



MAY 1973

THE WORD OF FAITH

God's Order in Prayer

— by Kenneth Hagin

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

—I Timothy 2:1-4

FIRST...supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and for all that are in authority....

God's Word is talking here about our praying for our president (in Paul's time they had kings) and for all who are in authority--congressmen, senators, governors, mayors, policemen. The Bible says that we are to pray for them **FIRST**.

I don't have to tell you, we are not doing that. One reason I know folks are not praying for our leaders is that I hear so much criticism. When you are praying for someone, you are not so apt to criticize them.

We talk about situations which exist in our own nation and complain when really we as Christians are the ones who can do something about them.

Some say, "Well, the devil did this and the devil did that."

Actually, we as Christians have authority over the devil and if we would do what the Bible tells us to, we would change things.

He said **FIRST**--before you

pray for yourself--before you pray for your wife or husband--before you pray for your loved ones--before you pray for your children--before you pray for your church--before you pray for the unsaved--before you pray for missionaries--before you pray for the widows or orphans.

Many times, however, we become so politically involved we do not do for our nation what God's Word tells us as Christians to do. Some Christians have become warped in their thinking. I am greatly alarmed when I see that some have allowed politics almost to become a religion to them.

I heard two Christian men talking. They were both of the same political party. However, one of the men had voted for some running for office on the "other" party's ticket. The other man did not like this at all. I actually heard this professed Christian say, "I'll tell you one thing about it. If the devil was running for president on my party's ticket, I would vote for him."

As Christians we are not to put politics before Christ. We need to do what the Bible tells us to do. We need to put first things first.

When we do put first things first--when we get into God's order of things--then we are going to get results from God.

I have known some people who at one time prayed about

little else except their unsaved loved ones. And, as long as they put that first, nothing happened. But when they began to pray in the order the Bible says to, their loved ones were saved. When they began to pray as the Bible says to pray, something began to happen in areas of their own lives and in the lives of their loved ones.

Our text in Timothy says to pray for those in authority so that we Christians "may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty."

God is concerned about us and will move even though those who are in authority may not be Christians. God will answer our prayers and do certain things because of us. He wants us to pray for those in authority that we might have the right kind of government in order that there will be quietness and peace. You cannot lead a quiet and peaceable life when the country is in turmoil.

Notice the ultimate purpose of our praying for our nation. "For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour." If we Christians want to please God, what are we going to put as number one on our prayer list? We are going to do exactly as God says to do, to pray first for all that are in authority.

Notice the fourth verse, "Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth."

God's ultimate purpose in this is that we will be able to spread the Gospel. If we do not have good government where there is quietness and peace, the spread of the Gospel is hindered. God wants us to get the Gospel out. Jesus said, "And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come" (Matt. 24:14). The devil would do his best to see that this is not accomplished.

30 And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.
31 Therefore have I poured out mine indignation upon them; I have consumed them with the fire of my wrath: their own way have I recompensed upon their heads, saith the Lord God.

-Ezekiel 23:30-31

This is God talking. Judgment came upon the land. Judgment came upon the people. It came as a result of their own sinning; as a result of their own wrongdoing.

But wait a minute! God said, "I really didn't want to do it."

He said, "If I could have found one man. If I could have found one person who would have prayed.

"I sought for a man among them--to stand in the gap--to make up the hedge--to stand before Me for the land--to intercede on behalf of the land. If I could have found one--I would not have destroyed it."

That Scripture is certainly an eyeopener! I wonder if God is seeking for a man today.

THE WORD OF FAITH published monthly by Kenneth E. Hagin Evangelistic Ass'n. P.O. Box 50126, 1029 N. Utica, Tulsa, Ok. Doyle (Buddy) Harrison-----Editor Billye Brim-----Managing Editor Karrel Hughes-----Copy Editor Douglas Brown-----Art Director Subscription rates: \$1.00/yr U.S. and Canada, instituted by payment of regular rate (or) first \$1.00 of your donation to Kenneth E. Hagin Evangelistic Ass'n. Volume VI-----Number Five

Surely He won't have to make the same commentary concerning today. "...and I found none. I couldn't find one who would intercede--who would pray."

And there is none that calleth upon thy name, that stirreth up himself to take hold of thee: for thou hast hid thy face from us, and hast consumed us, because of our iniquities. -Isalah 64:7

Here is a strange fact. Yet it is a Biblical fact no one can deny. Even though Israel had sinned, the Word of God implies here that if someone would have stirred up themselves to have prayed--if someone would have entered into intercession on Israel's behalf--then God would have heard them!

In Ezekiel God plainly said that if someone would have interceded for the land He would not have destroyed it.

In Timothy we are told to make intercessions. What is an intercessor? An intercessor is one who takes the place of another. You can intercede for others; you can intercede for your nation.

John Wesley said, "It seems that God can do nothing for humanity unless someone asks Him to do it."

A commentator added, "Why this is so we do not know."

I read Wesley's statement and the added comment and it got my attention. I said, "Why don't we know? If that is true, I want to know why He can't. Why doesn't God just go ahead and do it anyway? If God can do certain things, why doesn't He just go ahead and do them?"

In the Scripture we just read for instance, God said, "I sought for a man that would make up the hedge, that would stand in the gap..." If God could have saved the land, whether or not the people prayed--and He did not go ahead and save the land--then He would have become wicked Himself.

Yet He said, "I sought for a

man, but I couldn't find one."

I asked myself these questions and spent much time feeding on God's Word and praying about them. As I meditated and prayed, the Lord said to me, "Go back to the book of the beginnings."

"The book of the beginnings?" I asked.

"Yes, the book of Genesis."

The Lord said to me, "I made the world, the earth and the fullness thereof. Everything that is here I put here--the silver and the gold--the cattle of a thousand hills."

(You know the Psalmist said the silver and gold is the Lord's, the cattle of a thousand hills are the Lord's. But I learned they are the Lord's in that He created them, but they are not under His control right now.)

He said, "I did not make all this for the devil and his crowd. I made it for my man Adam. When I created Adam, I said to him, 'Adam, I give you dominion over all the work of my hands.'

"Adam became the god of this world. But Adam committed high treason and sold out to Satan. When he did that, Satan became the god of this world (II Cor. 4:4). Satan was not the god of this world to begin with." Satan has the right to run the thing--Adam gave it to him. God cannot do anything down here unless we ask Him.

1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

2 Being forty days tempted of the devil...

5 And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time.

6 And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it.

7 If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine.

8 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. (Luke 4:1-2,5-8)

Someone said, "It wasn't Satan's to give." Well, if it were not wouldn't Jesus, who was God manifested in the flesh, have known it? If it were not Satan's to give, then this would not have been any temptation.

Satan showed Jesus all of the kingdoms--not half of them. He showed Him all the power and the glory of them. That's a lot of power.

Notice he said, "It is delivered unto me and to whomsoever I will, I give it."

A syndicated newspaper columnist wrote, "I am not an atheist, because as I understand it an atheist says there is no God. I am not exactly an agnostic either. They say there may be a God but if there is they don't know it. I do believe there is a God, but I am not a Christian. One thing troubles me. Many Christians say God is running

things in this world and we see wars, women and children being killed, poverty, sickness and disease on every hand, conflict between nations. It bothers me. I can't get it straight. If God is running this world, He sure has got it in a mess."

That poor fellow was right. If I could have gotten to him I could have straightened out his thinking. But some Christians left certain impressions which caused him to be confused.

Satan said, "These kingdoms are delivered unto me."

If something is delivered unto you, you didn't have it to begin with. Satan did not have this authority to begin with. Adam had it. Adam was the original god of this world. He was to have dominion over the entire thing--the earth, the silver and gold, the whole thing. But, he committed high treason and de-

livered it over into the hands of Satan. God could not move in on Satan's kingdom. Satan could accuse Him of being unjust--and it would have been unjust.

Therefore God has to have somebody down here on this end of the line. Someone down here on earth has to ask Him before He can do anything. He wants to. Oh, He wants to. But somebody down here on earth has to ask Him before He can do anything for Humanity. And we are failing if we do not do it.

Do you see why God said, "I sought for a man among them"? He inferred that He wanted to bless them--He did not want to pour out what Justice demanded as a result of their own wrong doing. But He had to--because no one asked Him not to!



paul's revelation

May's free monthly lesson

Paul understood the supernatural elements in the Gospel as no other and he received the revelation of Jesus from the Holy Spirit while he was apart in Arabia. Write for your free copy.

FAITH SEMINAR AND INDOOR CAMP MEETING - Tulsa, Okla. - July 22-29
As announced last month, a number of guest ministers will be here with Brother Hagin in a three-service-a-day seven-day camp meeting. We are expecting a great time in the Lord! (Come be with us. Write for details.)

ALL FAITHS CRUSADES

ATLANTA, GEORGIA April 22-29

East Point Civic Auditorium

2777 East Point St.

(Rear of East Point City Hall)

Sunday Services 2:30 p.m.

Mon. thru Sat. 10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

(Check local TV listings April 21 for a

10:00 p.m. to 12 midnight TV appearance.)

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. May 6-9

Newnan Springs Methodist Church Audit.

1103 Mononaw Avenue

(Across from Winniepeusekah)

Sunday Service 2:30 p.m.

Mon. thru Wed. 10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

CLEVELAND, TENN. May 10-13

Faith Memorial Church Auditorium

910 17th Street NW

Thurs. Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

Fri. and Sat. 10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening Service 7:30 p.m.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA. May 20-27

Top of 21 Motor Inn

2040 Highland Avenue

Sunday Services 2:30 p.m.

Mon. thru Sat. 10:00 a.m. & 7:30 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP

Have you prepared your WILL yet? Did you know that every family should have a WILL? Yes, even though you might not think your possessions are large enough to make a WILL.

Every Christian, especially, should have a WILL--and every Christian's WILL should be a Christian WILL. You will want the tithe to be left to the Lord's work, and those who receive the WILL's benefits may not remember the Lord's work. Of course, many will be able to leave more than ten percent to the Lord's work.

It is simple to prepare a WILL. List all of the things you own, then show who you want to receive your possessions. Most attorney charges for preparing a WILL are very reasonable.

Write to the Stewardship Division of this ministry today and let us send you a brochure that tells you the things you need to know about your WILL.

SPECIAL RECORD CLOSEOUT: We have a limited supply of records on hand which we had chosen to offer originally because of the spiritual food in anointed song they contain.

The Dawning of that Day ... McDuff Bros. (An LP Album, regular price \$5.00, featuring the title song along with The King Is Coming and eight others.)

Streams In The Desert Featuring The Youth Choir and Sanctuary Choir of First Assembly Church, Phoenix, Arizona Singing: Sweet, Sweet Spirit; Every Time I Feel The Spirit; The King Is Coming; and eight other numbers that will bless you, Stereo LP Album (regular price - \$5.00).

The Maranatha Singers.. Our Lord Cometh On this 45 recording the Maranatha's sing: I Will Follow Thee; His Name Is Wonderful; Sweet Holy Spirit; and Don't Loose Your Vision. Regular price - \$2.00

ALL THREE RECORDS, the two LP Stereo Albums and the 45 recording, will be sent for an offering of \$6.00. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

FAITH LIBRARY

RECEIVE A GIFT BOOK



This month's message in the Word of Faith had to do with interceding for our nation. The ministry of standing before the throne of God the Father for a nation or for another person is one every Christian should know.

We will send this book free to all who write for it this month so that the teaching covered in chapters titled,

Interceding for a Nation

Interceding Against the Powers of Darkness

Interceding with the Help of the Holy Spirit

can be made available to you and put into practice in the ministry of intercession.

KENNETH E. HAGIN
EVANGELISTIC ASS'N, INC.
P. O. Box 50126
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74150

SECOND-CLASS POSTAGE
PAID
AT TULSA, OKLAHOMA

- Enclosed is my offering of \$_____
- Please send my gift book THE INTERCEDING CHRISTIAN.
- Please send the free monthly lesson "Paul's Revelation".