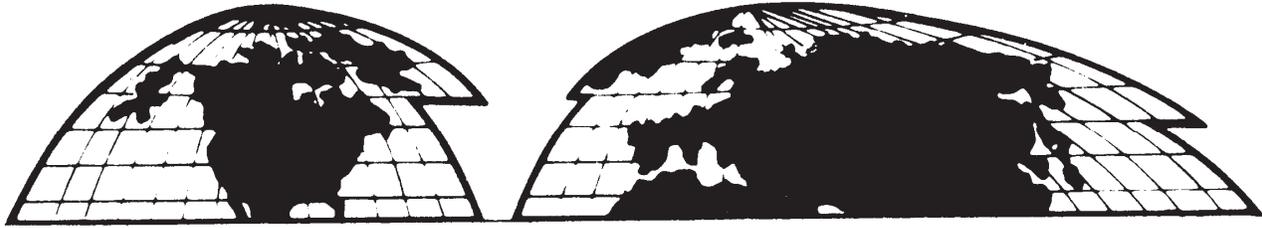
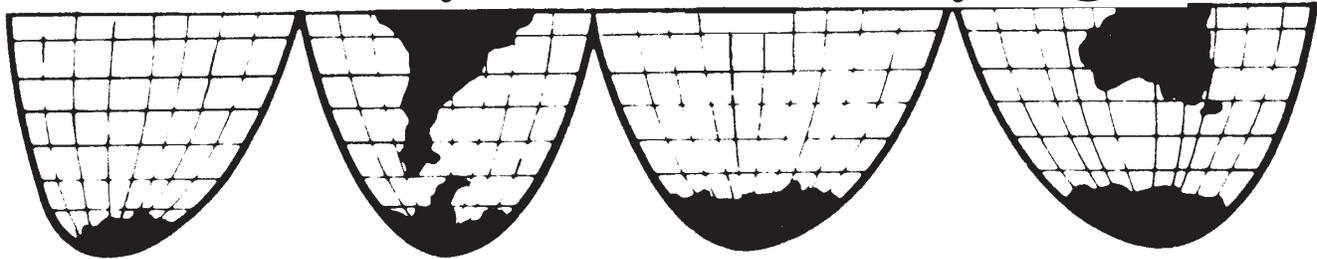


PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE • II CHRON. 7:14



World Prayer Band Prayergram®



Challenging Christians to Pray — July 2008

The WPB Ministries

- ◆ Intercession
- ◆ Prayer Conferences
- ◆ Publications
- ◆ One to One Outreach
- ◆ Overseas Crusades
- ◆ Revivals

*“Intercessors are like eagles, they don’t flock,
you find them one at a time.”*



Office: Petroleum Building • 200 W. 1st Street • Suite 531
Roswell, New Mexico 88203-4676
(505) 623-6925

E-mail: mwpbs@yahoo.com

Website: www.worldprayerband.com



Mailing Address: P.O. Box 686 • Roswell, New Mexico 88202 • U.S.A.

Our Pledge

The articles in the *Prayergram* are written with an uncompromising style. We believe that our readers are mature enough to deal with honest probing and we also know that they are growing in grace daily. We will not short-change the message of Calvary for temporary financial gain. God supplies our needs and we have no fear of the future because our God reigns supreme!

Here at World Prayer Band, we don't do what is being done to promote Jesus these days. Namely: Lower vital godliness to fit the current religious market. Tell the people what they want to hear. Feed back to them what they already know. We simply attempt to promote Jesus and Him crucified. That's all folks!

If the Prayergram is a blessing and challenge to you, kindly let us know. Thank you!

World Prayer Band Ministries

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a tumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins. (Isaiah 58:1) **“Watchmen, what of the night?”**

Who is God’s appointed watchman on the wall? Every person who has accepted Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord is an appointed watchman on the wall. America is spiritually adrift and we Christians have no one to blame but ourselves. We have not prayed for our beloved nation as we’re instructed in the Scriptures. Christians need to love God passionately, pre-eminently and supremely, It seems that the devil wants to rub our nose in the dirt and defeat us at every angle. We must not be complacent or unaware of his tactics. The enemy has many faces and is insidious.

America is in a moral and spiritual quandary and make no mistake about it. Unless God intervenes, soon we’ll find ourselves groping in darkness. We’re in the midst of a war, a spiritual war. We’re not going to win this war by the infusion of more sensational religious programs and carnal entertainments, but by a praying minority committed in holy desperation—a consecrated few willing to invade and infiltrate the camp of the enemy in the mighty name of our risen Lord. If you’re a man or woman of prayer, you’re one of the most dangerous people on the planet. The world no longer rules your heart. You’re no longer seduced by the world. You live as a pilgrim, unattached to the cares of this world, and are not afraid to risk your life for the cause of Christ. You even dare to believe you’ve been given the precious privilege of martyrdom to spread His name on the earth. You’re a martyr in the making. The Father’s passion becomes your passion. You find your satisfaction and worth in Him. You believe He is with you till the end of the world. You’re sold out to God, and live for the Lamb. Satan fears you, and the angels applaud you. Do not fear the future. God is with you and holds you in the palm of His hand, and that’s victory forever.

We need a generation of men who take their spiritual leadership in the home by creating an atmosphere of faith and prayer. In today’s macho society, we seldom see men on their knees weeping before the Lord in a manner that pleases the Lord. A home without the presence of true praying men will atrophy and die. I can site hundreds of



Matthew Skariah

WAKE UP! Brothers and Sisters WAKE UP!

examples of how godly men and women who played a major role in shaping the Christian movement throughout history. They came from diverse theological backgrounds and yet they all converged into one point, a point of prayer and holy living. It was a fabulously wealthy time for the church in general. No thoughtful person, the writer included, would ever minimize the glorious contribution of God’s chosen ones of the past and present whose spirit of humility and godliness left an indelible mark on Christians the world over. Their contribution in the area of prayer and godly living shall never be erased from the annals of Christian history. Their tenacious spirit still lives on.

But look at the religious world today and see where we’re at this juncture. We have forsaken the man—Christ Jesus, and are searching for self-help experts, gurus, yogis, health/wealth preachers, media pundits and pandering politicians, seeking answers to fill our empty soul. We have the Internet, but no inner peace; cell phones but no celestial communication. Much of our conversation centers on nothing. We listen very little and say too much without saying anything. Shakespeare was profound when he said, “*Brevity is the soul of wit.*” Much of what we say is carnal, thoughtless. or even hurtful. Our society thrives on innuendos, gossip and injurious remarks. We’re always chasing after some new revelation, new truth, and new methodology. We seem to be so anxious to abandon the faith of our fathers, and the principles of God’s unchanging Word for temporary benefits. People need to be reminded of more often than they need to be instructed. The Word of God instructs us, and instruction is better than lectures. The Word of God does not comport.

Beloved, I plead with you to pray for the world before it’s too late! *When Christians cease to pray, Christians cease to be victorious.* Let’s cry out to God in the name of our ascended Lord that He would send demonstrations of His power today to expose “false gods” of this world and reveal the “true God” of heaven. Arise, brothers and sisters, arise! Not only our nation but the whole world is past ripening for judgment.

It could, however, soon be ready for cleansing if we would seek the face of God in true humility. When national revival is needed, God's praying people step up to the plate. We're in a mortal combat with Satan, our adversary, and prayer is the divine sword that slays the enemy. When situations are at their worst, we'll find God's praying remnant at their best. Let's arm ourselves with the most potent weapon ever—prayer. So potent, it blasts away unbelief, lethargy and stagnation.

As Christian soldiers, we don't shift into neutral when duty calls, but stand tall and face every trial in the power of the risen Lord. When the world is in turmoil, we don't sit on our laurels admiring our beautiful facilities, but rather we use the weapon of the "power of prayer" and get the ball rolling. Beloved, the enemy is upon us. The storm is gathering and is about to break loose. Nothing but the prayers of God's humble remnant in the power of the Holy Spirit can stem the tide. As

Mrs. William Booth, the mother of the Salvation Army, one of God's great warriors, said in her dying moment: *"The waters are rising, but I am not sinking."* We shall never be defeated unless we defeat ourselves! Let's put the 'power of prayer' in motion as we plead with God for our beloved land. Every challenge presents us a chance to become better, not bitter.

Christians have always hung tough. If Christians have to be victorious in this battle against the forces of evil, they have to be tougher and more persistent than their opposition. We, the people of God, do not crumble at the presence of evil. Evil does not have the final word. It belongs to our sovereign God Who reigns supreme. Let's intercede NOW judiciously and fervently! Remember, the Lord waits for us at His throne. Now is the time to lay aside the garments spotted by the world and put on the garment of righteousness, truth, justice and mercy and reclaim America's tattered spiritual tapestry!

Who would stand in the gap for America and be a watchman on the wall at this sad juncture of moral collapse and spiritual decay? Wake up, brothers and sisters; wake up, from our ubiquitous slumber!

PUNCHLINE Are We Carnal?

Carnality is born out of rebellion and rebellious people are always looking for ways to rationalize sinful tendencies from a standpoint of pseudo logic.

Some Christians take carnality to breathtaking new heights in their quest for social acceptance and freedom of choice. They disregard the admonition of the Lord concerning the danger of rebellion and defiance against His will and purpose. They would rather go with the flow merely for the satisfaction of appeasement by acting as apologists for carnality and as purveyors against godliness. Is it any wonder they've lost all vestige of credibility they may once have had? They have abdicated their true Christian mission in life for the purpose of gaining fame and popularity.

True spirituality is not dogma proliferated by a religious bureaucracy, but a life of "power and purity"—an intensely personal existence lived in conjunction with the will, purpose and plan of God. A humble life will always be defined by its transparency, rather than by its proclivity to carnality. Remember, placing unwarranted emphasis on the flesh can sabotage even the most seasoned Christian. Carnality must be purged if our life is to remain fruitful in the service of the King.

Carnality impedes spiritual progress.

Authentic Disciple

Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men (2 Corinthians 3:2). Christians must earn the reputation of being godly. The name Christian must mean Christ-like. This in reality will help us carry the good news of the gospel to a world that is hostile to christianity. We venerate the image of God whether we like it or not. Dean Inge, the famous British historian once said that *"religion is caught, not taught."* The most effective argument for Christianity is a living Christian. A Christian may forget the doctrine, dogmas of the faith, but he carries in his heart the fragrance of Christ and the blessed fruit of the Christian life.

The wife of Dr. Andrew Bonar was led to the Lord by the saintly McCheyne whose life has been an inspiration to multitudes. Mrs. Bonar always said, *"It was not his matter or his manner that impressed me, but it was the living epistle of Christ—a picture so lovely that I would have given the world to be such as he is."*

A minister in the north of Scotland met McCheyne and was in his presence for a little while. He said he never met a more Jesus-like man in the world and he went into his room to weep and pray and give himself to God. McCheyne had the capacity to draw near to the heart of God through his majestic prayer life. What a splendid experience! May God help us to be a people of prayer and purity!

Oh, to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer!

The greatest problem with modern Christianity can be described in two words: *Chameleon Christianity*. It is more devastating than secularism, atheism, communism and all other “isms” put together. The compromise is very subtle and it is brilliantly buttressed in isolated scriptures, clever metaphysics and crass materialism. Let’s not edit God’s Word for social acceptance. There was a time in Christian history, believers were willing to live like Christians and die like Christians. Their blood was the seed that made the church grow. That’s why I profoundly believe that Communism, liberalism, atheism and materialism can never destroy the true Church of Jesus Christ. And believers in China and other Iron Curtain countries of the world are alive and well Christians grow in trials and persecutions. Has Calvary failed?

Today’s compromising Church goes all out on giving what the worshipper wants rather than what he/she needs. It is an indication as to how unhealthy we have become spiritually, morally, and emotionally. When we are not walking in the power of God, we always go for cheap thrills, and consequently, some leaders have learned to capitalize the value of marketing Jesus to the highest bidder through the means of “*cheap theatrics and shallow entertainment.*” The glory of attendance records displaces the glory of the attendance of His inimitable presence. The honor which the secular society confers is more sought after than the honor that comes from God, the holy One of Israel.

What contemporary Christian entertainment does is to bring the ‘carnal culture’ out of the closet, because religious entertainment needs a constant dose of new and exciting stimulant for the purpose of pacifying the flesh. It could be a sign of advancing age, but I believe there is a concerted effort on the part of some to exchange the ‘costly grace’ of Calvary for the ‘cheap thrill’ of religious entertainment, which requires neither conversion, nor consecration, nor separation from the world.

The peril of compromise is the lack of tenacity to endure and the resolve to go forward and the courage to resist temptation. We tend to take the print and patterns of the modern age and attempt to incorporate them into our church services for the celebration of man. Who can discredit the advancement of man? He has reached his apex in his quest for the modification of sacred Scriptures. We’re very proud of man, are we not? Contemporary changes are never reliable, and the Church that builds its ministries on the passing trends and fads is headed for disaster for there are always new changes on

the horizon. Many of us experience moments in our spiritual journey and find ourselves worshipping that moment instead of adoring the One Who gives us such moments. In this chaotic world of ours, we should be people of faith and purity who refuse to worship at the altar of secularism and crass materialism. Don’t be swayed by trends and fads! Today we’ve adopted a “commercial view” into our services, a view that’s engineered and practiced by men of ‘oily charm and charisma.’ If we do not contend for the faith of our fathers, it becomes stale and incongruous. Our job is not to interpret the Bible to reflect the changing times, but to proclaim it courageously without fear or trepidation. The Word of God does not change.

The message of the gospel has been diluted to the extent that it appears to have lost its sting and blasting power; this is the result of novices in the pulpit who specialize in quasi-preaching of the gospel of temperament and global warming. The social gospel is gospel without the cross and the blood. Social concern for mankind is not the same as concern for the lost condition of men. Commercial Christianity is a religion of possessions that are devoted to the good life; biblical Christianity is a personal and intimate relationship with God, and has nothing whatever to do with earthly possessions. The true disciple is rich not in possessions, but in personal intimacy with Christ.

CULTURE WATCH

Compromising Church

God will honor those who have not defiled their garments and they shall remain faithful to His Word regardless of the cultural and social cleavage. Let’s demonstrate to the world that there is nothing inherently stupid about godly living. To proliferate our ‘faith and vision,’ we must stop apologizing to the world for our moral position. Never compromise to accommodate evil. Compromise is partial surrender. Remember, surrender is not in our Christian Creed!