

The Doctrine of Christ no 08

“Jesus prayed to His Father who is God”

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The 7th attribute in our study of the Doctrine of Christ we find that *“Jesus Prayed to his Father who is God”*. Now, there are no Scriptures where it is said that God prayed himself, for who would God pray too if he did pray? He is God, why pray to a lesser being? But Scripture is full of places where *Jesus, the Son of God prayed to God His Father*, and this evening we will examine these Scriptures and what William Branham vindicated prophet of God had to say about them. We will take the New Testament Gospels to show you not only *the attitude Jesus had towards prayer*, but *how he developed his relationship with his Father through the instrument* we call Prayer. To do so we will take the Scriptures chronologically just to keep ourselves from duplicating our efforts and it will be easier for you to follow along with me in your Bibles as we do this.

1st I would like to show you that **prayer will bring about Change: Matthew 5:44** *But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;*

Why do we pray? There are several reasons why we pray:

1: **For supplication** which means, *1. To ask for humbly or earnestly, as by praying. 2. To make a humble entreaty to; beseech. v. intr. 1. To make a humble, earnest petition;*

2: **To convey worship** to God, Yes, Jesus prayed to His God. God means object of Worship and Jesus had an object of worship and that was His Father.

3: **To give thanks** to God for what he has done or what you expect him to do.

Pray in private: Matthew 6:5 *And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. 7 But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.*

There is an Order to how we must pray: Matthew 6:8 *Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him. 9 After this manner therefore pray ye: (so there is an order to how we should pray.) Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. (begin by acknowledging who it is that you are talking to. It is your approach that brings the results, so your approach is most important.) 10 Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. (Now, after our approach, we begin to make our requests.) 11 Give us this day our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: (then acknowledge God alone has the power to give us what we have asked him for.) For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.*

Now, then here comes the catch. *14 For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you: 15 But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.* (In other words he is saying don't ask for what you are not willing to give yourself. Don't be a hypocrite. And that is exactly what he says next.) *16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. 17 But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.* (And now, Jesus shows us that those things which are eternal are far more to be sought through our prayer than those temporary things we can acquire here on earth.) *19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: 20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: 21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*

In your prayer be thankful: Prayer should be used to thank God for what he has already done for you and for what he will do for you in the future. We do not express our thanks enough to God, and it shows in our attitudes when we get upset when we see something not going the way we want it to go. Notice Jesus says in *Matthew 11:25 At that time Jesus answered and said, I thank thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes. 26 Even so, Father: for so it seemed good in thy sight.*

Pray in private: *Matthew 14:23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.*

Pray in private: *Matthew 26:36 Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder.*

Our Prayer acknowledges Who is in Control: *Matthew 26:38-39 Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39 And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*

Prayer is a result of our watchfulness: *Matthew 26:41-44 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak. 42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done. 43 And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44 And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words.*

Pray with Assurance: *Matthew 26:53-54 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? 54 But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be?*

Pray in private: *Mark 1:35 And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.*

Pray in private: Mark 6:46 *And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray.*

A result of our watchfulness: Mark 13:33 *Take ye heed, watch and pray: for ye know not when the time is.*

Making Your desires known: Mark 11:24 *Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them. 25 And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*

Pray in private: For a need: Mark 14:32 *And they came to a place which was named Gethsemane: and he saith to his disciples, Sit ye here, while I shall pray. 35 And he went forward a little, and fell on the ground, and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. 38 Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak. 39 And again he went away, and prayed, and spake the same words.*

Luke 3:21 *Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, and praying, the heaven was opened,*

Pray in private: Luke 5: 3 *And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. 16 And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed.*

Pray in private: Luke 6:12 *And it came to pass in those days, that he went out into a mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. 28 Bless them that curse you, and pray for them which despitefully use you.*

Pray in private: Luke 9:18 *And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? 28 And it came to pass about an eight days after these sayings, he took Peter and John and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. 29 And as he prayed, the fashion of his countenance was altered, and his raiment was white and glistering.*

Making Your desires known: Luke 10:2 *Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into his harvest.*

Prayer is a learned action: Luke 11:1-13 *And it came to pass, that, as he was praying in a certain place, when he ceased, one of his disciples said unto him, Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples. 2 And he said unto them, When ye pray, say, "Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth. 3 Give us day by day our daily bread. 4 And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil." 5 And he said unto them, Which of you shall have a friend, and shall go unto him at midnight, and say unto him, Friend, lend me three loaves; 6 For a friend of mine in his journey is come to me, and I have nothing to set before him? 7 And he from within shall answer and say, Trouble me not: the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot rise and give thee. 8 I say unto you, Though he will not rise and*

give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth. 9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. 10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. 11 If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? 12 Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Be Dedicated in your prayer life: Luke 18:1 And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that **men ought always to pray, and not to faint;** 10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

You can't pray enough: Luke 21:36 Watch ye therefore, and **pray always**, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

Why so hard to live Christian life 57-0303A P:2 And we're thankful that you're out this afternoon, and we feel that somehow we just can't get enough of God. And there's something about the Gospel, and the Word of God, that we just simply can't seem to get enough of It. You might eat too much sometimes, and you might drink enough good cold water to make you sick, but **I don't believe that a man could ever pray too much, or get too much of the love of God in his heart.** That's just one thing that just doesn't seem to ever get enough, fill up. And I'm taught that when we eat... If we are use to eating small portions, our stomach shrinks to that portion. And if we eat much, our stomach stretches to that. And I think we need some spiritual stretching, and get much of the Word. Can't be satisfied with just reading a little verse once in awhile, or something of that manner, but stretching our spiritual gastronomics.

Pray For Faith: Luke 22: 32 But **I have prayed for thee**, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. 40 And when he was at the place, he said unto them, Pray that ye enter not into temptation. 41 And he was withdrawn from them about a stone's cast, and kneeled down, and prayed, 44 And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. 46 And said unto them, Why sleep ye? rise and pray, lest ye enter into temptation.

Pray to Make your desires known: John 14: 13-18 And **whatsoever ye shall ask in my name**, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it. 15 If ye love me, keep my commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; 17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. 18 I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Pray to make your desires known: John 16:26 At that day ye **shall ask in my name**: and I say not unto you, that **I will pray the Father for you**: 27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God. 28 I came

forth from the Father, and am come into the world: again, I leave the world, and go to the Father. 29 His disciples said unto him, Lo, now speakest thou plainly, and speakest no proverb. 30 Now are we sure that thou knowest all things, and needest not that any man should ask thee: by this we believe that thou camest forth from God. 31 Jesus answered them, Do ye now believe? 32 Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me. 33 These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.

Where I think Pentecost failed 55-1111 P:14 *And God will never... You can never exhaust God's love and mercy to you. You say, "Well, I hate to bother You so much, Father." He wants to be bothered that way. He does. Don't never think that you could ever ask too much of God. I believe the Scripture said, "You have not, because you ask not. And you ask not, because you believe not." He wants us to ask and believe that our joys would be full. He wants you to ask abundantly. Ask for big things; don't limit your faith to some little mustard seed. Get on out here to some other kind of faith, and move out in big things. Ask... Big things is just as easy to receive as little things. You just have to believe; that's all. And you got faith, just know exactly how to use it, and it'll be all right. You can put it right to work and it'll just be fine.*

James 1:5-8 *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. 6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. 7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. 8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

Elijah and Elisha 54-0304 P:32 *Now, when they got down to the Jordan, time to cross over. He made the way. Then when he crossed over (the stage of the Holy Ghost church), said, "Now, I want to ask you something." "So what do you want?" He said, "That a double portion of your spirit come upon me." **That's the way to ask for it. Don't be scared. Ask for the whole lot.** Jesus said, *"You have not because you ask not. You ask not because you believe not. Ask abundantly that your joys may be full." Ask a whole lot. "God, just don't make me a little bit better; make me all the way well."* Don't just let me have enough religion to make myself miserable; kill me out to sin that I can live in Christ. That's right.*

What it takes to overcome all unbelief 60-0729 P:55 *Some people think, "Oh, I hate to call on God so much." That's what He wants you to do." **You have not because you ask not. You ask not because you believe not.** Ask abundantly that your joys might be full." That's what God wants: Ask big things. I'm asking for hundreds of souls in this meeting. I'm asking that every sick person enters that door will go out of here well. I'm believing it. I'm believing that till we go, that this won't be another gathering together, but it'll be a revival in Yakima here. Satan's kept me out of here long enough, and I believe the hour is here for a real sweeping revival in every church and around the country.*

God commissioning Moses the prophet 53-0508 P:37 *When they crossed over, got over on the other side, he said, "Now, you've asked. Ask what you will, and I will give it to you." Perfect type of the Church." All right," he said, "I want a double portion of your spirit." Amen. Don't be scared to ask. Ask abundantly. "You have not, because you ask not. You ask not, because you believe not." That's right. Ask, ask a whole lot. God will give you a whole lot. Have a lot of faith.* A fellow told me the other day; he said, "He was riding an old model-T Ford, yet." Said, "One day he happened to get some good faith and God give him a Buick." Said, "I got a Buick faith, I'm praying for Cadillac faith." All right. That's good. That's right. Keep on. What you believe, hold on to it. God will give it. He's got Ford faith, so just stay with the Ford then, that's all right. And so, Let's get a little more faith. All right.

All the days of our life 59-0612 P:33 *Whatever you have need of, just ask. "Ask abundantly that your joys may be full. Ask and you shall receive; seek and ye shall find; knock and it'll be opened unto you.*

Pray for others: *John 17:1-9 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee: 2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him. 3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent. 4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do. 5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was. 6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word. 7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee. 8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me. 9 **I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.***

Pray for Prevention: *John 17:13-18 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves. 14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 15 **I pray** not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest **keep them from the evil.** 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth. 18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*

Pray For Others: *John 17:19-26 And **for their sakes** I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth. 20 Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. 22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: 23 I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. 24 Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they*

may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world. 25 O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me. 26 And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

Pray with Emotion, let God you really mean it: *Hebrews 5:7-8 Who in the days of his flesh, when he had offered up **prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears** unto him that was able to save him from death, and was heard in that he feared; 8 Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered;*