

Believers' Prayer for Boldness

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All these books on prayers are empowering lives today. Today, I was reading some in Acts, and a lot of things smacked me in the face that I hadn't seen before. (That's one AWESOME part about reading the Bible - what you read is ALWAYS something new and pertinent to life, and God will confirm His Word in your life, too!) In Acts 4, after being questioned by rulers and scribes about their 'power source' for the healing of a lame man (couldn't walk), Peter and John went back to their cohorts (fellow disciples) and prayed a wonderful prayer...

Text Used: Acts 4:23-31

23 And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

Here, they give Praise to God for who He is and for what He has done - that's a good definition of Worship.

25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

The believers recite a prophecy from Psalms, given through David (comes from Psalm 2 in your local Bible), and in verse 28, acknowledge an attribute of God's Sovereign Will:

28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

Right now, they are also worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth. God is a Spirit, and we must worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.

(But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. - John 4:23-24)

They had a pure and right heart in True Praise and were in agreement (in one accord). They also Praised Him even with His Word and knowledge of it through the Holy Spirit. You can 'stand on the Word' in a sort, in praying verses from the Bible. Just don't do anything artificially out of your own heart! Don't be like a Pharisee and yell on a street corner how great your works are just to get approval from men. As Paul said, 'am I trying to win approval of men, or of God?' [God was his answer :)].

Here comes the biggie that we should all consider to some extent in our own daily prayers. We ALL need the Boldness from the Holy Ghost and should acknowledge that and ask for it. 'Ye have not because ye ask not.' Also, 'if a father, though being evil, gives good gifts to his children, how much more shall the Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask!' Matthew 7:7 says, 'ask and receive, knock and the door shall be opened unto you.' Amen, and here's the prayer:

29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,
30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Now THAT is a pretty awesome request, huh? Not just boldness, but for applied faith in healing in Jesus' Name, and miracles in His Name (the Name above ALL other names), too!

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

The place was SHAKEN after they prayed. I highly doubt this was an ordinary 'earthquake'. What about the Mighty Rushing Wind in Acts 2? That was certainly NO coincidence (they ended up with the Holy Ghost and Speaking in the tongues [languages] of different people in the streets around the Upper Room!). God shook the place and granted their prayer. Do you believe He will grant the same for YOU?