

1. “A **prayer meeting** will always **tell the true interest of the church members** in spiritual and eternal things. The **prayer meeting is as the pulse to the body**; it **denotes the true spiritual condition of the church**. A lifeless, backslidden church has no relish for the prayer meetings.”--Selections from Testimonies to the Managers and Workers in our Institutions (Ph 149) 32. {PaM 183.2}
2. “A spirit of devotion was cherished. Not only were the students taught the duty of prayer...” {Ed 47.2}
3. **Study EW 269-271 (On the opposite side entitled “A view of the Shaking”) and understand in reference to prayer and prophecy.**
4. “The hearts of the listening disciples were deeply moved. They had marked how often He spent long hours in solitude in communion with His Father. His days were passed in ministry to the crowds that pressed upon Him, and in unveiling the treacherous sophistry of the rabbis, and this incessant labor **often left Him so utterly wearied that His mother and brothers, and even His disciples, had feared that His life would be sacrificed. But as He returned from the hours of prayer that closed the toilsome day, they marked the look of peace upon His face, the sense of refreshment that seemed to pervade His presence.** It was **from hours spent with God that He came forth, morning by morning, to bring the light of heaven to men. The disciples had come to connect His hours of prayer with the power of His words and works.** Now, as they listened to His supplication, their hearts were awed and humbled. As He ceased praying, it was with a conviction of their own deep need that they exclaimed, “Lord, teach us to pray.” Luke 11:1. {MB 102.2} Jesus **gives them no new form of prayer. That which He has before taught them He repeats**, as if He would say, You **need to understand what I have already given.** It has a depth of meaning you have not yet fathomed.” {MB 103.1,2}
5. “Christ’s lessons in regard to prayer should be carefully considered. **There is a divine science in prayer, and His illustration brings to view principles that all need to understand...**” {COL 142.2}
6. “In **the prayer of faith** there is **a divine science**; it is **a science** that **everyone** who would make his **life-work a success must understand.**” {Ed 257.7}

Definition of Science (latin-knowledge): “*Science is facts; just as houses are made of stones, so is science made of facts; but a pile of stone is not a house and a collection of facts is not necessarily science.*” Henri Poincare French mathematician & physicist (1854—1912)

7. “**Prayer is a necessity**; for it is the life of the soul. **Family prayer, public prayer, have their place; but it is secret communion** with God that sustains the soul life.” {Ed 258.3}
8. If we **prayed more in secret**, we **should be able to pray more intelligently in public**. These doubtful, hesitating prayers would cease. And **when engaged with our brethren in public worship**, we **could add to the interest of the meeting**; for we should **bring with us some of the atmosphere of heaven**, and our worship would be a reality, and not a mere form. **Those about us can soon tell whether we are in the habit of praying or not. If the soul is not drawn out in prayer in the closet, and while engaged in the business of the day, the lack will be manifest in the prayer-meeting.** The public prayers will be dry and formal, consisting of repetitions and customary phrases, and they will bring darkness rather than light into the meeting. {old GW92 425.3} ; {similar OCH 130.4}

9. “We **should pray in the family circle, and above all we must not neglect secret prayer, for this is the life of the soul.** It is impossible for the soul to flourish while prayer is neglected. Family or public prayer alone is not sufficient. **In solitude let the soul be laid open to the inspecting eye of God. Secret prayer is to be heard only by the prayer-hearing God. No curious ear is to receive the burden of such petitions. In secret prayer the soul is free from surrounding influences, free from excitement. Calmly, yet fervently, will it reach out after God. Sweet and abiding will be the influence emanating from Him who seeth in secret, whose ear is open to hear the prayer arising from the heart.** By calm, simple faith the soul holds communion with God and **gathers to itself rays of divine light to strengthen and sustain it in the conflict with Satan.** God is our tower of strength.” {SC 98.2}

True Science of Secret Prayer - 2 Practical Principles

- I. **Place—to be alone with God:** “When thou prayest, enter into thy closet.” **Have a place for secret prayer.** Jesus had select places for communion with God, and so should we. We need often to retire to some spot, however humble, where **we can be alone with God.**” {MB 84.1}
 - II. **Sense our Need** - He invites us to present to Him our perplexities and necessities, and **our need** of divine help. He bids us be instant in prayer. As soon as difficulties arise, we are to offer to Him our sincere, earnest petitions. By our importunate prayers we give evidence of our strong confidence in God. **The sense of our need leads us to pray earnestly, and our heavenly Father is moved by our supplications.**” {COL 172.2}
10. “The **sense of need**, the recognition of our poverty and sin, is **the very first condition** of acceptance with God.” {COL 152.1}
 11. “Jesus Himself, while He dwelt among men, was often in prayer. Our Saviour identified Himself with our needs and weakness, in that He became a suppliant, a petitioner, seeking from His Father fresh supplies of strength, that He might come forth braced for duty and trial. He is our example in all things. He is a brother in our infirmities, “in all points tempted like as we are;” but as the sinless one His nature recoiled from evil; He endured struggles and torture of soul in a world of sin. His **humanity made prayer a necessity and a privilege.** He found comfort and joy in communion with His Father. And if the Saviour of men, the Son of God, **felt the need of prayer, how much more should feeble, sinful mortals feel the necessity of fervent, constant prayer.**” {SC 93.4}
 12. “Our heavenly Father waits to bestow upon us the fullness of His blessing. It is our privilege to drink largely at the fountain of boundless love. **What a wonder it is that we pray so little!** God is ready and willing to hear the sincere prayer of the humblest of His children, and yet there is **much manifest reluctance** on our part to make known our wants to God. What **can the angels of heaven think of poor helpless human beings**, who are subject to temptation, **when God’s heart of infinite love yearns toward them, ready to give them more than they can ask or think, and yet they pray so little and have so little faith?** The angels love to bow before God; they love to be near Him. They regard communion with God as their highest joy; and yet the **children of earth, who need so much the help that God only can give**, seem satisfied to walk without the light of His Spirit, the companionship of His presence. {SC 94.1}

The “True Science of Prayer” Series is being facilitated by Messengers of Light Ministry. For more information on coming events and practical living visit them online @ www.molministry.com

Home Work:

- Find a place for secret prayer in your home & church.
- Read or re-read “**The Privilege of Prayer**” found in Steps to Christ pg.93
- “**What a wonder it is that we pray so little!...“What can the angels of heaven think of poor helpless human beings, who are subject to temptation, when God’s heart of infinite love yearns toward them, ready to give them more than they can ask or think, and yet they pray so little and have so little faith?”** {SC 94} Ask the Lord to help you write a list of reasons why you “pray so little?”
- Ask God to help remove those things so you CAN pray more.
- Be prepared to share your list & testimony concerning prayer!

CHURCH MILITANT

CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

CHURCH VICTORIOUS

The information in the first column should be our experience right now if we intend to move on to the second column, receive the seal of God and be a part of the team that God will use to finish the work.

Seal of God ; Latter Rain ; Loud Cry - Other Sheep; Martyrs (See 5T-214,7BC-976 & Maranatha 199) God will use the people in this column to finish the work, please notice they have obtained the victory over sin.



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8
4
4

I saw some, with strong faith and agonizing cries, pleading with God. Their countenances were pale and marked with deep anxiety, expressive of their internal struggle. Firmness and great earnestness was expressed in their countenances; large drops of perspiration fell from their foreheads. Now and then their faces would light up with the marks of God's approbation, and again the same solemn, earnest, anxious look would settle upon them. Evil angels crowded around, pressing darkness upon them to shut out Jesus from their view, that their eyes might be drawn to the darkness that surrounded them, and thus they be led to distrust God and murmur against Him. Their only safety was in keeping their eyes directed upward. Angels of God had charge over His people, and as the poisonous atmosphere of evil angels was pressed around these anxious ones, the heavenly angels were continually wafting their wings over them to scatter the thick darkness. {EW 269.2} As the praying ones continued their earnest cries, at times a ray of light from Jesus came to them, to encourage their hearts and light up their countenances. Some, I saw, did not participate in this work of agonizing and pleading. They seemed indifferent and careless. They were not resisting the darkness around them, and it shut them in like a thick cloud. The angels of God left these and went to the aid of the earnest, praying ones. I saw angels of God hasten to the assistance of all who were struggling with all their power to resist the evil angels and trying to help themselves by calling upon God with perseverance. But His angels left those who made no effort to help themselves, and I lost sight of them. I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this is what will cause a shaking among God's people. {EW 270.2} I saw that the testimony of the True Witness has not been half heeded. The solemn testimony upon which the destiny of the church hangs has been lightly esteemed, if not entirely disregarded. This testimony must work deep repentance; all who truly receive it will obey it and be purified.

Said the angel, "List ye!" Soon I heard a voice like many musical instruments all sounding in perfect strains, sweet and harmonious. It surpassed any music I had ever heard, seeming to be full of mercy, compassion, and elevating, holy joy. It thrilled through my whole being. Said the angel, "Look ye!" My attention was then turned to the company I had seen, who were mightily shaken. I was shown those whom I had before seen weeping and praying in agony of spirit. The company of guardian angels around them had been doubled, and they were clothed with an armor from their head to their feet. They moved in exact order, like a company of soldiers. Their countenances expressed the severe conflict which they had endured, the agonizing struggle they had passed through. Yet their features, marked with severe internal anguish, now shone with the light and glory of heaven. They had obtained the victory, and it called forth from them the deepest gratitude and holy, sacred joy. {EW 270.4} The numbers of this company had lessened. Some had been shaken out and left by the way. The careless and indifferent, who did not join with those who prized victory and salvation enough to perseveringly plead and agonize for it, did not obtain it, and they were left behind in darkness, and their places were immediately filled by others taking hold of the truth and coming into the ranks. Evil angels still pressed around them, but could have no power over them. {EW 271.1} I heard those clothed with the armor speak forth the truth with great power. It had effect. Many had been bound; some wives by their husbands, and some children by their parents. The honest who had been prevented from hearing the truth now eagerly laid hold upon it. All fear of their relatives was gone, and the truth alone was exalted to them. They had been hungering and thirsting for truth; it was dearer and more precious than life. I asked what had made this great change. An angel answered, "It is the latter rain, the refreshing from the presence of the Lord, the loud cry of the third angel." Great power was with these chosen ones. Said the angel, "Look ye!" My attention was turned to the wicked, or unbelievers. They were all astir. The zeal and power with the people of God had aroused and enraged them. Confusion, confusion, was on every side. I saw measures taken against the company who had the light and power of God. Darkness thickened around them; yet they stood firm, approved of God, and trusting in Him. I saw them perplexed;

next I heard them crying unto God earnestly. Day and night their cry ceased not: "Thy will, O God, be done! If it can glorify Thy name, make a way of escape for Thy people! Deliver us from the heathen around about us. They have appointed us unto death; but Thine arm can bring salvation." These are all the words which I can bring to mind. All seemed to have a deep sense of their unworthiness and manifested entire submission to the will of God; yet, like Jacob, every one, without an exception, was earnestly pleading and wrestling for deliverance. {EW 272.1} Soon after they had commenced their earnest cry, the angels, in sympathy, desired to go to their deliverance. But a tall, commanding angel suffered them not. He said, "The will of God is not yet fulfilled. They must drink of the cup. They must be baptized with the baptism." {EW 272.2} Soon I heard the voice of God, which shook the heavens and the earth. There was a mighty earthquake. Buildings were shaken down on every side. I then heard a triumphant shout of victory, loud, musical, and clear. I looked upon the company, who, a short time before, were in such distress and bondage. Their captivity was turned. A glorious light shone upon them. How beautiful they then looked! All marks of care and weariness were gone, and health and beauty were seen in every countenance. Their enemies, the heathen around them, fell like dead men; they could not endure the light that shone upon the delivered, holy ones. This light and glory remained upon them, until Jesus was seen in the clouds of heaven, and the faithful, tried company were changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, from glory to glory. And the graves were opened, and the saints came forth, clothed with immortality, crying, "Victory over death and the grave"; and together with the living saints they were caught up to meet their Lord in the air, while rich, musical shouts of glory and victory were upon every immortal tongue. {EW 273}

PREPARATION TIME

LITTLE TIME OF TROUBLE

GREAT TIME OF TROUBLE

"A VIEW OF THE SHAKING"