

November 7, 2010

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Monday

Isa. 6:3 And one called out to another and said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, is the LORD of hosts, The whole earth is full of His glory."

As a believer, you live in two worlds simultaneously: the physical world you see and the unseen world of the spiritual. When you pray the boundaries between these two worlds are dissolved. When you pray you enter the very throne room of heaven and stand with the angels before your Almighty God. It is not merely holy imagination that sees the doors of the great hall swing open. You are there with Isaiah where the angels cry holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty. What is your first response? Is it some beggarly request for the unimportant or do words appropriate for praise of the Almighty arise from your lips?

Tuesday

Matt. 6:9 "Pray, then, in this way: 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.

Your relationship with God should be personal and warm, but it should never degenerate to flippancy. He lowers Himself to be your friend, brother, and savior, yet do not demean Him by treating Him as your neighborhood 'bud'. He is your God, your Lord, your King. The men and women of the scriptures approached God with the reverence due the Creator of the Universe. Scripture prayers, by men and angels, begin with glorifying the Lord. Hallow the name of the Lord.

Wednesday

Col. 3:17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

No entrance into the hallowed halls of heaven can be earned. There is nothing that you can do to gain the right to enter the throne room. Neither by right nor by work are you allowed to approach the throne. You could not do so with an earthly king, much less the heavenly Lord. So how will you pray? How will you enter into the throne room of God? Only through the blood of Jesus, His sacrifice, His grace. Therefore be conscious of this truth when you pray. Approach the throne with thanks to Jesus; acknowledge your dependency on His grace. In this way you pray "in His name." In this way you come with a right attitude, with humility.

Thursday

Psa. 100:4 Enter His gates with thanksgiving And His courts with praise. Give thanks to Him, bless His name.

Prayer is first of all, praise and worship. The psalmist instructs you to enter the gates of the temple with thanksgiving and praise. We too often rush in crying "give me this" and "give me that". Though God is patient and kind, gracious and giving, we are to mature past the infant and toddler stage which treats God with little respect and demands He serve us, when it is our place to serve Him. How do you begin your prayers? What is the focus of your praying? Certainly we are called to boldly go before the throne, but we are not encouraged to go brashly or childishly. Look at your praying; is it worship? Will you enter His gates with thanksgiving and praise, or with a continual barrage of "gimme this" and "gimme that"?

Friday

Rev. 19:4 And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell down and worshiped God who sits on the throne saying, "Amen. Hallelujah!"

Approaching the throne correctly not only honors God and sets the stage for genuine intercession; it changes you. When you acknowledge God's strength, sovereignty, majesty, when you thank Him for His grace and acknowledge His mercy, your heart is strengthened. Your faith grows as you recite before His throne the truth of His faithfulness. Your joy increases as you acknowledge His grace given in response to your unworthiness. No saint finds more strength than the one who bows humbly with praise before the throne of God in prayer.