

Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

Inner Court Ministries

For the Week of August 13, 2006

A Call to Prayer

Let us often look at Brainerd in the woods of America pouring out his very soul before God for the perishing heathen without whose salvation nothing could make him happy. Prayer—secret fervent believing prayer—lies at the root of all personal godliness. A competent knowledge of the language where a missionary lives, a mild and winning temper, a heart given up to God in closet religion—these, these are the attainments which, more than all knowledge, or all other gifts, will fit us to become the instruments of God in the great work of human redemption.

CARREY'S BROTHERHOOD, SERAMPOR

Continue Earnestly in Prayer

There is a great stirring in many of the areas of our prayers. God is hearing and responding to our prayers. Now is the time for great diligence in prayer for these nations, ministries, and people, as well as other projects you are a part. This time is one of great darkness coming over people and a time of the great light of the Gospel, setting men and nations free. People and nations hang in the balance, will you pray?

*And give Him no rest till He establishes
And till He makes Jerusalem a praise in the earth.*

Isaiah 62:7 (NKJV)

Pray for Israel – At some point the prayers of the saints will be full for Israel and God will pour them out on the earth. Just as this verse records, so will God act with His full strength and righteousness. Today Israel once again faces the wrath of the world. Nation after nation aligned against God's chosen people. They would wipe Israel off the map and destroy any people who would stand with Israel. This is not the first time, or even the second time Israel has faced adversity and possible destruction. However, this is our time. How will we respond to this threat to Israel?

The Bible talks of golden bowls full of incense, the prayers of the saints. When the bowl is full God pours the prayers out on the earth. Today as we pray for Israel, as we pray for the fulfillment of these verses from this Psalm, we add our prayers to these bowls. Rev. 5:8 and Rev. 16:1

The alignment of so many prophecies seems to indicate we are near to the end of this age. Are the bowls waiting for just a few more prayers? Are they waiting for your prayers? This week and for the next few weeks and months let us join together as a company and pray. Let us join with other companies of prayer around the world and pray. Let us join our prayers with the prayers of many generations and pray for Israel.

Marianne and David Dean – David and Marianne ask for prayer for open hearts for the college students they meet and disciple the next four years in East Asia.

*And because you are sons,
God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts,
crying out, Abba, Father!*
Galatians 4:6 (NKJV)

Marek Kaminski – Pray for poor children from Belarus coming to Koszalin for vacation August 19-27. Pray for completing all the necessary documents, safety and finances. Pray for the BBB Conference and ministry. Pray for guidance on how to fulfill God's will.

*And my God shall supply all your need according to
His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*
Philip. 4:19 (NKJV)

The Inntal Prayer Initiative and Mark Spencer – Pray for Mark who will be ministering in conferences in Germany and Nepal in October. Pray for God's anointing for these meetings and for all the arrangements that must be made.

*I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ,
who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom:
Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season.
Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.*
2 Tim. 4:1-2 (NKJV)

DK Limbu Daniel – Pray for Pastor Daniel and the conference in October. Pray for the arrangements for the conference and the preparation of hearts to receive from the Lord. Pray that this conference will be a prosperous time for all.

*Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health,
just as your soul prospers.*
3 John 1:2 (NKJV)

Jacek Gromadzki – Pray for Jack and his church in Kolobrzeg, Poland. Pray for outreaches in Poland this summer.

*Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ,
as though God were pleading through us:
we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*
2 Cor. 5:20 (NKJV)

Joyce Abrahamson – Pray for the school children, their education is important and their introduction to the Lord is imperative. Joyce also writes: *"We are still plagued by rain and mud and depending on God's power and love to move forward each day. His Name is Wonderful."*

Your Home Church – Pray for your church and its world view. Pray that they will in ever increasing measure see the nations of the world as white unto harvest. Pray for labors to be thrust forth for the nations.

*Ask of Me, and I will give You
The nations for Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth for Your possession.*
Psalm 2:8 (NKJV)

Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer

Resolute in Prayer David Williamson

Are you resolute? Some answer concerning themselves, yes and some say no (some may not be sure what it means and others would say, in some things, yes and other no). Regardless of how you answered the question, the man or woman of prayer must be resolute and I am determined to show this to you.

The Bible is filled with examples of God answering prayer quickly. It is startling to see how quickly and fully He answers. There is an answer before a prophet can walk across the courtyard. There is an answer before the sun sets. There is fire consuming the offering, even after it is soaked with water. There is a lame man walking and leaping to prayer with Peter and John; and so many more.

The Bible also is filled with examples where God answered prayer, but in these examples the answer came after a long season of prayer. Abraham prayed for a son. Israel prayed for deliverance from captivity. Paul prayed to go to Rome. These prayers were answered, but the answers were a long time in coming. It would have been easy to give up on getting an answer.

There have been many debates throughout history concerning answers to prayer. Among the questions debated in this issue, why do some answers come quickly and others take months or even years of prayer to realize the answer. This article will not add to this discussion; this is simply a call to be resolute. Arguments in this debate notwithstanding; there will always be a need for men and women of prayer who will be resolute.

Resolute means to be marked by firm determination (Bold, Steady, and Faithful). The answer to prayer requires faith; this is true for quick or slow answers. The big difference in prayer between quick and slow answers; is the resolve of the people involved. Not recorded in the Bible, but surely a part of history are the people who prayed for things, got no quick answer, and quit praying. We know this is true because for most of us we can point to times when this has been true of us. We have started to pray and maybe even continued with good intentions for a season, but we lost our way in these prayers and stopped. This is true with people today that we cover up for ourselves with a multitude of excuses.

If we are to be an effective company of prayer, we must pray with resolve. There are many issues that demand prayer and many of these may require long sustained prayer. Some may require a

lifetime of prayer. In the overall family of prayer, those willing to pray, there are many willing to pray if they can have the quick answers to prayer. As the Bible records there is a place for these prayers and a need for men and women of faith who will boldly pray. There is also a need for men and women who will pray with resolve. These are not exclusive positions, God may use you for the quick prayer at times and long and slow at others, but He is also looking for men and women who are willing to lay down their life for prayer.

Last week we looked at Psalm 83. This is a prayer for Israel that will be fulfilled. The question is when will God fulfill this? The answer is very simple; God will fulfill Psalm 83 when His people have prayed the prayer bowls for Israel full. If we join in this prayer, we are several hundred years into the process; men and women have been filling these bowls for centuries, but there is still work to be done. We may be days or years from completion of this process, but the call is out for those who will take up these prayers at this time.

In these prayers and many others there is a call out for men and women who will pray with resolve. These people will be marked by firm determination. Like the example of the Bible they will not take no for an answer. Even when it seems that things are impossible, they will continue, determined to get an answer. Like Abraham who considered his body as good as dead, but did not give up his faith in God, so these people will pray.

We have record of men who were committed to pray for some men until they came to Christ. These prayers took years; slowly one by one the men came to Christ. As the years passed people would say their prayers failed; in one case the man praying even died without the final man of his prayer list coming to the Lord. Yet even in this case the resolute prayers availed much; after the man of prayer died the final man came to Christ. How many of us would have continued to pray year after year with no indication of success? How many of us would have prayed to the end? How many have failed because they did not continue in faith, resolute to the end?

Holy Spirit is willing and able to train up men and women who will pray. His school of prayer can take the novice to the champion, but it requires willingness on our part. The champion is the man or woman of faith who yield to the call of God. The champion is made willing and able to pray long or slow, but is resolute that he or she will pray in faith until the answer comes.

Will you respond to His call? Will you yield to His training until you are counted as one resolute in prayer?

Let us pray!

Home for This Company

The home of *Voice of Thanksgiving* is at www.voiceofthanksgiving.com. This website has current and past issues of VoT and an archive of articles from the section *Imperative Importance of the Work of Prayer*. The monthly issues of *Stimme der Dankbarkeit*, the German monthly version of VoT are also available here. Send correspondence to dave@voiceofthanksgiving.com

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