

PRAYER

PART 7 – *THE PRAYER OF FAITH*

Introduction:

1. “Lord, teach us to pray” (Luke 11:1).
2. It is important to know how to pray.
3. It is important to understand how God answers prayer.
4. It is essential for prayer to be made in faith (James 5:15-16; 1:6).

I. Praying to God Is Different

- A. The unbelieving and the skeptics claim that prayer is useless at best or dangerous at worst.
- B. They claim that praying to God is no different than praying to an idol – or to a carton of milk!
- C. Can one know that God will hear and answer prayer?

II. The Creation Shows Evidence of God

- A. The universe declares God (Psa. 19:1-3; Rom. 1:18-23).
- B. God created the world (Gen. 1:1; Exo. 20:11; Ac. 17:24).
- C. This is far different from the beliefs and theories of men.

III. History Shows Evidence of God

- A. The descendants of Abraham (Gen. 12:1-3; 15:5, 13-14)
- B. Jacob – Moses (Gen. 49:8-10; Exo. 19:1-6; 24:1-8)
- C. Captivity and Return
- D. The fullness of the times (Gal. 4:4; Eph. 1:10)

IV. Prophecy Shows Evidence of God

- A. Isaiah 41
- B. Vs. 1-7 – *God’s court case against the idols*
 1. God raised up Cyrus, and predicted it over 100 years before his birth!
 2. 44:28; 45:1
 3. The idols and idolaters could do nothing of such power.
- C. Vs. 8-20 – *God is living and active on behalf of His people*
 1. He had formed and sustained Israel throughout their history.
 2. He would continue to bless them as they obeyed Him.
 3. See, know, consider and understand that God did all this!
- D. Vs. 21-29 – *God challenges the idols to prove their power*
 1. God asks them to present their case, to predict the future, or to do anything to demonstrate that they are real and living.
 2. But, they were nothing and vanity; and, those who chose them were an abomination.
- E. God alone hears and answers prayer!

Conclusion: *God Is Able (Ephesians 3:20-21)*