

# **PRAYER**

**Unanswered yet? Faith cannot be unanswered,**

**Her feet were firmly planted on the Rock,**

**Amid the wildest storms, she stands, undaunted,**

**Nor quails before the loudest thunder shock.**

**She knows Omnipotence has heard her prayer,**

**And cries, "It shall be done, sometime, somewhere."**

**Unanswered yet? Nay, do not say ungranted**

**Perhaps your part is not yet wholly done,**

**The work began when your first prayer was uttered,**

**And God will finish what He has begun.**

**If you will keep the incense burning there,**

**His glory you shall see, sometime, somewhere.**

**Robert Browning**

# And They Hear d

Ever notice how people react differently when hearing the same thing? Some might fail to believe what they heard. Others might say that it is just for someone else. Even still some might become concerned, worried, or even distraught by what they have heard. Some might laugh and ridicule.

The truth is that words can have a profound effect on the listeners. Many men in history have gathered people and even made war by their words. Men followed the likes of Hitler, Jim Jones, even Saddam Husein, because of what they heard.

When reading the news paper, one might find articles that cause laughter, or maybe anxiety, or maybe even articles that move one to take action.

In the Old Testament, we find some people's reaction to what they heard or read.

**Nehemiah 8:9** . . . For all the people wept, when they heard the words of the law.

**Nehemiah 13:3** Now it came to pass, when they had heard the law, that they separated from Israel all the mixed multitude.

**2Chronicles 15:8** And when Asa heard these words, and the prophecy of Oded the prophet, he took courage, and put away the abominable idols out of all the land of Judah and Benjamin, and out of the cities which he had taken from mount Ephraim, and renewed the altar of the LORD, that was before the porch of the LORD.

**2Chronicles 34:19** And it came to pass, when the king had heard the words of the law, that he rent his clothes.

These are just a few instances where we find the reaction of people as they heard the Word of God. We find them being changed by what they heard. They wept, they destroyed their idols, they repented, and they moved forward.

They were moved by the words they heard. What is our reaction when we hear the Word of God? Do we just let it slide off our backs like water off of a duck? Do we listen intently and then just forget the next day? How much does the Word affect us when we hear? Do we leave the room changed by God's Word?

God is interested in our attitude towards His Word. He wants us to take a sincere interest in what He has to say to us today. In Hebrews 1:2 we are told that God has spoken to us through His Son. If we neglect the Word of God, or have a casual attitude towards His Word, we are neglecting His Son.

Too many today want to go to a church where they have programs, social events and fun gatherings, but do not want to sit and listen to the Word of God. Even fewer seem interested in studying the Word on their own. We make many choices about what to do with our time, but nothing can compare in value to studying God's Word.

We also can choose to let God's Word change us or simply consider it something interesting and nothing more. What is our attitude when we hear God's Word? Are we moved? Are we indifferent? Are we changed? I pray that the Lord would open your eyes and ears to His Word and your heart to be changed by the Word.

Gordon Crook

# The Book of Mark

## Chapter 10:46-52

Vs. 46-52, “And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.”

To this poor sightless man, the coming of Jesus that day meant the opening of his eyes **physically and spiritually**. When he heard that Jesus was coming, he began to cry out to Him. He did not wait for Jesus to call him first. He cried out for the help he sorely needed. This shows he had faith that Jesus would deliver him. The Lord is touched by such faith.

The crowd that followed Jesus tried to silence the blind beggar, but he had a faith that refused to be denied. He cried out all the

*more*, “Thou Son of David, **have mercy on me.**” By addressing Jesus as the Son of David means he acknowledged Him as the prophesied Messiah. For it was prophesied that the Messiah would be the offspring of David. The blind beggar knew Jesus could open his eyes. Such faith never pleads in vain.

Jesus stopped and commanded the beggar to be called. He must have been filled with joy when he heard them say, “Be of good comfort, rise; He calleth thee.” In his haste, he cast away his outer garment and arose and came to Jesus.

Jesus asked, “What wilt thou that I should do unto thee?” Jesus knew his heart, but He desired him to speak it publicly. Matthew 7:7-8, “**Ask**, and it shall be given you; **seek**, and ye shall find; **knock**, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.”

“Lord, that I might receive my sight.” Compare Acts 17:27, “That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us:” His faith was at once rewarded. He **immediately** received his sight. Additional assurance was given to him. Jesus said, “Thy faith hath made thee whole.” The original Greek text reads, “**thy faith hath saved thee.**” His gratitude is evidenced by the fact that *he followed Jesus* as He went along the way. What a testimony he had of Jesus’ compassion and of His healing power. That truly He was the Messiah, the Son of David.

E. J. D.



# EXAMPLES FROM THE PAST

Orville Freestone Jr.

## DANIEL - A PURPOSED LIFE

### **“But Daniel purposed in his heart” - Dan. 1:8**

When the Babylonians conquered the Kingdom of Judah they exiled the Jews to Babylon in three separate deportations. They left only a small population in Judah that soon fled to Egypt. (Jer. 43:7 & 52:16) The first to go into exile were the princes and prominent persons. Daniel and his friends Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were among these. It was the policy of the Babylonians to “pick the brains” of the conquered peoples for their own benefit. Daniel and his friends were thus picked. Their “education” was learning the Aramaic language, the lore of the “wise men” and various government responsibilities. Such positions, some with considerable power, brought pressure to conform to the society, to assimilate. Thus began the twenty-six hundred years of Jewish resistance to “assimilation.”

The first problem Daniel faced was the matter of food. He “purposed in his heart? not to “defile himself” with the kings food. (Dan. 1:8) The reason for this was the kings food was not kosher. The wine and the flesh had been dedicated to the gods of Babylon. By courtesy and diplomacy he and his friends were excused from this requirement. This meant that their diet was of necessity vegetarian. A second problem was idolatry, Israel was the only nation that was not idolatrous. The third chapter of Daniel is about Daniel’s friends, not him. They too were true to their convictions, ready to face death in Nebuchadnezzar’s fiery furnace rather than to conform. Doubtless Daniel faced like pressure.

Another problem arose over the matter of prayer. Daniel's non-Jewish peers were jealous of his success. They observed that he was a man of prayer. Daniel openly prayed in the manner Solomon had prescribed. (I Kings 8:46-53) His enemies succeeded in making this illegal, but Daniel had the courage to continue to pray for his people. He did not fear the lions den. God assured him that his prayers were heard. (Dan. 10:12) but He had plans for his people and they were very long range plans.

Because of Daniel's courage and faithfulness he was in a position to influence the government for good concerning his people. He also was entrusted with revelations concerning the future. Thus he ministered to those of his time and also to us. Daniel lived in an alien society, but not of his own choosing. He realized that he must live apart from the world around him. He was faithful to his responsibilities, but would not conform to the spirit of the age. We also are in this world but not of it. (John 17:14) We, too, must not be conformed to this world. (Rom. 12:2)

## ANNOUNCEMENT



Come join us at Camp Joy Haven, Aug. 4th-8th at Pomme de Terre camp grounds near Pittsburg, Missouri. Meet other young people your age for fun, fellowship and feeding on the Word of God. The cut off date for registrations is July 4th. For those who send in their registration and offerings for camp by that date will get a free camp T-shirt. For any additional information call 316-943-4190.

# NBC POLL

I'll bet this was a surprise to NBC.

Do you believe that the word God should stay in American culture? NBC this morning had a poll on this question. They had the highest Number of responses that they have ever had for one of their polls, and the Percentage was the same as this:

86% to keep the words, IN God We Trust and God in the  
Pledge of Allegiance

14% against

That is a pretty 'commanding' public response.

Therefore, I have a very hard time understanding why there is such a mess about having 'In God We Trust' on our money and having God in the Pledge of Allegiance. Why is the world catering to this 14%?

In God We Trust



## One-Liners

**Don't let your worries get the best of you, remember, Moses started out as a basket case.**

**Some people are kind, polite, and sweet-spirited - until you try to sit in their pews.**

**Many folks want to serve God, but only as advisers.**

**It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.**

# Have you heard about this case?

## Great answer from the judge!

In Florida, an atheist became incensed over the preparation of Easter and Passover holidays. He decided to contact his lawyer about the discrimination inflicted on atheists by the constant celebrations afforded to Christians and Jews with all their holidays while atheists had no holiday to celebrate.

The case was brought before a judge. After listening to the long passionate presentation by the lawyer, the Judge banged his gavel and declared, ‘Case dismissed!’

The lawyer immediately stood and objected to the ruling and said, ‘Your honor, how can you possibly dismiss this case? The Christians have Christmas, Easter and many other observances. Jews have Passover, Yom Kippur and Hanukkah...yet my client and all other atheists have no such holiday!’

The judge leaned forward in his chair and simply said, ‘Obviously your client is too confused to even know about, much less celebrate his own atheists’ holiday!’

The lawyer pompously said, ‘Your Honor, we are unaware of any such holiday for atheists. Just when might that holiday be, your Honor?’

The judge said, ‘Well it comes every year on exactly the same date—April 1st! Since our calendar sets April 1st as ‘April Fools Day,’ consider that Psalm 14:1 states, ‘The fool says in his heart, there is no God.’ Thus, in my opinion, if your client says there is no God, then by scripture, he is a fool, and April 1st is his holiday! Now have a good day and get out of my courtroom!!

# SEEK AND FIND

(find the underlined words)

Isaiah 41:10, Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed;  
for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea,  
I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

A C B Y W K T J O J B O W C V  
L R V X W X P L Y W C N Z X U  
K N I K F F E A R E E H T J K  
K J M G T W U T D E L K J F Z  
X N R V H L T P A H F L S C Y  
I E Y C Q T A Z H V A S A F M  
E H U Y M S E K M O M N M N H  
X T L L I H R O H Y L L D E N  
H G I S A I A H U T I D L M G  
B N X P G G X J J S I P U U T  
Y E G H R L O U H G N W F O M  
O R T V S I E D J B X E N H G  
A T D I S M A Y E D J N S T C  
E S K T O Q Q T J X W D C S A  
Z L N X G D K C S B Y T I L J