

Wednesday Meetings
April 1, 2020
Answered Prayer

THE BIBLE

Give ear to my words, O Lord, consider my meditation. Hearken unto the voice of my cry, my King, and my God: for unto thee will I pray. Lead me, O Lord, in thy righteousness. Let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice. Because thou defendest them, let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee. For thou, Lord, wilt bless the righteous with favor. Psalms 5: 1, 2, 8, 11, 12

Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgiveth all thine iniquities, who healeth all thy diseases, who redeemeth thy life from destruction, who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies so that thy youth is renewed like the eagle's. Psalms 103: 1-5

Bless the Lord, ye his angels, that excel in strength, that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word. Bless the Lord, all his works in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my SOUL. Psalms 103: 20, 22

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he hath broken the gates of brass, and cut the bars of iron in sunder. He sent his word and healed them and delivered them. Psalms 107:8, 16, 20

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before God. Then they came near, and spake before the king. Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true. Then answered they and said before the king, that Daniel regardeth not thee, O king nor the decree that thou hast signed.

Then the king commanded and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the King spake and said unto Daniel, thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. Then the king went to his palace and passed the night fasting and his sleep went from him. Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste unto the den of lions.

And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the King, O King, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths that they have not hurt me. For as much as before him innocency was found in me and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the King exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. Daniel 6:

And Jesus went about all Galilee teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people. And his fame went throughout all Syria. And they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils and those that had the palsy and he healed them. Matthew 4: 23, 24

And seeing the multitudes, he went up into a mountain and when he was set his disciples came unto him and he opened his mouth and taught them, saying, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to the Father which is in secret. Matthew 5: 1 6: 6

After this manner therefore pray ye. Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. Psalms 6: 9

Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures by Mary Baker Eddy

Our master taught his disciples one brief prayer, which we name after him the Lord's Prayer. Our Master said, "After this manner therefore pray ye," and then he gave that prayer which covers all human needs. 16: 7-11

The prayer that reforms the sinner and heals the sick is an absolute faith that all things are possible to God -- a spiritual understanding of Him, an unselfed love. Regardless of what another may say or think on this subject, I speak from experience. Prayer, watching, and working, combined with self-immolation, are God's gracious means for accomplishing whatever has been successfully done for the Christianization and health of mankind. 1: 1-14

Are we benefited by praying? Yes, the desire which goes forth hungering after righteousness is blessed of our Father, and it does not return unto us void. 2: 4

"When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and, when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

So spake Jesus. The closet typifies the sanctuary of Spirit, the door of which shuts out sinful sense but lets in Truth, Life, and Love. Closed to error, it is open to Truth, and *vice versa*. The Father in secret is unseen to the physical senses, but He knows all things and rewards according to motives, not according to speech. To enter into the heart of prayer, the door of the erring senses must be closed. Lips must be mute and materialism silent, that man may have audience with Spirit, the divine Principle, Love, which destroys all error.

In order to pray aright, we must enter into the closet and shut the door. We must close the lips and silence the material senses. In the quiet sanctuary of earnest longings, we must deny sin and plead God's allness. We must resolve to take up the cross, and go forth with honest hearts to work and watch for wisdom, Truth, and Love. We must "pray without ceasing." Such prayer is answered, in so far as we put our desires into practice. 14: 31-22 (next page)

Understanding the control which Love held over all, Daniel felt safe in the lions' den, and Paul proved the viper to be harmless. A realization of this grand verity was a source of strength to the ancient worthies. Page 514: 26-28, 30-31

Late in the nineteenth century I demonstrated the divine rules of Christian Science. They were submitted to the broadest practical test, and everywhere, when honestly applied under circumstances where demonstration was humanly possible, this science showed that Truth had lost none of its divine and healing efficacy, even though centuries had passed away since Jesus practised these rules on the hills of Judaea and in the valleys of Galilee. 147: 6

Our Master healed the sick, practised Christian healing, and taught the generalities of its divine Principle to his students; but he left no definite rule for demonstrating the Principle of healing and preventing disease. This rule remained to be discovered in Christian Science. 147: 24-29

Only as we rise above all material sensuousness and sin, can we reach the heaven-born aspiration and spiritual consciousness, which is indicated in the Lord's Prayer and which instantaneously heals the sick. 16: 20

And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and to be merciful, just, and pure. 497: 24

Tom Sims, First Reader