



SERMON NOTES

US N°. 88

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Title: Authority & Subjection

1. Prayer, talking with God.
 - a. There are over 650 prayers in the Bible,
 - b. *"We must live for God out of the closet if we would meet God in the closet. We must listen to God in public if we would have God listen to us in private."* E.M. Bounds
 - c. A.C.T.S.
 - i. Adoration & praise; putting to words the gratitude that ought to be in our hearts.
 1. 2 Cor. 9:15, *"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!"*
 2. 1 Thess. 5:16-18, *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*
 3. Ps. 99:1-5, *"The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble! He dwells between the cherubim; let the earth be moved! The LORD is great in Zion, and He is high above all the peoples. Let them praise Your great and awesome name – He is holy. The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His footstool – He is holy."*
 - ii. Confession;
 1. 1 Jn. 1:9, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."*
 2. Ps. 66:18, *"If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear."*
 3. Pr. 28:9, *"One who turns away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer is an abomination."*
 4. Mt. 6:14-15, *"For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."*
 5. 1 Pet. 3:7, *"Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered."*
 - iii. Thanksgiving; adoration for what God is and thanksgiving for what He has done.
 1. Phil. 4:6, *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God..."*
 2. Luke 17:11-19, *"...Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine..."*
 3. Rom. 1:21, *"...so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened."*
 4. Ps. 111, *"Praise the LORD! I will praise the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. The works of the LORD are great, studied by all who have pleasure in them. His work is honorable and glorious, and His righteousness endures forever. He has made His wonderful works to be remembered; the LORD is gracious and full of compassion. He has given food to those who fear Him; He will ever be mindful of His covenant. He has declared to His people the power of His works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of His*

hands are verity and justice; all His precepts are sure. They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness. He has sent redemption to His people; He has commanded His covenant forever: holy and awesome is His name. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; a good understanding have all those who do His commandments. His praise endures forever."

iv. Supplication;

1. Mt. 6:5, 8, "...when you pray... For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him."
2. Phil. 4:6, "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God..."
3. Precise prayer; James 4:2-3, "You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."
4. Persistent prayer; Luke 18:1-8, "Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, saying: *"There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor regard man. Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, 'Get justice for me from my adversary.' And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, 'Though I do not fear God nor regard man, yet because this widow troubles me I will avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.'"* Then the Lord said, *"Hear what the unjust judge said. And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?"*
5. Faith; James 1:5-8, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways."
6. Pray for...
 - a. Wisdom; James 1:5, "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."
 - b. Health; 2 Cor. 12:7-9, "And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, *"My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."* Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me."
 - c. Daily needs; Mt. 6:11, *"Give us this day our daily bread."*
 - d. Resisting temptations & evil;
 - i. Mt. 6:13, *"And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one."*
 - ii. Mt. 26:41, *"Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."*
 - e. Intercession for others;
 - i. Ez. 6:10, "...pray for the life of the king and his sons."
 - ii. James 5:16, "...pray for one another,"

iii. Acts 8:24, "Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me.""

iv. "Talking to men for God is great, but talking to God for man is greater." E.M. Bounds

7. Affirmation of public prayer; "amen" = verily, so be it.

2. Two useful model prayers:

a. The Lord's prayer; Mt. 6:5-18, *"And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly."*

i. Our Father who's in heaven...

ii. Hallowed be your name...

iii. Your kingdom come, your will be done...

iv. Give me this day my daily bread...

v. Forgive me my trespasses as I forgive those who trespassed against me...

vi. Lead me not into temptation..

vii. Deliver me from (the) evil (one)...

viii. For Yours is the Kingdom, the Power, and the Glory forever and ever, Amen.

b. The Trinitarian prayer

i. Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; set up your Kingdom in our midst.

ii. Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God; have mercy on me, a sinner.

iii. Holy Spirit, breath of the Living God; renew me and all the world.

3. Generalities of fasting; forcing yourself to focus and rely on God for the strength, provision, and wisdom you need. Fasting provides the "power" to press further in. Mark 9:29, "So He said to them, *"This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting."*

a. Types of fasting

i. Partial – refers to omitting a specific meal from your diet or refraining from certain types of foods during a prescribed time.

1. Daniel fast; Dan. 10:3, "I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled."

2. Lent; Catholics 18-59 are obliged to fast Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to abstain from meat on Fridays during Lent, while and other areas of self-denial (*i.e. chocolate, coffee, etc.*) are encouraged. Lent begins Feb. 17th thru March 31st.
 - a. The traditional purpose of Lent is the preparation of the believer – through prayer, penance, repentance, almsgiving, and self-denial. Its institutional purpose is to heighten the annual commemoration of Holy Week, marking the death and resurrection of Jesus, which recalls the events of the Passion of Christ on Good Friday, culminating in the celebration on Easter Sunday of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
 - ii. Normal – traditionally this means refraining from eating all food during a prescribed time; most people still drink water or juice during a normal fast.
 - iii. Absolute – no food or drink during a prescribed time.
 - iv. Group or individual? Same time or rotational?
 - b. Rhythms of fasting
 - i. Occasional; generally a one-time fast for a specific purpose.
 - ii. Intermittent; normally a regular act of abstinence, for example one day a week. You may abstain from food, or make some other sacrifice. This type of fast is a way of integrating the spiritual discipline of fasting into your life on an ongoing basis.
 - iii. Longer; a longer water-only fast might last from one to three days. If you are fasting from something other than food, your longer fast might last a week; some use Lent as a time for a longer fast.
 - iv. Extended; it isn't possible or even helpful to suggest a time period for an extended fast. The length of time will vary from one person to the next and will probably also increase as your experience of fasting grows. I would not recommend that you begin fasting with extended fasts.
 - v. Open-ended; fasting until something is attained (*i.e. healing, knowledge, etc.*)
4. Reasons for fasting
 - a. Grief (*cf. Ez. 9:5, Neh. 1:4, Neh. 9:1, Est. 4:3*)
 - b. Healing or deliverance (*cf. Ps. 35:13*)
 - c. Self-chastening (*cf. Ps. 69:10, Joel 2:12, Jonah 3:5*)
 - d. Supplication (*cf. Dan. 9:3, Mt. 17:21, Acts 14:23, 2 Chr. 20:3*)
 - e. Guidance (*cf. Acts 10:30, Ex. 34:28*)
 - f. Dedication (*cf. Acts 13:3, Acts 14:23*)
 5. Prayer & Fasting are weapons of War
 - a. Narcissism (an inordinate fascination with oneself; excessive self-love; vanity; aka self-centeredness, smugness, egocentrism.)
 - i. *Phil. 2:1-4, "Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."*
 - b. *Is. 58:3-14, "Why have we fasted,' they say, 'and You have not seen? Why have we afflicted our souls, and You take no notice?' "In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exploit all your laborers. Indeed you fast for strife and debate, And to strike with the fist of wickedness. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high. Is it a fast that I have chosen, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast,*

and an acceptable day to the LORD? "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.' "If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, if you extend your soul to the hungry and satisfy the afflicted soul, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your soul in drought, and strengthen your bones; you shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. Those from among you shall build the old waste places; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; and you shall be called the Repairer of the Breach, The Restorer of Streets to Dwell In. "If you turn away your foot from the Sabbath, From doing your pleasure on My holy day, And call the Sabbath a delight, The holy day of the LORD honorable, And shall honor Him, not doing your own ways, nor finding your own pleasure, nor speaking your own words, then you shall delight yourself in the LORD; and I will cause you to ride on the high hills of the earth, and feed you with the heritage of Jacob your father. The mouth of the LORD has spoken.""

i. *"Justice is what love looks like in public."*