

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Needless to say, the countries of the world are in grave need of God's intervention – and that can only be brought about by fervent Prayer!

We came upon this prayer for the nations of the world by a leading U.S. Evangelist and would like to share it with you –

“Heavenly Father, we come before You today to ask Your forgiveness and to seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says, ‘Woe to those who call evil good,’ but that is exactly what we have done. We have lost our Spiritual equilibrium and reversed our values. We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed the unborn and called it choice. We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building esteem. We have abused power and called it politics. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our fathers and called it enlightenment. Search us, Oh God, and know our hearts today, cleanse us from every sin and set us free. Amen!”

This prayer was shared by the late Paul Harvey on his radio network and received a larger response to that program than any other he ever aired – thus proving that there are a lot of people fed up with the present “status quo” of politics and know that God is the only answer.

Prayer is the greatest tool and weapon we have to get our world back on track to what the founders had on their hearts many years ago.

Prayer is not just our talking to God – it is also reading His Word -- meditating on it – and perhaps even more important, being quiet and listening for what He has to lay on our hearts. We can pray all alone, or with our family, or in a group – and the position of our bodies does not matter – as long as our heart is in the right position with God.

Let's look at this matter of prayer from God's standpoint. Prayer is talking to the Almighty God of Creation – the one that put the stars in place and the universe in perfect order – the One who keeps all of this operating in pin-point accuracy.

We are urged by the Apostle Paul to *“Pray without ceasing”* (1 Thessalonians 5:16) – that is, to be in an attitude of prayer at all times. God is always present – not only when we're in some kind of trouble – His ear is ever open to our call.

He is our Heavenly Father, and His love for us is never ending. He enjoys hearing from us at all times – just as our earthly parents appreciate hearing from us – whether we live near or at a distance. There are times when we phone our Mom or Dad and the line is busy, or they're out, and we have to call again later – but not so with the direct line of prayer to God – His line is always open and available.

We are encouraged in the Bible – *“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by PRAYER and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God – and the Peace of God that passes all understanding will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”* (Philippians 4:6-7).

And we're told, *“The Effectual Fervent PRAYER of a Righteous man avails much”* (James 5:16). This shows us our part – we must be under the Righteousness of Jesus Christ, and we must be fervent and believing in our PRAYERS. This simply means that we must have a personal relationship with Jesus

Christ and acknowledge Him in all phases of our daily lives in order to have this direct line to God the Father.

The familiar sample “Lord’s Prayer” as contained in the Sermon on the Mount begins with “*Our Father which art in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name*” (Matthew 6:9-15) and is the bases for acknowledging Him for who He is – and preparing our own hearts for conversing with Him. So, let’s renew our relationship with God, and enjoy talking with Him and sharing our hearts – especially concerning the urgent needs of our countries.

Let us always be, “*Rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in Prayer*” (Romans 12:12).

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