

# PRAYER

A Biblical Theology and Exposition of Prayer

# DEFINITION

# The Definition of Prayer

- Prayer is an act of spiritual communion in which the believer responds to the Triune God in ways that he accepts as revealed in his word.

# ASPECTS OF PRAYER

# Aspects of Prayer

- Praise/Worship
- Thanksgiving
- Confession
- Petition (praying for ourselves)
- Intercession (praying for others)
- Affirmation
- Questions

# Aspects of Prayer

- ACTS
  - Adoration
  - Confession
  - Thanksgiving
  - Supplication

# Attitudes in Prayer

- Waiting
- Watching
- Listening
- Scripture Saturation
- Meditation

WORSHIP

# Worship

“It happened that while Jesus was praying in a certain place, after He had finished, one of His disciples said to Him, “Lord, teach us to pray just as John also taught his disciples.”

And He said to them, “When you pray, say: ‘Father, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come.’”

—*Luke 11:1–2*

# Worship

“Not to us, O LORD, not to us,  
But to Your name give glory  
Because of Your lovingkindness, because of Your truth.”

—*Psalm 115:1*

# Worship

“You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.”

—*James 4:3*

# Worship

“Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us. For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.”

—*Philippians 3:17–19*

# Worship

“You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

—*James 4:3–4*

# Worship

- The whole focus of our prayers should be worship.
- God's glory directs, motivates, and informs our prayer.
- There should also be time in our prayers where we specifically worship God for who he is by declaring his name, character, attributes, or glory.

# Worship

“*A Psalm of Praise, of David*  
I will extol You, my God, O King,  
And I will bless Your name forever and ever.  
Every day I will bless You,  
And I will praise Your name forever and ever.  
Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised,  
And His greatness is unsearchable.  
One generation shall praise Your works to another,  
And shall declare Your mighty acts.”

—*Psalms 145:1–4*

# Worship

“On the glorious splendor of Your majesty  
And on Your wonderful works, I will meditate.  
Men shall speak of the power of Your awesome acts,  
And I will tell of Your greatness.  
They shall eagerly utter the memory of Your abundant goodness  
And will shout joyfully of Your righteousness.”

—*Psalms 145:5–7*

# Worship

“The LORD is gracious and merciful;  
Slow to anger and great in lovingkindness.  
The LORD is good to all,  
And His mercies are over all His works.  
All Your works shall give thanks to You,  
O LORD, And Your godly ones shall bless You.”

—*Psalms 145:8–10*

# Worship

“They shall speak of the glory of Your kingdom  
And talk of Your power;  
“To make known to the sons of men Your mighty acts  
And the glory of the majesty of Your kingdom.  
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
And Your dominion *endures* throughout all generations.”

—*Psalms 145:11–13*

# Worship

“The LORD sustains all who fall  
And raises up all who are bowed down.  
The eyes of all look to You,  
And You give them their food in due time.  
You open Your hand  
And satisfy the desire of every living thing.”

—*Psalms 145:14–16*

# Worship

“The LORD is righteous in all His ways  
And kind in all His deeds.  
The LORD is near to all who call upon Him,  
To all who call upon Him in truth.  
He will fulfill the desire of those who fear Him;  
He will also hear their cry and will save them.”

—*Psalms 145:17–19*

# Worship

“The LORD keeps all who love Him,  
But all the wicked He will destroy.

My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD,  
And all flesh will bless His holy name forever and ever.”

—*Psalms 145:20–21*

# Worship

- Isa 45:21** Declare and set forth *your case*;  
Indeed, let them consult together.  
Who has announced this from of old?  
Who has long since declared it?  
Is it not I, the LORD?  
And there is no other God besides Me,  
A righteous God and a Savior;  
There is none except Me.
- Isa 45:22** Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth;  
For I am God, and there is no other.
- Isa 45:23** I have sworn by Myself,  
The word has gone forth from My mouth in righteousness  
And will not turn back,  
That to Me every knee will bow, every tongue will swear *allegiance*.
- Isa 45:24** They will say of Me, ‘Only in the LORD are righteousness and strength.’  
Men will come to Him,  
And all who were angry at Him will be put to shame.

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THANKSGIVING

# Thanksgiving

“Basically, thanksgiving is the act of expressing specific gratitude to God for blessings he has bestowed upon us. . . . Thanksgiving differs from praise in that praise focuses on *who* God is, whereas thanksgiving focuses on *what* God has specifically done *for us*.”

—Dick Eastman, *The Hour That Changes the World*, 87–8.

# Thanksgiving

“We, then, following the holy fathers, all with one consent, teach men to confess one and the same Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, the same perfect in Godhead and also perfect in manhood; truly God and truly man, of a reasonable soul and body; consubstantial with the Father according to the Godhead, and consubstantial with us according to the Manhood; in all things like unto us, without sin; begotten before all ages according to the Godhead and in these latter days, for us and for our salvation, born of the Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, according to the Manhood; . . .”

—*Chalcedonian Creed, 451 A.D.*

# Thanksgiving

“one and the same Christ, Son, Lord, Only-begotten, to be acknowledged in two natures; inconfusedly, unchangeably, indivisibly, inseparably; the distinction of natures being by no means taken away by the union, but rather the property of each nature being preserved, and concurring in one Person and one Subsistence, not parted or divided into two persons, but one and the Son, and only begotten, God the Word, the Lord Jesus Christ, as the prophets from the beginning have declared concerning him, and the Lord Jesus Christ himself has taught us, and the Creed of the holy Fathers has handed down to us.”

—*Chalcedonian Creed, 451 A.D.*

# Thanksgiving

- What did you deserve?
- What did you receive?

# Thanksgiving

“Consider the work of God,  
For who is able to straighten what He has bent?

In the day of prosperity be happy,  
But in the day of adversity consider —  
God has made the one as well as the other  
So that man will not discover anything *that will be*  
after him.”

—*Ecclesiastes 7:13–14*

# Thanksgiving

- Thank him for ‘the good.’
- Thank him for the loss of ‘the bad.’
- Thank him that ‘the bad’ is not worse than it is.
- Thank him for the loss of ‘the good.’
- Thank him that he promises to use all of it for your good and his glory.