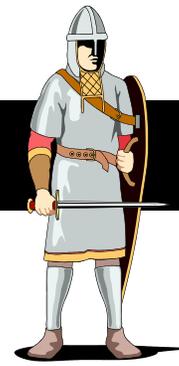


Wall of Prayer



July 23, 2016

Dear Faithful Prayer Warrior,

“In the days of His flesh,” Hebrews 5:7 tells us, “Jesus offered up prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death...” Jesus was facing the “cup” of His Father’s plan: taking on the sin of the world—from beginning to end. Heinous crimes, rebellion and apathy alike, committed through the ages, were to be heaped on Him, the Holy One. The God-man writhed and agonized in prayer over this thought. And maybe more painful, was the separation from His Father that would surely come. After confirming that this abhorrent “cup” was the will of His Father, Luke 22:44 tells us Jesus prayed “more earnestly,” to the One who could save Him from death. The word “from” in the Hebrews passage above means to “come out from” (as opposed to the Greek word meaning, “come away from”). Jesus wasn’t asking that He walk away and not have to die, but that the Father would bring him out of death, that resurrection would come. He prayed that this massive weight of sin would be put to death and He would be raised to live again, having defeated Satan for all time. Life would conquer death. Light would extinguish darkness. Spilling blood before He even left the garden, Jesus was obedient in every way, drinking the bitter cup until it was bone dry. He was separated from the Father, so that we could be united with the Father. ALL ALONE He bore our sin that we may never be alone again ...

God answered Jesus’ agonizing prayers! God powerfully “raised Christ from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly realms, far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.” (Ephesians 1:19-21). Jesus was now, “...crowned with glory and honor because He suffered death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone.” (Hebrews 2:9) And further, in Ephesians 2:5 “...God being rich in mercy, because of His great love...while we were dead in our sin, made us alive together with Him and seated us with Him in the heavenly places with Christ Jesus.” As an anonymous author put it, “Christ has saved us not simply to go to heaven when we die as reconciled sinners, but to go to heaven every day as priestly people...” Each day, we are privileged to approach the Triune God in worship and thanksgiving. We then bring the needs of those around us to Him who is able to rescue and save as we confidently “draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need” (Hebrews 4:16)

My dearest friends, the need is so great. We must persevere in agonizing prayer as the Wall of Prayer signature verse, seen below, expresses so clearly as never before, “Lord, there is no one but Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength.” It will be difficult to read the text of the Wall of Prayer prayer guide this quarter as we see sin’s effects on those most vulnerable to the enemy, who prowls around seeking someone to devour. Before you read the text on the Prayer Guide, I would encourage us all to spend time worshipping our great God, offering a sacrifice of praise to the One who saves and is able to bring close those who bow to Him. I have printed the words of an old hymn on the back of this letter. Use the words of this song as a reminder of the power and mercy of our Great God, our Defender and Redeemer. We’ll thank Him for His merciful plan and for our Savior, who obediently drank the bitter cup, for the power of His great Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead and moves us to worship and to plead on behalf of our students. Never give up!

In Him,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan".

Susan Admire

“Lord, there is no one besides Thee to help in the battle between the powerful and those who have no strength; so help us, O Lord our God, for we trust in Thee, and in Thy name have come against this multitude. O Lord, Thou art our God; let not man prevail against Thee.” 2 Chr. 14:11

O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above, and gratefully sing His wonderful love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace, Whose robe is the light Whose canopy space!
His chariots of wrath the deep thunder clouds form, and dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail;
Thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.