is **WISE**, that God is **FAITHFUL**, that God is **POWERFUL**, that we can **TRUST GOD** for everything - that Jesus is our **ONLY GOD & SAVIOR!** Satan will do **ALL** in his power to **BLIND** people from learning all these things about God! That is one of Satan's **MAJOR** goals on his side of the battle for men's souls! Here is just **ONE** scripture that tells us this is so about Satan:

"But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

In whom the god of this world (Satan is the god of this world for the time being. God is allowing that to be so for now.) hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

1Corinthians 4:2-4 KJB

And this next scripture tells us what God's goal is on HIS side of the battle over men's souls"

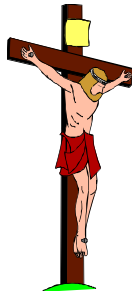
"For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior;

Who will have all men to be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth.

For *there is* one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

Who gave himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time." 1Timothy 2:3-6 JKJB

There it is! The BATTLE between God & Satan! Satan wants to BLIND people from knowing the TRUTH about Jesus Christ -GOD OUR SAVIOR!



And God has done EVERYTHING He can- especially by the death & resurrection of His very own Son - to let people know the TRUTH about Himself! And as we shall see today, PRAYER has an IMPORTANT PART in this battle.

Beginning with today's lesson & over the next few weeks we are going to look at some situations & examples of prayers from our King James Bible that show us BEYOND A DOUBT, that PRAYER plays a VERY IMPORTANT PART in this battle between God & Satan for the souls of men! As we read about these situations where PRAYER was used

mightily in this battle between God & Satan & as we read some of these BATTLE PRAYERS, remember that we can use some of these SAME prayers when we pray too!

We'll talk about this as we go along in the lesson.

First of all, our scripture from Ephesians 6:10-19 of which we just read a few parts, tells us DEFINITELY that there is a WRESTLING MATCH - a BATTLE going on. And that scripture CLEARLY IDENTIFIES our enemy! Rulers of darkness & spiritual wickedness in high places! The DEVIL! And that scripture also CLEARLY IDENTIFIES what OUR duties are in this battle as children of God & soldiers in God's army! We are to PUT ON OUR ARMOR, USE GOD'S WORD CORRECTLY, TRUST GOD & PRAY! Ephesians 6:17-18KJB

"And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God:

Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saint;"



That scripture tells us that we are to pray with our souls dressed for battle with the Word of God - what God thinks & wants for us; & we are to pray for ourselves & for all the other believers as God leads us to do. We are to BE ALERT! We are to WATCH what is happening in our families & our churches & ask

God what we should pray in these situations & have faith that He will show us! In fact, this part of scripture gives us a SPECIFIC PRAYER - A BATTLE PRAYER - that we should pray EVERY DAY! Let's see what that BATTLE PRAYER is.

First of all, it is important to know that it was the apostle Paul whom God used to write this book of Ephesians. In fact, when God led Paul to write this letter, Paul was a prisoner in a Roman prison cell! In the letter, right after the apostle Paul told the people to whom he was writing to be strong in the Lord by putting on their spiritual armor & keep on praying for other believers in this battle, he told them to pray something VERY SPECIFIC for him too!



Read what Paul wanted the people of Ephesus to pray for him WHILE he was in PRISON!

"And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel,

For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak."

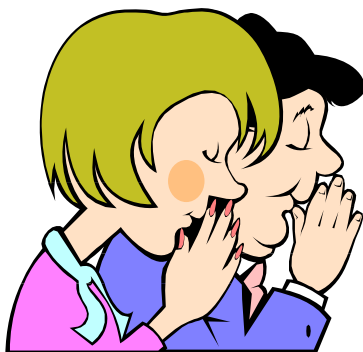
Ephesians 6:19-20KJB

Did Paul ask the people to pray for him to be RELEASED from prison? No! He wrote to the believers in Ephesus to tell them about the BATTLE between God & Satan. He wrote to the believers in

Ephesus to tell them how they too could RESIST Satan's schemes to get them to live lives that would dishonor God. He wrote to them about how IMPORTANT PRAYER is in this BATTLE & that they should WATCH & be ALERT & pray ALWAYS & CAREFULLY the way God would have them pray!

And then Paul told them to PRAY SPECIFICALLY for him that he would be able to SPEAK THE GOSPEL BOLDLY right there from prison! Paul knew that God wanted even the PRISON GUARDS & other PRISONERS to know about Jesus! Remember! God wants ALL men to be SAVED & to come to KNOW TRUTH - even those who seem to be our enemies! 1Timothy 2:1-7 KJB

Paul knew that God wanted him to use his time in prison to tell others about Jesus Christ! Paul knew that his telling others about Jesus while he was IN that prison, was more important at this time than his getting OUT of prison! And so, as a BATTLE PRAYER in this battle between God & Satan over the souls of men, Paul asked the believers in Ephesus to pray that he would be able to TALK ABOUT JESUS & SALVATION to others in that prison!



And this is something WE should pray for ourselves & others too! One of our BATTLE PRAYERS should be that God will help us & other believers to tell people



about Jesus Christ at the right time & in the right way! Pray for yourself, for your family members who are believers & for your church. Ask God to help all of you learn more about the Gospel, about Jesus, about His Word. Ask God to help all of you get better at finding out what things to do to get His Word out to other people outside of your family & church! And remember what we learned last week. We must NEVER get TIRED of praying for others! Jesus said:

"And he spake a parable unto them *to this end* (for this purpose) that men ought always to pray, and not to faint;" Luke 18:1 KJB



So KEEP ON TRUSTING GOD & PRAYING the BATTLE PRAYER that God would give you opportunities to tell others about your Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ & that nothing will stand in your way of doing that! For the next few weeks, we will learn more situations & prayers from the Bible that show us that:

- #1. There IS an invisible battle going on in our universe.
- #2. Prayer has a very important role in this battle.

## BIBLE STUDY

To learn some more about prayer from your King James Bible, read

1Timothy 2:1-8; 2Corinthians 1:11 1John 5:10-15

# GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

## Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

## Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

## Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

## Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

## Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

## Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

## Directions

### From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

### From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



## Grace Christian Fellowship

232 Woonasquatucket Avenue, North Providence, RI 02911  
Tel 401.233.9671 • Fax 401.223.1292 • [www.GraceCFellowship.org](http://www.GraceCFellowship.org)