

"Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer..."

Romans 12:12

A YEAR OF PRAYER

WEEK 42

PRAYER OF PRAISE

(Psalm 32:7; Joel 2:32; Luke 4:18)

PRaise GOD FOR HIS DELIVERANCE

"Thou art my hiding place; thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance."

Psalm 32:7

God is a God of deliverance. This means that He provides a way out of sin, its guilt and its punishment. Thus, man is given freedom, hope, and assurance. God gave His Son to pay the price that satisfied His justice toward sin. By the blood of Jesus, men can find forgiveness and avoid the punishment for sin.

In prayer, let us seek to honor God for His deliverance. Let us come before Him with humility and reverence, recognizing that without His sacrifice we would be without hope. Yet, let us pray with boldness, for His deliverance assures us that He will hear and answer our prayers.

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH

(1 Timothy 3:15)

PRAY FOR THE BEHAVIOR OF THE CHURCH

"But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God...."

1 Timothy 3:5

There is a way that men ought to behave in the Lord's church (not a reference to a church building). That way is revealed in Scripture. A Christian ought to live like a Christian! The church ought to work and worship and function like the church revealed in the New Testament. Let us pray for the church – locally and worldwide. Pray that each congregation will behave as it should. Thus, we may be a light of salvation to a world lost in sin.

PRAYER FOR OTHERS

(Matthew 5:44; Luke 6:28)

PRAY FOR ENEMIES

"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."

Matthew 5:44

We must remember our duty to pray for those who oppose us. We must desire good for all men – even those who hate and harm us. Pray for our enemies to become friends by obeying the Gospel of Christ.

"Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer..."

Romans 12:12

PRAYER FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS

(1 Timothy 6:8)

PRAY FOR CLOTHING

"And having food and raiment let us be therewith content."

1 Timothy 6:8

Of the many things that we call necessities, God instructs us to pray for two – food and clothing. The clothes we wear are often taken for granted because they are so easily and abundantly available. Yet, we must be grateful and – just as we ask for food – we should ask God to supply us with suitable clothing. We should also remember those who are in need and give to them.

PRAYER FOR FORGIVENESS

(Romans 8:1-4)

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death."

Romans 8:1-2

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

(Acts 9:36; Romans 12:9, 21)

PRAY FOR GOODNESS

"Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good. ...Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

Romans 12:9b, 21

Goodness refers to uprightness of heart, virtue, or kindness. To be good, one must know what is good and what is evil. God defines what is good and reveals it in His Word. We must choose to accept and obey His will.

God is good in His nature. He is good toward us. Everything that He does is good. All that He commands is good. Let us pray to become more like God in our character and our actions. Let us be good toward Him and toward our fellowman. Pray for goodness.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Eph. 1:15-16; 1 Thes. 1:2-4; 2 Thes. 1:3; 2:13-14)

"Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers...."

Ephesians 1:15-16