

“THE VALUE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER?”

I. THE POWER/VALUE OF INTERCESSORY PRAYER

A. Intercessory Prayer DEFINED

1. The word “*intercede*” basically means to _____.
2. When we become intercessors it is the highest form of praying-- as we _____ in the _____ between a person who has a genuine need and we _____ his/her case to the Almighty God.
3. Christ is our supreme _____ of intercession, as He _____ for us, and then _____ in our place as our _____. (Isa. 53:12; 1 Tim. 2:5; 1 John 2:1-2; Heb. 7:25)

B. Intercessory Prayer is NEEDED

1. In Isaiah 59:15-16, we see the moral and spiritual situation of Israel caused the Lord to be displeased, but more than that, He saw that there was no (_____) man who could _____ on the nation’s behalf
2. This _____ to intercede evoked a strong _____ from a righteous God.
3. Things might have turned out _____ if there had been an intercessor who was willing to pray. (Ezek. 22:29-31)

C. Intercessory Prayer was PRACTICED in the Old Testament

--by Job (Job 42:7-10)

--by Moses (Exodus 32:7-14; Deut. 9:18-20)

--by Samuel (1 Sam. 12:16-25)

* Are you doing more worrying than interceding when it comes to praying for your own nation?

D. Intercessory Prayer was PRACTICED in the New Testament

1. Jesus constantly prayed for the needs of _____ and He _____ for people to _____ for others. (Matt. 5:44; 9:36-38; 14:23; 19:13-15; Luke 6:12-13; 11:5-13; 22:42)

2. The Apostle Paul prayed...
 - a. for _____ in specific churches (Rom. 1:9; 2 Cor. 13:7; Eph. 3:13-14; Philip. 1:3-6, 9-11; 1 Thess. 1:2-3)

 - b. and he _____ for intercessory prayer from these same people. (Rom. 15:30-32; Col. 4:2-4; 1 Thess. 5:25; 2 Thess. 3:1-2; 1 Tim. 2:1)

3. Epaphras is the only co-worker of Paul who carries the distinction of having been specifically commended for his intense _____ ministry of _____ (Col. 4:12-13)

E. Intercessory Prayer should be ENCOURAGED and PRACTICED in the Church TODAY!

1. There is no time like the present to consistently intercede on behalf of not only your personal _____, but also for those you might _____.

2. _____! Believing _____ & _____ who will stand _____ as intercessors in prayer for the saved and the lost around us!