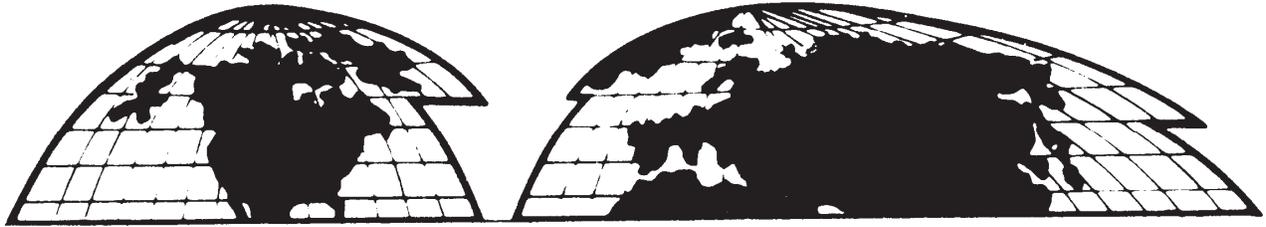
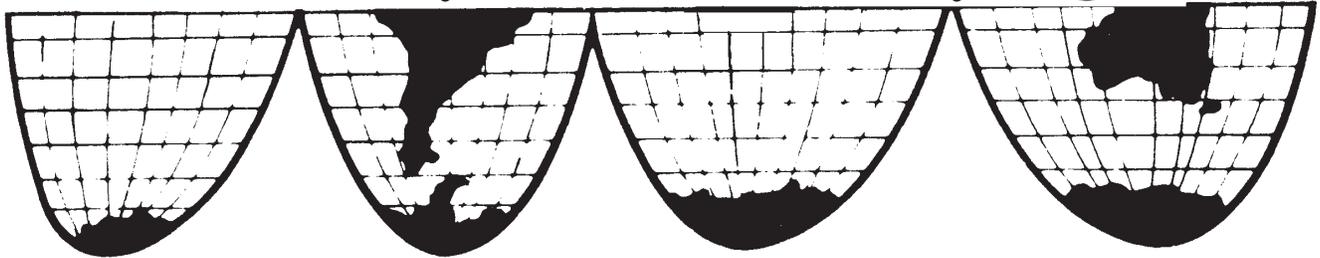


PRAYER IS THE MIGHTIEST FORCE • II CHRON. 7:14



World Prayer Band Prayergram®



Challenging Christians to Pray — February 2009

The WPB Ministries

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



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Reclaiming America's Spiritual Heritage

Hand writings on the wall! What does it mean to you as a believer? Does it seem at times that everything is squeezing in upon you? How do you react when you see the ongoing debacle of America? What can you say? What can you do? Stop for a second, don't read any further, and let your mind wander through some of history's troubling periods. Take a deep breath and see where you are at this point in history. What images do you see? Are you being devoured by the ever-increasing cascade of pessimism? It seems to me that we are moving from a phase of great moral outrage and spiritual fervor into a phase of rather deep cynicism. What role do we play as Christians in shaping America's spiritual heritage?

Most Christians are not interested in reclaiming America's tattered spiritual tapestry. The world does its best to wear us down and hoping at some point we'll throw up our hands and quit, and that's the strategy the enemy applies and let's not be fooled. In the last several years we were introduced to a popular theology which paraded doubts and cynicism—moving from “God is winning” to “God is a problem” to a brief flirtation with “God is dead.” Good and evil in the world. Who is winning? It has been said that the vital question of our time is, “Is God in charge of our affairs, or, are we?” I propose there is one other vital question to ponder: “Is this God completely and victoriously on the side of truth and righteousness?”

We are fascinated with cultural pollution; we shamelessly lift our eyes in delighted inquisitiveness. Sin attracts us but does not bother us; it raises our curiosity but does not offend us. Some Christians have grown increasingly tolerant of accepting the pernicious views of the world when it comes to morality and biblical purity. We should refuse to accept actions and words that harm society morally and socially. In the midst of a growing anti-Christian sentiment, God's people must be courageous and willing to stand firm and rooted in a moral and spiritual permanence. For example, according to a recent poll conducted by Lifeway Research states: “23% Baptists who believe eternal life found in religions other than Christianity and 8% Baptists who believe that Jesus sinned.” **Really? May God help us!**

Make no mistake, the praying people will con-



Matthew Skariah

quer. The conquering spirit is never defeated. Let's face all our trials and difficulties in the spirit of conquest. Tenacious spiritual quality is the result of inward strength and stamina. It is no exaggeration to say that “prayer passion” has died in the heart of many professing Christians. Where is the soul-passion of yester years, the broken heart, the sleepless nights, the anguish and agony, the sobs and tears? We've lost the capacity to come fervently before God; we simply use prayer as an insurance policy or an escape

mechanism. History tells us how a small group of believers with a vision of the risen Lord were able to topple hate; how they had the tenacity and courage to tear down the tides of evil that have plummeted multitudes into eternal separation from God, shake off the inertia of the past and usher in a better future — a future built upon love, faith and common decency. Without doubt, this is an enviable task and God's praying people are equal to the task of praying down the awesome power of God upon this generation. Our godly predecessors knew the agony and pain of intercession. They lived it and breathed it incessantly. God did not ask us to pray because he needed our help, but because he knew that seeking his face would make us complete in Him. *People of God, let's live prayerfully, not fearfully!* Remember, the praying minority will never retreat from a challenge and they are always ready to wage an unrelenting torrent of prayer warfare on their knees.

I firmly believe that with the fervent and united prayers of God's people, we can reclaim and revitalize our tattered spiritual heritage. I salute the Christians who remain faithful to the idea that one day God will visit his people in mighty power — that their posterity would sing His praises. Such a day can visit America again — a day when God's praying people stand unbowed and unmoved,

proud of our Christian heritage, earnest in our sacred beliefs, empowered by the blessed Holy Spirit that we can and must remain as God's positive people in a negative world. When trials come, let's keep our spirit calm and unruffled. No evil can befall us, if God is with us. To go along with every wave of secularism would deny us our proper niche to forge ahead with the Christian ideas we honor and cherish. May I remind you that those who hold

The weapon of prayer is powerful, wouldn't you say? Let us be pertinacious in our supplications to the Father. May we show no resignation on our part when it comes to prayer!

pure biblical values are not antiquated or archaic thinkers—but they are reasonable and committed men who women who know how to walk in the power of the Spirit of God. Our Christian values are the bedrock of our nation. Together, with prayer and faith, we can make a profound difference. *We live as we pray.*

We have to pray with passion in our hearts and a light in our eyes and a song on our lips. What does it mean to honor God with our undivided attention? It is to “*glory in His imperial name*” (Psalms 105:3), but before we can glory in His name, we must know Him intimately. We’ve every reason to be jubilant because our God reigns supreme. Intercession results in action and action makes history. Sanctified prayers are powerful spiritual atoms. What we whisper in our prayer closet shall be reverberated from the housetops. Yes, when we pray in secret, others may not see us but our prayers will be felt around the world.

Don't let the world get under our skin! When we wait upon the Lord, it gives us the opportunity to cement our abiding friendship with Him,

and exhilarate our spiritual passion. As Christian soldiers, we don't shift into neutral when trials come, 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 religious accomplishments, but rather we take the weapon of the “**POWER OF PRAYER**” AND GET THE BALL ROLLING. Let's fight for our soul the way we would fight to save our heart, our mind, even our body. Let us use the weapon of prayer NOW judiciously!

If we're to leave a legacy of spiritual passion and godly heritage to our posterity, each of us must do our part. If we want a hope-filled world, we are the force that can implement such hope in a negative world. People who experience the power of God 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, but will not prevail. They will take up arms but they'll not conquer because our God reigns supreme.

Speaking Candidly

by Matthew Skariah

Living Naturally Supernatural

God supplies our needs not grudgingly but in full measure. It's been my privilege to live naturally supernatural. Isn't it better to trust in God than trust in man? God's blessings manifest in obedient people. Our joy comes from what we give, not what we accumulate. It is a joy to depend upon Jehovah God, the Provider and the Patron of this ministry, the Reservoir of our lives who is always on time with manna from on high.

Long ago, I ceased to care about the opinions of those who advocate or promote a hypothetical faith. I know my Lord by

personal experience, and not by hearsay or second hand faith. Suffice it to say, there is a loving God Who cares for His children. God will do great things for us if we depend on Him. We shall always have our Lord's assistance and provision. He is the divine facilitator and enabler.

Do not attempt to micro-manage God's affairs! Do not hinder others from entering into His provision. Let's not attempt to be amateur providers! Living by faith is a declaration of trust in God and His promises. It is subjecting my choices and preferences to His will and pleasure, and when I do this, His bountiful blessing and luminous presence flow through my soul.

*"Faith honors God
and
God honors faith."*

**You
Make
the
Call**

**How do you become
a secularist?**

First, you deny the claims of Christ, His virgin birth, bodily resurrection and the power to change lives. Secularists vehemently exclude and denigrate supernaturalism or miracles because they reject the God of Christianity. Soon you're on the road to secularism and debauchery.

What's the cure?

The whole of humanity loves to sin, trapped in lies and hypocrisy, for we're in fact sinners and we cannot save ourselves and we need to rely on the saving grace of Christ. The secularist sees life as one dimensional; he views everything through the prism of human endeavor because he has no spiritual revelation. If we lose the spiritual; we lose the material. The secularist will attempt to intimidate you as a Christian, but you need to keep on loving, living, praying, trusting and wait for God's own time. *"The path of the just is as the shining light, that shines more and more unto the perfect day"* (Proverbs 4:18).

"Before God," said the dying Martin Luther, *"we are all beggars. Yes, but beggars who have become enormously rich through the unsearchable riches of Christ! A life that is in Christ is unutterably humble, incalculably pure, and absolutely devoid of arrogance."*

Today, more than ever, Satan tempts us with egotism, arrogance, worldliness, greed, covetousness and know-it-all attitude, instead of squelching the enemy's plot; we end up with taking the bait. Don't take the bait. Watch out for the tendency for self-exaltation.

Next Issue...

A timely and provocative article entitled,
"Prayerless Pulpits"

In this article, Matthew Skariah debunks the myth about prayer, revival and the so-called spiritual awakening cliches thrown at us every Christian gathering. Can we have real revival without paying the price?

Skariah outlines his strong and heart-wrenching case against **Prayerlessness in the pulpits** and in the homes of our land. He will make you upset, cry, and above all, challenge you to become a man or woman of prayer. If we're honest with God and ourselves, we need to admit that we are lazy when it comes to prayer.

Skariah writes with an incandescent passion for Christ and sets a prophetic tone. He uses "holy argument" in prayer!

Don't miss the next issue!!!

**Prayer and
Renewal Conference**
February 22-27

Lakeside Baptist Church

Mannford, Oklahoma • Jason Langley, Pastor

**2009 Nigerian
Crusades & Conferences**

With Matthew Skariah

March 20-April 2

Asaba Prayer Summit
March 20-22

Victory Baptist Church – Asaba, Delta State
Host Pastor: McDonald B.O Ejera

City-wide Crusade
March 23-24

Place: Asaba, Delta State

Onitsha Prayer Summit
March 25-26

Redemption Baptist Church – Onitsha, Anambra State
Host Pastor: Matthew A. Nnadi

Prayer Conference
March 28-29

Restoration Church – Isuikwuato, Abia State
Host Pastor: Edwin C. Nwaoha

God-Seekers Conference
March 31-April 2

Ambassadors of Grace Ministries
27 Bende Street, Rumuomasi
Port Harcourt, Rivers State
Host Pastor: Jonathan Erondu

**Spring Encounter
With God**

◆
April 19-22

Easton Heights Baptist Church

2901 W. Easton Street • Tulsa, Oklahoma
Perry Cox, Pastor

◆
April 23-26

Immanuel Baptist Church

1915 E. 3rd Street • Tulsa, Oklahoma
Don Queen, Pastor