

INTERCESSORY PRAYER - 'FOR' AND 'AGAINST'

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For I am the LORD, I do not change...Mal 3:6 NKJV

Some people interpret the Bible as if God changed His nature from what He was under the Old Covenant to what He is under the New Covenant. No, He did not. The same God who revealed Himself as YAHWEH ELOHIM under the Old Covenant, revealed Himself as a Man, the Shepherd - King, in the Gospels, the Head of the Body in the Church age, and the Lord Almighty in the book of Revelation.

His will regarding righteousness and evil has not changed, either. Ezekiel tells us that He does not take pleasure in the death of any man. Timothy tells us that it is His will for all men to be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. And yet, there are many men throughout history who have so aligned themselves against the will of God that they needed to be removed from their place of influence and power, before the will of God could prevail. Righteousness demands justice, and justice is released by the prayers of God's people.

Why, since God is all-knowing, and all-powerful, do we have to pray?

Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." Gen 1:26-27 NKJV

God gave man authority over the earth for a period of time (that time is up, by God's sovereign reckoning, in the book of Revelation). Much like a landlord to a tenant, God gave man a lease contract on the earth. The Lord God owns the earth, but man has certain rights and privileges because of the tenets of the agreement between God and man. Just as a landlord cannot unreasonably enter the home of his tenant, the Lord God waits for man to invite Him by prayer, praise and worship to do His will upon the earth. This is true of nations just as it is true of individuals.

It is not enough just for God to will something...man must come into agreement with that will by faith, and then pray that power and favor of God into manifestation. Do you understand?

Learn to do well; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow. Isa 1:17 NKJV

To intercede is to come before one on behalf of another. Literally, it is to get involved in some one else's fight. Isaiah says that we are to plead their case before God. To plead is to present a passionate, truth-filled case before God that requires Him to respond in favor and mercy. Consider Moses' plea for the children of Israel:

Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: "LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? 12 Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. 13 Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " 14 So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people. Ex 32:11-14 NKJV

Now, we are called to intercede for God's people, and those who would be God's people, and against those people and circumstances who would align themselves against the will of God.

The Lord has supremely blessed us with the ability to pray in the Spirit and make intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Nothing we do in our day to day living is more powerful or effective in bringing in the will of God than praying in the Spirit (if you ever get a revelation of that reality, it will change your life forever).

Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God. Rom 8:26-28 NKJV

Intercession is the womb of change...Francis Frangipane.

The Lord had me prepare a book that contains listings with details of every single person who is in some way involved in our ministry. The Lord said, "I want you to thank Me for every single person in that book!" Speaking in tongues is giving thanks well. Everyday, I pray in tongues over each name, and each circumstance in that book. I stand with them in prayer for the will of God to be done, and against the will of the enemy. I pray, declare and decree the will of God as I am led, and by the grace of God miracles become commonplace, as they should. Bless God forever!

Dear one, the Lord graciously continually reminds us to take up the prayer watch for others, for our own benefit. For surely as we pray for blessing and favor for others, that same blessing and favor pours back upon us. We reap what we sow. We cannot out give God!

Remember, dear ones, we must be about our Father's business...