

I am reminded of a German proverb which says, "The main point is keeping the main point main." Let's talk about spirituality either private or public without a forked tongue. The "main point" is that we need God in an hour such as this and without Him we are doomed, no matter how we slice it and dice it. Christians certainly can make a difference in government. But we are naive and unwise if we pin our hopes on the "false gods of politics." Politics is neither my religion nor government my God. In writing about the early Church, historian Will Durant said, "Christ met Caesar in the arena—and Christ won." He is still with us. Dear friend, please do not look to politics and politicians to solve our many spiritual and social problems. If government is to succeed, it must give adherence to the truth of God's Word. When we start doubting God, we cease to obey God. When we obey God as a nation, our problems never come between us and God.

Our politicians tell us that spirituality is a private thing, and therefore, don't bother me about morals—just vote for me. We tell our young people to keep spirituality at home as a private matter. What we applaud is what we approve. What we approve is what we celebrate. When we turn our back on the "God of glory," we remove all the fences of moral responsibility. When we break the laws of God we only break ourselves. When conscience is removed evil is leashed. For example, Hitler wanted to raise a generation of young people devoid of conscience. Today, our conscience

Only those who do not desire power are fit to hold it. (Plato)

has gone into deep sleep. America has lost her moral mirror and only God can restore it. The ultimate test of our civilization is how we conduct ourselves morally and spiritually.

Private and public morality is inextricably interlaced. Morality is the foundation of all human excellence and without it civilization cannot survive as a viable society.

Our leaders use "privatizing of spirituality" as a cop out to avoid honest probing. Today, there is a rampant meaninglessness that mangles our society, and is it any wonder we are in a moral and spiritual quandary? As the great philosopher Rousseau once said, "Those who would treat politics and morality apart will never understand the one or the other."

Power used with humility, and obedience practiced with delight, correction received with appreciation—are the foundation of a society that honors God. The prophet Micah spoke about what lacks today, "O man, what is good; and what doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8) A life that is filled with Christ is unalterably humble, incalculably pure, and absolutely devoid of arrogance. True spirituality is not making God part of our conscience but conforming ourselves to the image of God, our Creator. Do not attempt to make success your goal. Make God your goal. Everything in the Christian life begins with God.

Culture Watch

Spirituality, Private and Public

"About 16 years ago, my father received a copy of your book, *Talk Less and Pray More* as a gift from one of his friends. I must say that the book has influenced my family's prayer life in a wonderful way. Your book is a great help to me as a university student and prayer warrior. Thank you for its influence on my life."

Barola Ikoko—Rivers State, Nigeria

"I hereby request the inclusion of my name to your mailing list to receive the monthly publication, *Prayergram*. The publication is helping many pastors and Christians in my area."

Pastor Henry Mars—Anambra State, Nigeria

"I would be very grateful if you could supply me with copies of your publication, *Prayergram*. I read your most cherished book entitled, *Talk Less and Pray More*, and it has contributed tremendously to my prayer life and has widened my understanding on intercessory prayer."

Abraham Domo—Ghana, West Africa

"I would like to receive your monthly publication, *Prayergram* for the benefit of improving my prayer life. God bless you."

Pastor Oyah Christian—Bayelsa State, Nigeria

"I borrowed and read a copy of your book *Talk Less and Pray More*, and it was such a blessing to my life. Since I do not have a copy as my own, I am attempting to secure a copy of this great pearl which will serve as an antidote for luke-warmness

and every form of fallacies that are being pounded by men of these last days against old fashioned faith and purity.

It would be a great help to receive your publication *Prayergram* which can be used as a periodic Christian check up against spiritual malaria and worldliness in the church."

Pastor G.O. Ojedokun—Oyo State, Nigeria

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



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AN OPEN LETTER

Dear Praying Saints:

In a matter of few weeks, Americans will go to the poll to elect the next President of the United States, the greatest nation on earth. I believe Christians have a “spiritual role” to play in the affairs of our nation. Believe me; I cannot overstate the importance of the upcoming election and its consequences. As believers, we’re instructed in the Scripture to pray for all those in authority or going to be in authority. Before we cast the ballot, we need to pray and seek the face of God on our knees for divine wisdom as we elect the next president of the United States of America.

America is in a moral and spiritual quandry and make no mistake about it. Unless God intervenes, we’ll soon 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 programs and carnal methods, or by empty religious formalism, dry-as-dust ecclesiastical conventionality but by the cries of a holy remnant who are committed to the proposition of prayer—a consecrated few willing to invade and infiltrate the camp of the enemy in the mighty name of our ascended Lord. God is not shut out by our limitations; He hears and answers our desperate calls.

Many are troubled and miffed at what’s happening in our country morally and socially and yet they are not willing to seek the face of God for His divine intervention. Someone has brilliantly pointed out, “Trying to solve the world’s problem without divine intervention is like spitting in the ocean to raise the level of water.” We need God in an hour such as this! When we see something wrong in our nation, or our actions are not what they are supposed to be, at that precise moment we put the wheels of prayer in motion as children of God. As a praying person, you’ve enormous spiritual power deposited in you. The world may never see the mighty work you do, but God sees it, evil sees it. Oh, it is a blessed life, the life of the one who intercedes. Satan is a believer in the power of prayer and therefore, he hates it and chokes it and does everything to sabotage the ministry of prayer. In today’s religious culture, ministers and Christian workers are measured on the basis of success and star-power, not so much on the basis of hunger for the things of God. But in God’s scheme of things, praying people are indispensable to His kingdom. They may never preach a sermon on television or radio, and yet they are destined to become the most powerful force for good in our country, and in the world.

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 are no longer seduced by the world. You live as a pilgrim, unattached to the cares of this world. You are not afraid to risk your life for the cause of Christ. You even dare to believe you may be given the precious privilege of martyrdom to spread His name on the earth. 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 are sold out to Him, and you live for the Lamb. The world ignores you but the angels applaud you.

Beloved, I plead with you to pray for the world before it is too late! If 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 the “false gods” of this world and reveal the ‘real,’ God of heaven. Let us never forget that God is in the forefront. He is never relegated to the background. Who has greater interest in sending revival to America than God? God is looking for a holy remnant that will step up to the plate by declaring themselves as prayer volunteers in the army of God. Oh, Lord build the fires of “faith and prayer” in our hearts and set earth and ages ablaze with your holiness and power.

Arise, brothers and sisters, arise! Not only our nation but the whole world is fast ripening for judgment. It could, however, soon be ready for renewal if we would seek the face of God in true humility. When national renewal is needed, God’s praying people step up to the plate. We are in 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 intercessors at their best. Let’s arm ourselves with the most potent weapon ever—prayer. So potent, it blasts away unbelief and spiritual stagnation. As Christian soldiers, we don’t shift into neutral when trials come, but stand tall and face every opposition in the power of our 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 lose. Nothing but the prayers of God’s humble remnant in the power of the Holy Spirit can stem the tide.

Where are the determined saints, prayer-hungry servants of God, today, to call His people back to a disciplined life of prayer? Will secularism ever invade the mind that is wholly devoted to God? Atomic missiles without a praying citizenry cannot save America and the world. It is time that every blood-bought child of God should “weep between the porch and the altar” crying, “Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them.” When God intends great mercy for His people,” says Matthew Henry, “the first thing He does is to set them praying.”

People who experience the power of prayer daily aren’t deterred by opposition or trials but are optimized and energized by it. When we do His will and walk in the power of the Spirit, the mouths of critics, the legions of demons—for they will attack—will not prevail. They will take up arms but they’ll not conquer because Jehovah God rules and governs in the affairs of men. We, the people of God do not crumble at the presence of evil. Evil does not have the final word. It belongs to God because He alone inhabits eternity. Let’s use the weapon of the “power of prayer” NOW judiciously! Remember, the Lord waits for us at His throne! Now is the time to act! An African proverb says it well: “Time waits for no man.” Believe me, the praying people will conquer. The conquering spirit is never defeated. Let’s face all of our difficulties in the spirit of conquest! Christians, it is getting dark, but it is gloriously dark.

Let’s initiate a “prayer revolution” in America before it’s too late! Remember, it’s very hard for the devil to defeat a prayerful Christian because where there is prayer there is power.



Yours for a mighty revival in America,
Matthew Skariah

A servant of God who longs for revival

You Make the Call What Is True Humility?

Humility is giving God permission to expose us. We are always fishing for compliments, but God is not in the habit of passing out compliments to man. True humility is letting God break us. “*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit, a broken and contrite heart—These O God, you will not despise*” (Psalms 51:17). God is looking for brokenness. We look upon broken things with disdain or even disgust, but God looks upon broken hearts with delight, for such a premise gives Him the pleasure to reshape our lives as a divine process of restoration.

Humility allows me to analyze my life in the light of God’s Word, and when I analyze my life—there is enormous spiritual benefit that helps me in my walk with God. Egotistical people are always constructing a platform, a soapbox, if you will, for

them to stand and look at the world in their narrow prism. Humility is the hallmark of brokenness and the essence of our fallible knowledge.

It is a fitting reprise to remember the words of Vance Havner, a great preacher of the past who said, “*God uses broken things. It takes broken soil to produce a crop, broken clouds to give rain, broken grain to give bread, broken bread to give strength. It is the broken alabaster box that gives forth perfume.*” Faith teaches us humility, and a conscious awareness that there is always someone who knows more than we do and there is someone larger than us—God. True humility is the opposite of egotism. When a man craves after human applause, he is devoid of true virtue. Arrogance blinds us; humility enralls us.

*We should ask God for
humility, but never thank Him
that we’ve attained it.*