

Philippians Series

Lesson #095

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Dean Bible Ministries

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God's Grace Provision for Cleansing From Sin Philippians 4:6–7



Php. 4:6, “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.

Php. 4:7, “And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” [NKJV]

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Php. 4:7, “and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

Php. 4:6, “Y’all don’t be anxious for any reason, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God.” [RD]

The prohibition

μεριμνάω *merimnaō*

2 plur pres act impera

“Y’all don’t be anxious for any reason.”

The positive command

In every situation,

by prayer and supplication

along with thankfulness for the situation

let your requests be made known to God

What the Bible Teaches About Prayer



Definition:

- 1. Prayer is just an ongoing conversation with God.**
- 2. Prayer is the believer's vital communication link to his heavenly Father.**
- 3. Prayer takes us immediately into the throne room of God, into God's very presence.**

3. Prayer takes us immediately into the throne room of God, into God's very presence.

We are able to enter God's presence boldly because Jesus is our High Priest.

4. From this we learn that prayer is only for believers.

Why is that?

One exception:

The unbeliever who is expressing a desire to know God, is honored by God who will bring someone to that person to help them know God.

The unbeliever cannot pray to God, any more than the believer who has not confessed sin can.

- **God-consciousness**: The awareness that there is something greater that is out there; the realization that there might be a Supreme or more-supreme Being and a desire to know about who or what that is. At that point they are deciding positively to learn something about God.
- **Age of accountability**: This varies from individual to individual, from culture to culture. In a Christian home where the infant hears the gospel regularly and the parents talk to the child about God and Jesus, then that child will come to God-consciousness early, in a pagan primitive world that might not happen until adulthood.
- **Since God desires all to be saved (1 Tim. 2:3–4; 2 Pet. 3:9) God will bring someone or the message in some form to that person.**

1 Tim. 2:3, “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,

1 Tim. 2:4, “who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”

2 Pet. 3:9, “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”

- **The unbeliever is a spiritually dead person. As such they cannot have a relationship with God.**
- **Spiritual death is alienation, isolated, and removed from the life of God (Ephesians 4:18) “alienated from the life of God.”**
- **Because of sin, man cannot enter the presence of God.**
- **Not all human beings are believers, only those saved. Only believers are in the family of God, only believers have God as their Father.**

John 8:39, “They [Pharisees:unbelievers] answered and said to Him, ‘Abraham is our father.’ Jesus said to them, ‘If you were Abraham’s children, you would do the works of Abraham.

John 8:40, “ ‘But now you seek to kill Me, a Man who has told you the truth which I heard from God. Abraham did not do this.

John 8:41, “ ‘You do the deeds of your father.’ Then they said to Him, ‘We were not born of fornication; we have one Father—God.’ ”

John 8:42, “Jesus said to them, ‘If¹ God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me.

John 8:43, “ ‘Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word.

John 8:44, “ ‘You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.’ ”

John 8:56, “ ‘Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.’

John 8:57, “Then the Jews said to Him, ‘You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?’

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’

John 8:59, “Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

Ex. 3:4, “So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’”

Ex. 3:5, “Then He said, ‘Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.’”

**Ex. 3:6, “Moreover He said, ‘I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’”
And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.**

Ex. 3:7, “And the LORD said: ‘I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.’ ”

Ex. 3:13, “Then Moses said to God, ‘Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you,” and they say to me, “What is His name?” what shall I say to them?’

Ex. 3:14, “And God said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “I AM has sent me to you.” ’

Ex. 3:15, “Moreover God said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: “The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.” ’ ”

John 8:58, “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM.’

John 8:59, “Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.”

John 1:11, “He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.

John 1:12, “But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

John 1:13, “who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”

The problem is sin.

Psa. 66:18, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.”

Unbelievers are spiritually dead, and are able to only think in terms of sin.

Believers who are not walking according to or by means of the Holy Spirit are by default walking according to their sin nature.

Neither will have their prayers heard.

Isa. 6:1, “In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple.

Isa. 6:2, “Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

Isa. 6:3, “And one cried to another and said: ‘Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!’ ” [NKJV]

קָדוֹשׁ *qadosh* masc sing abs

holy, set apart to the service of God.

When applied to God, God is “set apart,” i.e., one of a kind, alone, no one like Him.

Isa. 57:15, “For thus says the High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: ‘I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.’ ”

Isa. 44:8, “ ‘Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.’ ”

Isa. 45:5, “ ‘I am the LORD, and there is no other; There is no God besides Me. I will gird you, though you have not known Me,

Isa. 45:6, “ ‘That they may know from the rising of the sun to its setting that there is none besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other;’ ”

Isa. 45:18, “For thus says the LORD, Who created the heavens, Who is God, Who formed the earth and made it, Who has established it, Who did not create it in vain, Who formed it to be inhabited: **‘I am the LORD, and there is no other.’**”

Isa. 45:19, “ ‘I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth; I did not say to the seed of Jacob, “Seek Me in vain”; I, the LORD, speak righteousness, **I declare things that are right.**”

Isa. 45:20, “ ‘Assemble yourselves and come; Draw near together, you who have escaped from the nations. They have no knowledge, who carry the wood of their carved image, and pray to a god that cannot save.

Isa. 45:21, “ ‘Tell and bring forth your case; Yes, let them take counsel together. Who has declared this from ancient time? Who has told it from that time? Have not I, the LORD? **And there is no other God besides Me, a just God and a Savior; There is none besides Me.’**”

Isa. 45:22, “Look to Me, and be saved, all you ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other.”

Isa. 45:23, “I have sworn by Myself; The word has gone out of My mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that to Me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall take an oath.”

Isa. 46:8, “Remember this, and show yourselves men; Recall to mind, O you transgressors.

Isa. 46:9, “Remember the former things of old, for I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,”

**Psa. 86:10, “For You are great, and do wondrous things;
You alone are God.”**

Isa. 37:16, “O LORD of hosts, God of Israel, the One who dwells between the cherubim, You are God, You alone, of all the kingdoms of the earth. You have made heaven and earth.”

Isa. 6:4, “And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke.

Isa. 6:5, “So I said: ‘Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.’

Isa. 6:6, “Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a live coal which he had taken with the tongs from the altar.”

טָמֵא *tame'*

masc sing

constr unclean

Unclean [טָמֵא tameʾ “unclean”] 88× OT/47× in Leviticus/66× in *Torah*

Lev. 5:2, “Or if a person touches any unclean thing, whether it is the carcass of an unclean beast, or the carcass of unclean livestock, or the carcass of unclean creeping things, and he is unaware of it, he also shall be unclean and guilty.”

Lev. 7:19, “The flesh that touches any unclean thing shall not be eaten. It shall be burned with fire. And as for the clean flesh, all who are clean may eat of it.”

Lev. 7:21, “Moreover the person who touches any unclean thing, such as human uncleanness, an unclean animal, or any abominable unclean thing, and who eats the flesh of the sacrifice of the peace offering that belongs to the LORD, that person shall be cut off from his people.”

Unclean [טָמֵא tameʾ “unclean”] 88× OT / 47× in Leviticus / 66× in *Torah*

Lev. 10:10, “that you may distinguish between holy and unholy, and between unclean and clean,”

Num. 19:13, “Whoever touches the body of anyone who has died, and does not purify himself, defiles the tabernacle of the LORD. That person shall be cut off from Israel. He shall be unclean, because the water of purification was not sprinkled on him; his uncleanness is still on him.”

Unclean [טָמֵא *tame'* “unclean”] 88× OT / 47× in Leviticus / 66× in *Torah*

Num. 19:19, “The clean person shall sprinkle the unclean on the third day and on the seventh day; and on the seventh day he shall purify himself, wash his clothes, and bathe in water; and at evening he shall be clean.”

Num. 19:20, “But the man who is unclean and does not purify himself, that person shall be cut off from among the assembly, because he has defiled the sanctuary of the LORD. The water of purification has not been sprinkled on him; he is unclean.”

Num. 19:22, “Whatever the unclean person touches shall be unclean; and the person who touches it shall be unclean until evening.”

רָחַץ *rachatz* to wash, bathe

טָהוֹר *tahor* clean

Unclean [טָמֵא tameʾ “unclean”] 88×

What is this teaching?

- 1. It is teaching that God is totally holy (set apart, one of a kind, unique) and as such, sinful humanity must have something done to cleanse them from sin in order to come into the presence of God.**
- 2. The rituals of the Old Testament focused on solving this sinful problem through ritual cleansing, which pictures the need for a real cleansing through faith in God’s promises of redemption and through confession.**

2 Sam. 6:1, “Again David gathered all the choice men of Israel, thirty thousand.

2 Sam. 6:2, “And David arose and went with all the people who were with him to Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God which is called by the Name, the very name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned above the cherubim.”

[NASB 95]

2 Sam. 6:3, “So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, drove the new cart.”



2 Sam. 6:4, “And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God; and Ahio went before the ark.

2 Sam. 6:5, “Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the Lord on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals.

2 Sam. 6:6, “And when they came to Nachon’s threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled.” [NKJV]

2 Sam. 6:7, “Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God.

2 Sam. 6:8, “And David became angry because of the LORD’S outbreak against Uzzah; and he called the name of the place Perez Uzzah to this day.”

****God is more interested in blessing than judgment. But when He is ignored and His righteousness violated, then His justice must be satisfied. But He is slow to anger and quick to forgive. There were many points of disobedience, but this act of Uzzah's is one that finally brings divine discipline.**

Psa. 143:1, “Hear my prayer, O LORD, give ear to my supplications! In Your faithfulness answer me, and in Your righteousness.

Psa. 143:2, “Do not enter into judgment with Your servant, for in Your sight no one living is righteous.”

Psa. 66:18, “If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.”

Prov. 15:29, “The LORD is far from the wicked, but He hears the prayer of the righteous.”

Zech. 3:1, “Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the Angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right hand to oppose him.

Zech. 3:2, “And the LORD said to Satan, ‘The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! Is this not a brand plucked from the fire?’

Zech. 3:3, “Now Joshua was clothed with filthy garments, and was standing before the Angel.”

Zech. 3:4, “Then He answered and spoke to those who stood before Him, saying, ‘Take away the filthy garments from him.’ And to him He said, ‘See, I have removed your iniquity from you, and I will clothe you with rich robes.’”

Zech. 3:5, “And I said, ‘Let them put a clean turban on his head.’ So they put a clean turban on his head, and they put the clothes on him. And the Angel of the LORD stood by.”

5. You do not pray *to be* spiritual, but because *you are* spiritual.

Prayer, giving, witnessing, using your spiritual gifts are the results of spiritual growth, not their cause.

6. Prayer demands concentration and thought.

While emotion might be present, it is not the focus or the issue.

Prayer relies on biblical truth, the teaching of the Bible, and fact, not on emotion and subjectivity. Although we might be very emotional at the time, it is not our emotional intensity that moves God to act!

Psa. 38:1, “O LORD, do not rebuke me in Your wrath, nor chasten me in Your hot displeasure!

Psa. 38:2, “For Your arrows pierce me deeply, and Your hand presses me down.

Psa. 38:3, “There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your anger, nor any health in my bones because of my sin.

Psa. 38:4, “For my iniquities have gone over my head; Like a heavy burden they are too heavy for me.”

Psa. 38:5, “My wounds are foul and festering because of my foolishness.

Psa. 38:6, “I am troubled, I am bowed down greatly; I go mourning all the day long.

Psa. 38:7, “For my loins are full of inflammation, and there is no soundness in my flesh.

Psa. 38:8, “I am feeble and severely broken; I groan because of the turmoil of my heart.”

Psa. 51:1, “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to Your lovingkindness; According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions.”

Psa. 51:2, “Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.”

Psa. 51:3, “For I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.”

טָהַר *tahar* to cleanse

Psa. 51:4, “Against You, You only, have I sinned, and done this evil in Your sight—that You may be found just when You speak, and blameless when You judge.”

Psa. 32:1, “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.”

Psa. 32:3, “When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long.

**Psa. 32:4, “For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer.
Selah**

Psa. 32:5, “I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,’ and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah”

The Grace Provision of Cleansing for Post-Salvation Sins