

# Voice of Thanksgiving

Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer

For the Week of September 9, 2007

***Those who do wickedly against the covenant he shall corrupt with flattery;  
but the people who know their God shall be strong, and carry out great exploits.***

Daniel 11:32 (NKJV)

## **The Life of Prayer**

### **A Pitched Battle**

David Williamson

The fall season is a good time to sit back for a moment and assess what has been happening. The rush for activities of summer is drawing to a close, families going back to school. Even nature seems to sit back and enjoy a slower, calmer season. The trees turn colors and the air takes on a special sparkle. As we grow and mature in our prayer life it is good to have a time to review. Paul reminded the Corinthians to take time to review where they were in the faith. This is very important and we should conduct this review just as Paul has commanded.

***Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith.  
Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves,  
that Jesus Christ is in you?--unless indeed you are disqualified.***

2 Cor. 13:5 (NKJV)

There are other areas that we need to review as well. One of these is the state of affairs for the world for which we are called to pray. It is a poor worker who does not know, at least in general, the work place where he works. Jesus, always our great guide and example, saw and knew what His Father was doing. He knew the thoughts and intents of the hearts of the people around Him. He also knew the political and religious world of the time when He prayed here on Earth. He knew the political and religious leaders, and was aware of their agenda. If we are to be effective in prayer we must have awareness as well.

Far too many people are simply drifting through life. They are blissfully unaware of what is happening. They are affected by the world around them, but fail to affect the world. Men and women of prayer should not be in this state. We are called to make a difference in our generation.

If we had lived in the late 1700s in America we would be praying about the conditions of the time. One time I shared the following account. Read through this again and think about what you would be praying to meet the desperate need of that generation.

In New England, there was a man of prayer named Isaac Backus, a Baptist pastor, who in 1794, when conditions were at their worst, addressed an urgent plea for prayer for revival to

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pastors of every Christian denomination in the United States. Churches knew that their backs were to the wall. All the churches adopted the plan until America, like Britain was interlaced with a network of prayer meetings, which set aside the first Monday of each month to pray. It was not long before revival came.

When the revival reached the frontier in Kentucky, it encountered a people really wild and irreligious. Congress had discovered that in Kentucky there had not been more than one court of justice held in five years. Peter Cartwright, Methodist evangelist, wrote that when his father had settled in Logan County, it was known as Rogue's Harbour. The decent people in Kentucky formed regiments of vigilantes to fight for law and order, then fought a pitched battle with outlaws and lost.

There was a Scotch Irish Presbyterian minister named James McGready whose chief claim to fame was that he was so ugly that he attracted attention. McGready settled in Logan County, pastor of three little churches. He wrote in his diary that the winter of 1799 for the most part was 'weeping and mourning with the people of God.' Lawlessness prevailed everywhere. McGready was such a man of prayer that not only did he promote the concert of prayer every first Monday of the month, but he got his people to pray for him at sunset on Saturday evening and sunrise Sunday morning. Then in the summer of 1800 come the great Kentucky revival. Eleven thousand people came to a communion service. McGready hollered for help, regardless of denomination.

Out of that second great awakening, came the whole modern missionary movement and its societies. Out of it came the abolition of slavery, popular education, Bible Societies, Sunday Schools, and many social benefits accompanying the evangelistic drive. J. Edwin Orr

The description of Logan County is striking; "the decent people in Kentucky formed regiments of vigilantes to fight for law and order, then fought a pitched battle with outlaws and lost". When the battle was lost, the people turned in desperation to the only true answer, prayer. Vigilantes and other forms of law enforcement had worked in many places in America, but here they were not up to the task. However, prayer was more than enough; note that prayer produced an answer to the problem and many bonuses as well.

Conditions today are similar to that day. No there is no Rogue's Harbour; although there are places where rogues are harbored. However, we do face desperate situations. Around the world there is a pitched battle raging. The violence of terrorism is so common it is often left out of the news. In many places all of the normal means of protecting people and dealing with violence and destruction have failed. Surely now is the time that we must turn, even as the people in Kentucky did, to prayer.

The answer to the seemingly impossible situation then was prayer. The answer today is prayer. It is time for you and I to begin a pitched battle, in prayer, against the principalities and powers, the rulers of the darkness.

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*For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood,  
but against principalities, against powers,  
against the rulers of the darkness of this age,  
against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*

Ephes. 6:12 (NKJV)

Business as usual is not enough, the normal means and methods have failed. We must turn to prayer; not prayer that has been neglected and distained, but fervent, effectual prayer. Men and women are being swept into a Christless eternity, won't you pray? We can, nay we must, make a difference for this generation.

*Let us Pray!*

## **A Call for Prayer**

*For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal  
but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,*

2 Cor. 10:4 (NKJV)

**Pray for the peace of Jerusalem** – Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, only God's peace will bring real and lasting peace to this city and region.

**Mark Spencer** – Pray for effective meetings in Nepal in October. Pray for the preparations for travel and ministry. (*“mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”* 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Pray for the church in Belarus and Lithuania** – Pray for opportunities for growth in these countries; more Christians, more churches, more freedom to proclaim the Gospel. (*“mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”* 2 Cor. 10:4)

**DK Limbu Daniel** – Pray for Pastor Daniel and for strengthening of new believers, especially those living in places of persecution. (*“mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”* 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Marianne and David Dean** – Pray for David and Marianne and for new believers and their witness to their families, friends, and foes. (*“mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”* 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Jacek Gromadzki** – Pray for Jack and his church to have opportunities to share the Gospel. Pray that many in Kolobrzeg, Poland will respond to God's call for salvation. (*“mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,”* 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Joyce Abrahamson** – Pray for the students to have a productive, educational and spiritual year.

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**Bernhard and Lisa Prumbach** – Pray for continued success in making arrangement for the family and opportunities to minister. (“*mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,*” 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Marek Kaminski** – Pray for open doors of opportunity for the preaching of the Gospel. Pray for a breaking down of walls and barriers that hinder. (“*mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,*” 2 Cor. 10:4)

**Patty Spencer** – Pray for completion of a new worship CD. Pray for the details of mastering the final product and the finances to get it produced.

**John Coon** – Pray for his health and safety.

**William Williamson** – Bill is a pastor in Eastern Colorado, and a long time member of this company. Pray for his quick, full, and complete healing.

**Pray for the Inntal Prayer Initiative** – Pray for opportunities to minister in Germany and throughout Europe.

**Pray for your Home Church** – Pray for outreaches for your church. Pray that each member will do the work of the ministry as God gives them the means to do so.

## *Calling a Company of Believers Together for Prayer*

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