




The Christian  
Discipler

# The Power of Prayer

November/December 2011



The Christian  
**Discipler**

Faithful to Jesus' Great Commission

**"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, ..." Matt 28:18-20**

- ◆ The Christian Discipler is an inter-denominational ministry. We do not promote the teaching of any particular denomination. We support and cooperate with all evangelical churches and denominations standing on the Word of God.
- ◆ We believe in the Bible as the infallible Word of God, and it is our purpose to make true disciples of Jesus Christ helping Christians discover the deeper truths of the Bible and the victorious life.
- ◆ We believe in the unity of all truly born again Christians — irrespective of their denominational connection — and strive for unity among children of God across denominational boundaries.

The Christian Discipler is:

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## FROM PARADISE

### CREATION

Gen 1: 26-28: "Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion ..." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion ..."

### THE FALL

Gen 3:6: "So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate."

## THE CROSS

Mat 26:26-28: " And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. "For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins."

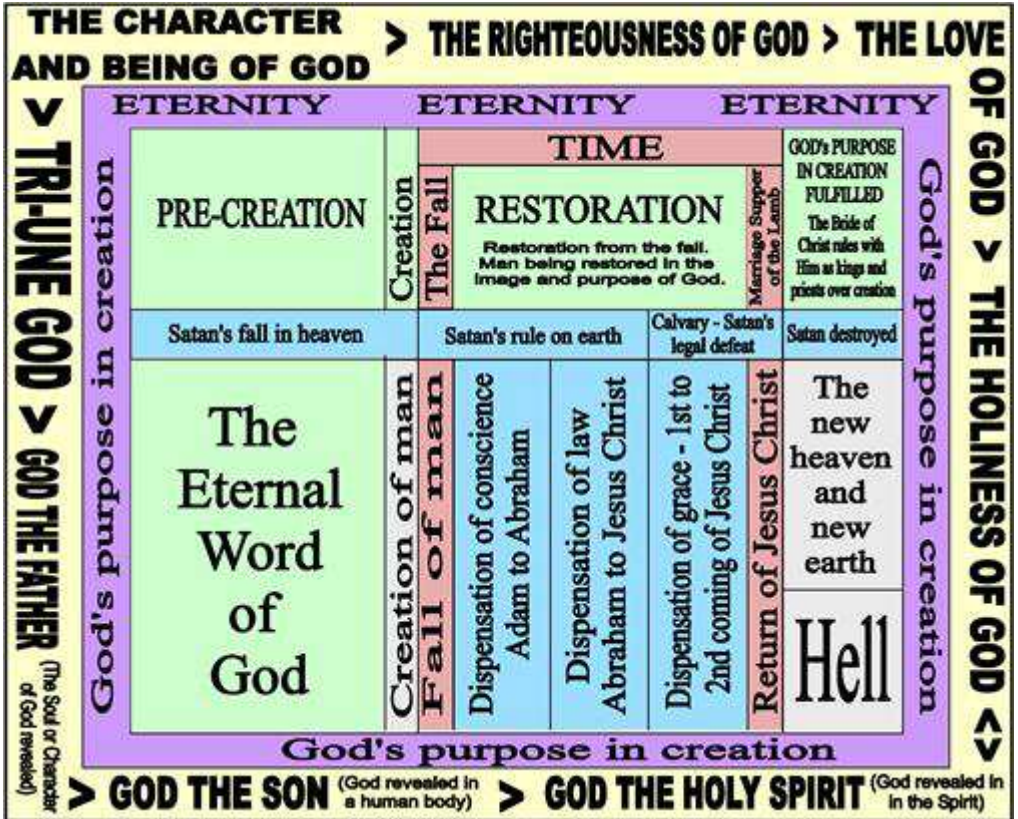
## RESTORATION

Rev 19:7-9: "And I heard, as it were, the voice of a great multitude, as the sound of many waters and as the sound of mighty thunderings, saying, "Alleluia! For the Lord God Omnipotent reigns! Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready." And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints. Then he said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!'"

## TO HEAVEN



# THE FUNDAMENTAL AND CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE



**The Bible is God's blue print for the restoration of fallen creation!**

The fundamental and central message of the Bible is God's purpose in creation, the fall, and God's restoration of creation from the fall! God is currently busy with the restoration of creation! God is restoring the world on two levels - on the cosmic level as well as on the human level. On the cosmic level God is creating a new heaven and a new earth. On the human level God is restoring fallen man into His image and purpose.

**God is generating a people and offspring for Himself and a Bride for His Son through regeneration, from every nation, people, tribe and language; changing and restoring them into His image; destined for the new heaven and new earth, in order to be eternally united with Him at the marriage supper of the Lamb; and to train and prepare them for dominion with Jesus Christ at His return.**

The return of Jesus Christ is the culmination and climax of God's plan for this world - when Jesus will be united with His Bride. The return of Jesus Christ is, besides His crucifixion and resurrection, the most important historical occurrence in God's plan for the world, that must soon take place.

**God has a twofold plan for every Christian:**

- To restore me and my fallen character from the fall and to conform me into the image of Jesus Christ in holiness and love.
- To make me spiritually fruitful in order that I may reproduce myself through my witness in the world and in fulfilment of the Great Commission.

**God has a twofold plan for the Church:**

- To proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in my local neighbourhood in order that people may be saved, and will grow in faith, sanctification, and holiness!
- To fulfil the Great Commission and to send out those who are saved to reach the unreached of the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

The six fundamental Biblical principles of an abundant, victorious, and Spirit-filled life, appear on the inside back cover.

**Church of Jesus Christ, let us unite around the central and fundamental message of the Bible!**

# The Power of Prayer ...

Elmer D Grobler

**PRAYER Is The Single  
Most Unexploited  
Resource In The  
Universe!**

People are constantly looking for power. People are searching for political power, economical power, financial power and every other category of power possible.

I recently saw this picture on Facebook. It says, "The Power of the People is Stronger than the People in Power."



But do you know what?

**The Power of Prayer is  
Stronger than the  
Power of the People!**

People think that when they have political, economical and financial power they have power. How wrong! You only have power when you have spiritual power! And spiritual power only comes through prayer!

## Why?

Because all power resides with God — the Almighty, Creator of the Universe, and Creator of the people! The only way to share God's power is to become spiritually empowered — and that happens only through prayer!

## How?

The history of this world and the nations is written by the finger of God! The political and economic leaders of our world only have delegated power. For example, we read in Isaiah about God's delegated power to Cyrus, king of Persia during Israel's Babylonian exile. *"Thus says the LORD to His anointed, To Cyrus, whose right hand I have held; ... For Jacob My servant's*



*sake, And Israel My elect, I have even called you by your name; I have named you, though you have not known Me.” (Isa 45:1-4)*

God has a very definite and specific plan for this world. God is in the process of restoring this world from the fall, which will reach it's culmination and fulfilment at the second coming of Jesus Christ.

God is busy executing His plan of salvation for the world through the lives of His children, the Church of Jesus Christ — and the power of God is released in and through the Church by prayer for this purpose!

The history of this world is shaped through the prayers — or lack thereof — of Christians and the Church!

## **What prayer is not ...**

Some time ago I began reading again through the books I have already read many years ago. I was searching after more power in my prayer life. Perhaps there was something about prayer I have misunderstood or missed.

As I was reading there was one statement that made a new impression on me, and it had to do with what prayer IS NOT:

**Prayer IS NOT trying to persuade God to do something He does not want to do! \***

Prayer is not twisting God's arm! This statement shocked me for a moment! Not that I have not known this, but why then has my prayer-life degenerated into a situation of begging God for things that seldom happen? If this statement is true, then why are my prayers not answered? What is wrong with my prayer life?

**Ineffective prayer is burdensome and a total waste of time!**

Ineffective prayer is nothing more than a powerless and deadly religious ritual! Is this perhaps the reason why Christians in general pray so little?

If prayer is not having to persuade God to do something He does not want to do, then prayer must be about something God wants to do!

Another misconception about prayer is that the more I pray, or the more the Church prays, the more likely God will answer our prayers! God does not answer prayer because of the quantity thereof, but because of the quality thereof!

If Christians knew how to pray effectively, releasing the power of God

through their prayer-lives, they would spend much more time in effective prayer and the world would be a different place!

## How to Pray Effectively ...

What are the three most important requirements for effective prayer?

The first and basic requirement is that I have to stand in the right relationship and position with God.

**Firstly**, I have to be a child of God and a member of The Royal Family. The only prayer that an unbeliever can effectively pray is the sinners prayer.

It stands to reason that only children of God have an audience with their Father. The prerequisite to become a child of God is regeneration, also known as the second or new birth.

Joh 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: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."*

Joh 3:3: *"Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

**Secondly**, I have to be united with Jesus Christ in His death and resurrection by faith. That means that

my old sinful nature must be crucified with Christ. Sin has no hold on me anymore, I have been delivered from the power and bondage of sin.

God will never entrust me with heavenly power if I am still living under the power of, and in bondage to sin. God makes no compromise with sin.

God never excuses sin. God does not understand sin — He paid with His own life for you and me to be delivered from sin. Jesus Christ dealt with sin with His own precious Blood! God cleanses and removes sin! God delivers from the bondage of sin!

Gal 2:20: *"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."*

**Thirdly**, by faith I have to take up my royal position as prince and princess of The Royal Family of God — as conqueror over Satan, sin, the world, circumstances, and life.

You have been created to rule! You are destined to be a conqueror in Christ! Never be satisfied with a lesser designation. Never allow Satan to keep you in slavery! Never apologise for being a Christian — you are a prince and princess of the KING of the universe!

(Please note, I do not suggest any allowance for pride or arrogance. You are a prince and princess — not because of your ability or achievement — but because your Father is the KING! You are what you are not because of who YOU are — but because of whose child you are!

Humility and submissiveness is a mark and fruit of a Holy Spirit-controlled life. What I am talking about here is spiritual authority.)

Eph 2:4-6: *"But God ... raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, .."*

Rom 8:37: *"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."*

If you have a desire to stand in the right relationship and position with God, turn to page 20 and 21 and pray the model prayer presented there.

The second requirement for effective prayer is that my prayers must be about what God wants to do! In other words, I have to pray in accordance with God's will!

Jas 4:3: *"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."*

God wants ALL prayer to be answered. I am wasting my time and energy praying about, and for things God does not want to do or give!

The question is, do I know the will of God for my own life and my world? How do I know the will of God? Is it some subjective whisper in my ear, or is it some mysterious feeling in my spirit? Not at all! God reveals His will to

us through His Word! We will answer this question in more detail later.

But thirdly, if God wants to do it anyway, why do I have to pray before He does it? If prayer is not twisting God's arm, why does God allow Himself to be limited by my prayers? It is the answer to this question that revolutionised my prayer life! The answer to this question is profound and when you understand it, will revolutionise your prayer-life too!

The third requirement for effective prayer is a proper understanding of the fact that God has designated His Church to **implement** and **enforce** the will of God on earth — and it happens first and foremost in prayer!

Mat 16:18: *"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."*

Mat 28:18-20: *"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.*

Mat 16:19: *"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."*

Mat 21:22: *"And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."*

Jas 5:16: *"... The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

Eph 6:10-18: *"Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 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. ... praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints; ..."*

**Prayer is God's  
chosen method for  
implementing and  
enforcing the will of  
God on earth!**

Only now do I fully understand what John Wesley meant when he said that God does nothing but in answer to prayer! He simply meant that anything happening on earth not somewhere or somehow initiated by prayer is not done by God! This implies a great many things are happening on earth that are not primarily done by God!

I see the wonder of God's creation and the works of His hands — the wonders of nature, the wonders of the universe, the wonders of science, biology, physiology, mathematics, astronomy and the sciences — all created by God in His infinite wisdom!

But I also see the ability of human creativity — the ability of man to discover and use God's creation to create further. I see the advances of man in the development of technology. I see the massive airplanes built by man roaming the skies and ships sailing the seas. I see advanced passenger and freight vehicles travelling the roads and rails. I see computers, cell phones and technological advances that would 'turn my grandmother in her grave'!

Then I realise what the Bible is talking about in Heb 2:5-9: *"For He has not put the world to come, of which we speak, in subjection to angels. But one testified in a certain place(\*), saying: "What is man that You are mindful of him, Or the son of man that You take care of him? You have made him a little lower than the angels; You have crowned him with glory and honor, And set him over the works of Your hands. You have put all things in subjection under his feet." For in that He put all in subjection under him, He left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him. But we see Jesus, ..."*\*(David in Psalm 8:4-6.)

You see, God has created man in His own image to rule over His creation, and although God cursed the earth because of the fall and pronounced the death penalty over man because of

sin, man never lost his God-likeness — although we lost our Godliness!

What am I saying? I am saying that, although God is the shaper of history, He is much less directly involved in running this world than what is popularly believed among Christians!

How can I say this? God does not run the world — He appoints people to run the world on His behalf! This is God's delegated authority — a very interesting subject, but we will talk about this in more detail in future editions. The Bible teaches that God has created man to run and rule the world — and that is exactly what is happening, although under the authority of Satan and in imperfection because of sin.

**In which way then is God directly involved in this world? Primarily through His children, and then first and foremost through prayer!**

God only sovereignly executes His will on earth independently from His Church under abnormal situations. We read about such a situation in Eze 22:30: *"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one."*

Except for judgement over sin, God never unilaterally involves Himself in the affairs of man independently of His

children and His plan for the Church. God never manipulates man against his will, in fact this the way Satan works!

Once again, what am I saying? I am saying that ...

**God designated the Church to implement and enforce the will of God on earth — and it happens first and foremost through prayer!**

## **How to know the will of God ...**

In order to know the will of God we must know the Bible. The Bible is in essence a revelation of the will of God.

You may be wondering, if that is so, how come so few people in this world, including Christians, understand the will of God in spite of the fact that the Bible is the most circulated book in the world? Well, that's a very good question, but let me give you my opinion. The message of the Bible can only be fully understood through revelation by the Holy Spirit of God — and once again, that only happens through prayer!

In order to know the will of God we must know and understand a number of things concerning the Bible which I am going to discuss with you now.

## 1. We must know how to read the Bible.

In order to understand the message of the Bible correctly, it is vitally important for the Christian to fully see and understand the overall Bible and Gospel picture. All the false doctrines, misunderstandings, errors, and fallacies preached in the Church of Jesus Christ over the ages can be traced back to a poor vision of the overall Bible and Gospel picture. It is possible to be able to recite the entire Bible by heart without a sound understanding of its overall message.

The message of the Bible is like a large jig-saw puzzle. It is one big picture consisting of a multitude of individual pieces - Bible books and verses. Whenever you use any one of these pieces or verses, it must be done in the context of the big picture.

When you begin building a jig-saw puzzle, it is of paramount importance to have the picture you are building in front of you, otherwise you will not know where the individual pieces fit in. Have you ever tried to build a large jig-saw puzzle without its picture? It is almost impossible.

Yet many Christians use individual Bible verses without knowing where they fit into the complete Bible picture.

**It is possible to justify any doctrine or belief - right or wrong - by quoting a verse or verses from the Bible.**

Therefore, if you want to know and understand the will of God you must read your Bible from Genesis to Revelation and before anything else, get a birds eye view of the message of the Bible. This is why we stress and publish the central and essential message of the Bible in the front pages of every Discipier.

The Bible begins at the beginning and ends at the end. The Bible begins with creation, God's purpose in creation, and how God's purpose in creation was frustrated by the fall. The Bible ends with restoration from the fall and God's purpose in creation restored.

## 2. We must understand God's ultimate plan and purpose in creation.

God created the human race for a purpose. What purpose?

The book of Genesis is absolutely critical for us in understanding God's plan for mankind and the world! We read in Gen 1:26-28: *"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, ... Then God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the ... earth.'"*

Firstly, God created mankind in His own image, as a sovereign entity, with a SPIRIT, SOUL and BODY, and a WILL, INTELLECT and EMOTION, of his own. God created man as a trinity, like Himself.

God reveals Himself as a Trinity to man, SOUL - God the Father which is His character and personality; BODY -



Jesus Christ, God revealed to man in a human body; and SPIRIT - the Holy Spirit. So He created man - spirit, soul and body - a spiritual being in a human body in the image of God.

Secondly, God wanted an offspring, a posterity, in His own image! In other words, God wanted a personal family! For this reason God commanded mankind to become fruitful and multiply.

In the New Testament this offspring is called the Church and Body of Christ, and at completion it will become the Bride of Christ. Paul Billheimer describes this uniquely when he writes: *“The author’s primary thesis is that the one purpose of the universe from all eternity is the production and preparation of an Eternal Companion for the Son, called the Bride, the Lamb’s Wife.”*<sup>1</sup>

Thirdly, God appointed His family, the human race, with the authority to represent Him and to rule over the earth! Let me repeat this statement, as this is fundamental to an effective prayer-life! The human race was created to be God’s representative and to exercise His authority on earth.

There is a profound truth revealed here. God's purpose is that His family as a group should reign over His creation.

### **3. We must understand why the human race missed out on God's plan of creation.**

In Genesis 3 we read about the fall. Sin entered the world and mankind became subject to Satan, his demons and sin. Mankind inherited a tarnished and fallen image of God; and Satan obtained legal authority on earth through the fall to rule the world instead of mankind, which he passionately executes to this day — although illegally since Calvary! (More about this later.)

The fall had several implications for mankind. Firstly, man’s body became mortal and subject to decay, although he still had an immortal soul. Secondly, all humans inherited a sinful and fallen nature or soul from our father, Adam. Thirdly, man inherited a fallen spirit which died spiritually from communing with God.

The rest of the entire Scripture is devoted to God’s story of the restoration of creation from the fall.

### **4. We must understand the message and significance of the Old Testament.**

The Old Testament is a prophetic message pointing towards, and which would be fulfilled in the New Testament. The Old Testament is the story of how God prepared a people in His own image through a man called Abraham, in order to pave the way for ultimate fulfilment of God’s purpose in creation.

<sup>1</sup> Destined For The Throne by Paul E Billheimer, page 15

The Old Testament is the story of how God produced and prepared a Messianic race that would in the maturity of time, give birth to the Messiah in perfect fulfilment of the law.

## **5. We must understand the message and significance of the New Testament.**

The New Testament and the Gospel tells us the story of man's redemption from the fall, from sin and Satan's rule. It tells us the story of how God, in the maturity of time, overturned Satan's legal authority over this world, and reclaimed the world and all the nations of the world for God and His Kingdom through the victory of the Cross of Calvary, the Blood of the Lamb, and Jesus' resurrection from the grave over sin, Satan and the world!

The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the Divine history of God's restoration plan of creation. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the revelation of God's restoration of humanity's purpose and God's plan in creation.

Although Satan and his demons together with sin are still practically exercising authority over the peoples of the world, they are doing so illegally,

and only to the extent that they are not being resisted and overcome by unbelievers and powerless Christians! Through the Gospel of Jesus Christ the human race can once again take in his position and purpose for which God created him, namely:

### **1. To become part of the family of God through regeneration.**

Joh 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."*

Ultimately, to become part of the Bride of Christ and to reign with Him in eternity.

Rom 8:16,17: *"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs; heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, .."*

Rev 21:9: *"Then one of the seven angels ... came to me and talked with me, saying, "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."*

### **2. To partake of the image of God, and to become more and more like Jesus through heart purification and sanctification.**

Rom 8:29: *"For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren."*

### **3. To reach and win the world for Christ, and to establish and expand the Kingdom of God on earth through the Church.**

Act 1:8 *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

**4. To represent God in this world through our lives and our witness, through the indwelling and control of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.**

I want to expand briefly on this point. In 1 Co 6:19 we read: *"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"* Do we as Christians really understand what God is telling us here?! Do we really understand what it means that the Holy Spirit lives within us?

My observation is that many, if not most Christians are completely indifferent to this fact. It does not make any difference to them whether the Holy Spirit lives within them or not! How sad! The result is that they are not only completely oblivious to their position in Christ, but they have no power in their Christian lives and they make no impact on this world!

**Dear friend in Christ,  
if you are truly born  
again, the Holy Spirit,  
the third Person of  
the Tri-une God lives  
within you!**

He is not there far away in heaven! He is within you! God is representing Himself to the world through you! You have God's heavenly power at your disposal here on earth! The authority of God over Satan, sin, and the world, have been delegated to you through the indwelling Holy Spirit here on earth!

**When Christians begin to understand and appreciate something about representing God through the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in their lives, many things in this world will change.**

Firstly, Christians themselves will change - their conduct will change, their conversations will change, their perspectives will change, their priorities will change, even their dress, appearances, and lifestyles will change. In short, the entire way they represent themselves to this world will change, for they will be representing God.

Secondly, other people's lives will change because the authority of God will be going out from them.

**5. The fifth position and purpose for which God created humans that we can once again take in through the Gospel of Jesus Christ is to rule and have dominion over sin, the sinful world, and Satan and his kingdom.**

In Rom 8:2 we read: *"For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."*

And Rom 8:31: *"What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?"*

And Rom 8:37: *"Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us."*

In summary then, the central message of the Bible is the restoration of God's purpose in creation. In my own search for truth, I have been greatly blessed by the books of Paul Billheimer. I would like to support the above truths by two quotations from his writings.

Paul Billheimer describes God's purpose in creation like this: *"The universe, including this planet, was created for one purpose: to provide a suitable habitation for the human race. The human race was created in the image and likeness of God for one purpose: to provide an eternal companion for the Son. After the fall and promise of redemption through the coming Messiah, the Messianic race was born and nurtured to bring in the Messiah. And the Messiah came for one intent and only one: to give birth to His Church, thus obtaining His Bride. The Church, then - the called out body of redeemed mankind - turns out to be the central object, the goal, not only of mundane history but of all that God has been doing in all realms, from all eternity."*<sup>2</sup>

*"The center of history is not its great empires like Egypt, Babylon, Greece, or Rome, nor their modern counterparts such as Russia, China, the United*

*States of America, or any other which may yet appear. To locate the centre of history one must bypass all these vast empires and the glittering names associated with them and find his way to a tiny land called the navel of the earth, the geographical center of the world. And in that tiny land is a tiny hill called Calvary, where two thousand years ago a Man named Jesus was lifted up to die. And this writer submits that that tiny hill in that tiny land is the center of all history, not only of this world, but of all the countless galaxies and island universes of outer space from eternity to eternity."*<sup>3</sup>

As much as God has a plan for the restoration of the world from the fall, God has a unique restoration plan for every individual Christian.

## **God's restoration school for the Christian**

One of the greatest misunderstandings among Christians is the belief that apart from eternal life, which is only a distant and long term advantage, the main purpose and advantage of being a Christian is to improve my quality of

<sup>2</sup> Destined For The Throne by Paul E Billheimer, page 22

<sup>3</sup> Destined For The Throne by Paul E Billheimer, page 21

physical life and personal circumstances here on earth.

The Corinthian church was the first church to believe this error. For we read in 1 Co 4:8 that Paul admonishes the Corinthians: *“You are already full! You are already rich! You have reigned as kings without us; and indeed I could wish you did reign, that we also might reign with you!”*

However, in contrast, the apostles had a different experience of Christianity here on earth: *“For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.”* (1 Co 4:9.)

Although it is true that being a Christian brings great rewards here on earth, this should never be the Christian's focus. As long as our focus is on health, wealth, and earthly blessings, our focus is in the wrong place!

**The fact of the matter is that our real reward will only be revealed in heaven, and the main purpose of our earthly life is preparation for Eternity!**

Our focus should therefore be on the return and second coming of Jesus Christ!

Every Christian is in God's Eternity University, and here on earth we are

being shaped and equipped for Heaven! We are being trained and prepared to become the Bride of Christ at the marriage supper of the Lamb!

I have identified seven major campuses of God's Eternity University here on earth. Although all these campuses teach the same subjects, they specialise in one of the following teaching methods: Suffering, Tribulation, Trials, Adversity, Failure, Temptation and Persecution!

**During your earthly Christian life you will be studying on one or more of these campuses if you want to qualify for a management position in heaven.**

On one occasion I heard a speaker say: *“A Christian learns nothing from tribulation.”* Strangely, when I opened my Bible I found an entire book on the subject of tribulation — the book of Job — the only subject in the Bible on which an entire Bible book of 42 chapters was written!

Rom 5:3,4 says: *“And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope.”*

**“Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; but rejoice to the extent that you partake of**

**Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy ... Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in this matter."**

(1 Pe 4:12–16)

## In conclusion

We are talking about the power of prayer and specifically how to pray effectively. We also said that prayer is the single most unexploited resource in the universe! People are chasing after power, the power of money, the power of control, power over their own destiny, power of possession, power over the future, but few are seeking after the power of prayer, which is the most effective, and ultimately only resource of power in the universe.

We said that the first requirement for effective prayer is to stand in the right relationship and position with God. If you are not sure whether you are standing in the right relationship with God, please turn to page 20 and 21 of this publication.

The second requirement for effective prayer is that my prayers must be in accordance with God's will!

The third requirement for effective prayer is a proper understanding of the

fact that prayer is God's chosen method for implementing and enforcing the will of God on earth!

**If I am standing in the right relationship and position with God, and I know and understand the will of God for my life and the world, I never have to beg God to do something He is reluctant to do!**

I know that what I am asking from God, He will do! That's effective prayer! That's powerful prayer! Then I will know how to pray aright, as James instructs us in Jas 4:3: *"You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."*

There are of course also other aspects about prayer I have to understand such as, how God answers prayer, faith in prayer, and prayer warfare. However, we will write more on the subject of prayer in future editions of the Disciplex.

May God bless you as you continue to seek Him for a powerful prayer life! ☐

Remember, God does nothing in people's lives except in answer to prayer! God will do nothing in your life, except through prayer! You may have read this article; you may agree with every word; it may be a great blessing to you; you may have all the Biblical knowledge in the world; you may even be a professor in theology — but it will have no effect on your life, except through prayer! Spiritual power only comes through prayer! Prayer is the catalyst that changes spiritual knowledge into spiritual power. Therefore, turn to God in prayer right now and appropriate these truths for yourself by faith in prayer, asking God to apply His Word to your heart!





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Single Most  
Unexploited Resource  
In The Universe!

Prayer is God's  
chosen method for  
implementing and  
enforcing the will of  
God on earth!

The Power of Prayer  
is Stronger than the  
Power of the People!

The history of this  
world is shaped  
through the prayers  
— or lack thereof —  
of Christians and  
the Church!

## **The six fundamental Biblical principles of an abundant, victorious, and Spirit-filled life.**

Three things you have to know:

**1. God has a Divine purpose in creation, a dynamic plan, and a Royal inheritance of spiritual abundance, victory, and a Spirit-filled life in store for you.**

**2. Your own sin and your sinful nature are the only reason why you do not experience the fullness of the Holy Spirit, His inheritance, abundance, and victory in your life.**

**3. Jesus Christ is God's perfect and only provision, and man's perfect and only solution for the problem of sin and your sinful nature.**

Three things you have to act upon in prayer:

### **4. Faith!**

**Sincere faith in Jesus Christ, His work on the Cross and His Word, is the key to a Spirit-filled life, His abundance, victory, and the fullness of His inheritance.**

### **5. Repentance!**

**Faith in Jesus Christ, His work on the Cross and His Word, involves a wholehearted repentance from all sin.**

### **6. Entire surrender!**

**Faith in Jesus Christ, His work on the Cross and His Word, involves a crucifixion and death of self and the sinful nature, and an entire and unconditional surrender of every area of your life to Him.**

## **A model prayer for someone who wants to trust the Lord for the infilling of the Holy Spirit and a victorious life.**

Dear Lord Jesus Christ, I understand that You paid the price with Your own precious blood on the cross of Calvary, not only for the guilt of my sin, but also for my deliverance and liberation from the bondage of sin and my sinful nature! I also understand that You have a wonderful plan of victory and fruitfulness for my life and that You want to fill me with Your Holy Spirit!

I come this moment in deep humiliation to Your throne of grace. I confess that my life does not measure up to Your holy standard! I confess the utter depravity of my own sinful nature! I confess that I do not have victory over sin and my sinful nature and that I am living a life of spiritual defeat. I now come to You kneeling in sincere repentance of my sinfulness, my self-centredness and my unbelief, at the Cross of Jesus. I confess every conscious sin before you. Please cleanse me from every sin, but also create within me a pure heart, Oh God!

***(Confess every known sin by name before God, and close every entrance to Satan and his demons, through the Blood of Jesus, by faith.)***

I turn my back on every sin in my life this very moment; and I enter into a covenant with You to submit myself in unconditional obedience to Your Word, Your law, Your will, and Your plan for my life! I surrender my sinful nature this very moment to be crucified with Christ, and I take up my position as crucified with Christ by faith! I *(place your own name in here)* **have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me!** (Gal 2:20)

I surrender my whole life, including my WILL, INTELLECT, and EMOTION entirely and unconditionally to You! Everything I am and possess I give to You in order that You may fulfil Your Divine plan in and through my life! Whatever was important to me, I now regard as useless for Jesus' sake! (Phil 3:7-11) Please take full control of every area of my life! Fill my heart and life now with Your Holy Spirit!

Thank you for the promises of Your Word, and I appropriate by faith every promise in Your Word for myself this moment! I believe You when You say that You reward those who seek you with an undivided heart! I believe that You have now taken full control of my life by Your Holy Spirit. I also take up my position as resurrected and victorious with Christ on the basis of Your Word by faith, and in the Name of Jesus Christ my Lord! I praise and worship You, Lord Jesus! I love You, Lord Jesus! Amen. □

