



Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

ANSWERS TO PRAYER

Prayers without answers are pointless because we're not designed for unanswered prayers. Answers to prayers can be delayed as the answer may be going through a process. Complacency and ignorance tolerate unanswered prayers. Prayer is not our opportunity to have God comply with our will. Prayer is our response to His invitation to come boldly into His throne room and have the discourse with Him that alters the course of history. It's our chance to partner with God to tap into His heart to collaborate with Him and through prayer help release His will and purposes on earth. There are two significant revelations that has been given to us in the Lord's prayer in **Matthew 6: 9-13**, *"Pray, therefore, like this: Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen."*

"On earth as it is in heaven" is the backbone of the will of God as revealed in all scripture. His desire and passion is not just to take us to heaven, but for us to realize the reality of heaven as it impacts and shapes values, and life experiences here on earth.

When Jesus brought deliverance to someone, the kingdom of heaven came upon them (**Matthew 12:28**). There was a collision between darkness and light.

This prayer shows us the process to bring this about. Jesus only followed God's will. God is interested in giving us specific assignments to fulfill our purpose and our call, under His will.

When God invites us to pray it's because He is 100% committed to fulfill the things that we pray. When He tells us what to pray, it's because He has all the resources of heaven waiting to enable us to see the fulfillment of what we pray.



There's a false theology about praying for suffering or to tolerate sickness, because people think God allows it to built character in us. This is a violation of what God taught and modeled. If suffering is persecution that is what comes with faith in Christ. God's Word says that anyone who follows Jesus will suffer persecution. But we must refuse to accept anything that Jesus suffered to get rid of, which includes sickness, disease, and infirmity.

We all have a list of things that we have not seen breakthrough from prayer yet. The big challenge in our lives is to navigate through this process without accusing God on one hand and without blaming ourselves. We must stay away from emotional or mournful prayers and subtle ways of accusing God if He doesn't answer right away. This is hoping that God will take more notice and come and save them according to their will. For us to beg God to heal someone is for us to say we have more mercy that He does.

What do we do when there's no breakthrough?

Jesus said in **Matthew 6:33**, "But seek first of all His kingdom and His righteousness (His way of doing and being right), and then all these things taken together will be given you besides."

To seek first the kingdom is to first set our hearts on **pursuing** God's dominion in every aspect of life that we have influence in: i.e. against disease and evil spirits.

The problem with so many believers is that they make what they want the primary focus of prayer rather than what God told us to make our primary focus in prayer. Is it OK to pray for our daily needs? Of course the disciples prayed give us our daily bread, but so many people became so focused on personal immediate needs, that they pray for those things at the expense of what He told us to pray for.

Often people think they can put God into a position of answering their prayers or blessing them even though it violates the process He created for us, or violates His Word or His will (i.e. false pastors asking for God's blessings on same-sex marriages). These answers to prayer are obviously no, as God has already explained His will on many areas in His Word.

Every true Christian is as acceptable in the throne room of God as is His son Jesus. With that kind of invitation what would you do with your opportunity? We spend so much of our energy trying to fight for something that He already has given us instead of listening for and doing His will, which will have eternal significance! All those prayers for a job or finding a mate are good, but never are they to be the focus of our lives at the expense of our spiritual assignments. Our assignment is to see the dominion of God realized into people's lives. God wants to bring liberty to people. What can bring that all about is us with a prayer such as, "Father, I come to you, and ask to be welcomed into Your presence, to know Your perfect will in how I can make a difference in the world around me. You created me and planted me here to dispense the reality of Your rule in the circumstances and issues of life all around me. This is my privileged assignment in life. Thank You for giving me my next assignment and Your strength, direction and abilities to accomplish it."

In an attempt to comfort people in sickness or loss, people create bad doctrines to make unanswered prayers OK. The disciples prayed for the kingdom to be manifested not in them but through them. Today when people don't get a breakthrough, theology gets created around it and they say: "It's not God's timing". People create a theology that insulates them from the pain of not getting a breakthrough. The pain of the absence of breakthrough is supposed to do something to us. We've been invited into the throne room of almighty God, even though we might not know exactly what to do or what to pray or when the answer will come. We do know that God definitely wants people free and healed. Don't get comfortable with lies from satan! When there's a mystery, have it aggravate and provoke you to a breakthrough, not complacency to tolerate false doctrines and unanswered prayers.

Don't say something like, "I'm fasting until I get an answer". We can't manipulate God with Christian tools. Such activities are not utilized to earn points or force God's hand. Jesus brought the disciples into a process where they rapidly grew in faith. Faith comes from hearing by the Word. Prayer and fasting is a time of refined focus to emphasize the process of increasing faith, and hearing God's voice. Its saying: "I've set aside this part of my day and life to communicate with, have relationship with and to hear God's voice". Bring all your concerns; including yet to be answered prayers to Him as He is not afraid to discuss anything with you. God wants us to engage so we become part of a process. There may be a spiritual conflict happening that requires a certain action from us to resolve. If we don't spend time with God, how would we know what He needs us to do on our end? We need to learn to navigate so we don't accuse God. If we don't get an answer from God right away we need to remain engaged with Him. We have all been planted in a physical and spiritual conflict intentionally by God. True Christians have the capacity to war well and be conquerors over evil. Rest in Christ knowing that prayers are answered!