



**Prayer Works (Part 3.0)**  
***A Calvary Summer Series***  
**A Wake-up Call, a Judgement and A Prayer That Will**  
**Keep Your Life Attuned to Jesus**  
**Pastor Ryan Bunbury**  
**July 17, 2022**

**SERIES TEXT:** "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe you have received it, and it will be yours."  
- Jesus, Mark 11:24 NIV

**BIG IDEA:** Prayer does for us that which we cannot do for ourselves.

**A WAKE-UP CALL, A JUDGEMENT AND A PRAYER THAT WILL**  
**KEEP YOUR LIFE ATTUNED TO JESUS:**

**I. A WAKE-UP CALL**

- "Indignation **grips** me..." - David, Psalm 119:53 NIV
- "...because of the wicked, who have forsaken your **law**." - David, Psalm 119:53 NIV
- "LOVE the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. And... LOVE your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." - Jesus, Matthew 22:37-40 NIV
- But when I see the wicked ignore your directions, I'm beside myself with **anger**.— David, Psalm 119:53 MSG
- Who or what have I been deeply upset about? \_\_\_\_\_

**II. A JUDGMENT (Ezekiel's Vision in Ch. 8-9)**

- Could our personal opinions and judgments be the heavy baggage that is holding us back from taking flight and enjoying an abundant Christian life?
- The hand of my Master, God, **gripped** me... (v. 8:1 MSG)
- "... Do you see what they're doing? Outrageous obscenities! And doing them **right here!**" (v. 8:6 MSG)
- ... I looked. I couldn't believe my eyes... (v. 8:10 MSG)
- The Baggage of FOUR "wicked and detestable things":
  - 1) ... the sex goddess, Asherah... (v. 8:5 MSG) i.e., their North Gate Protection
  - 2) ... the whole pantheon of Egyptian gods and goddesses – being worshipped... HERE IN THE DARK... **god-pictures** (v. 8:10, 12 MSG) i.e., their Inner Peace
  - 3) ... women sitting there, weeping for Tammuz, the Babylonian **fertility god**. (v. 8:14 MSG) i.e., their Provision
  - 4) ... men. Their **backs were to God's** Temple. They were facing east, bowing in worship to the sun. (v. 8:16 MSG) i.e., their East Gate Power
- ... each at the shrine of HIS OWN IDOL... (v. 8:12a NIV)
- Even while these people were worshipping the Lord, they were SERVING THEIR IDOLS. 2 Kings 17:41 NIV

**Idol test: If we fill our minds full of ideas that we trust and go to before we go to God and trust, it just might be an idol in our life.**

- An idol is a person or thing that is greatly admired, loved, or revered.
- "The sins of the people... are very, very great. The entire land is full of murder; the city is filled with injustice. They are saying, 'The Lord doesn't see it! The Lord has abandoned the land!'" (v. 9:9 NLT)

- When your opinion is the same as Jesus' it's right; When it's not, it's not.
- -"You have **let go** of the commands of God and are **holding on to** the traditions of men."  
- Jesus, Mark 7:8 NIV
- Is your life packed full of opinions *which seem* right to hold on to but are *actually* detrimental idols of tradition worth letting go of?
- Do I need to confess any idols of judgmental or wayward opinion? What sinful baggage in my life do I need to let go of? \_\_\_\_\_

### III. A PRAYER

- On a 1-10 scale, are you a happy Christian?
- "Go through the streets... put a mark on... everyone who is in anguish over the outrageous obscenities being done in the city." (v. 9:4)
- I fell on my face in PRAYER. (v. 9:8)
- "To sum it all up... what is needed for happy and effectual [prayer] service is simply... yielding yourself unto God as... 'instruments of righteousness,' to be used by Him as He pleases!"  
- Hannah Whitall Smith, *The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life* (pp. 197, 198)
- When your life is yielded to Jesus in prayer it's in tune; When it's not, it's not.
- So, Concertmaster, Jesus, prays us our tuning note...

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

"Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen." - Jesus, Matthew 6:9-13 KJV