

# Keys To Fervent Prayer

This article seeks to add urgency and zeal to your prayers, resulting in drawing you closer to the Eternal God and producing dramatic results in your life.

**The Psalms of King David have consoled and elated thousands of people through the centuries.**

**Psalms 72:20** [New King James] *“The prayers of David the son of Jesse are ended.”*

We are told that these psalms recorded King David’s intensely fervent prayers.

These seventy-two psalms are also enduring literary masterpieces, filled with David’s moving, memorable statements to and about the Eternal God.

**Psalms 23:1** [New King James] *“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.”*

David had been a shepherd in his younger years and knew just how a shepherd protected and fed his sheep, [1 Samuel 17:32-37]. David looked to the Eternal God for physical protection.

**Psalms 19:1-4** [New King James] *“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them He has set a tabernacle for the sun,”*

**King David praises the Eternal God for His wonderful physical creation of this vast universe, that shows clearly His great power and wisdom.**

**Psalms 33:12-15** [New King James] *“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance. The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men. From the place of His dwelling He looks on all the inhabitants of the earth; He fashions their hearts individually; He considers all their works.”*

**The Eternal God was very real and personal to King David.**

These prayers of David are no mere empty speculations of an armchair theologian, they unashamedly expose a real man’s man, an earnest soldier-poet, a courageous giant-killer, a passionate leader who was plunged repeatedly into difficulties and disappointments, [Psalms 18:4-5].

These psalms reveal a lion-hearted leader who, harried by painful physical and emotional distress, nevertheless turned all these setbacks into songs of praise to his Creator.

These are emotional-etched expressions of faith in God’s ultimate deliverance, [Psalms 27:1].

**Romans 15:4** [New King James] *“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.”*

**We too can learn to pray as King David did, to become, as David was, a person after God’s own heart, [Acts 13:20-22].**

## King David was tested

King David knew bitter testing, projected into a life of harrowing escapes, chilling scrapes with death and near-fatal encounters.

**King David was a fugitive king, a bandit-leader, [1 Samuel 22:1-2].**

All this was undeserved, unfair and there was **not** a thing he could personally do about it.

**This probing of David's innermost character forced him to his knees often, [Psalms 55:17].**

**Psalms 56:1-4** [New King James] *“Be merciful to me, O God, for man would swallow me up; fighting all day he oppresses me. My enemies would hound me all day, for there are many who fight against me, O Most High. Whenever I am afraid, I will trust in You. In God (I will praise His word), in God I have put my trust; I will not fear. What can flesh do to me?”*

**David persevered tenaciously in prayer for he knew he must, for God was literally his only hope.**

No false humility permeated David's prayers, **no** self-righteous pretence, **David's needs were urgent and real!**

**Psalms 70:1, 3, 5** [New King James] *“Make haste, O God, to deliver me! Make haste to help me, O LORD!” ... “Let them be turned back because of their shame, who say, ‘Aha, aha!’” ... “But I am poor and needy; make haste to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay.”*

Utter sincerity spilled out as he pleaded for God's intervention.

## **King David looked to God. Do we look to humans?**

**Why don't people pray like King David today?**

**Have we been subtly brainwashed by generations of so-called progress to seek human help, not God's intervention?**

Miracle drugs, heart transplants, laser surgery, central heating and air conditioning, instant foods, womb-to-tomb socialism.

All these amazing developments have bewitched us with human powers and ingenuity.

We have ignored the warnings given to us in God's Word, the Christian Bible, [**Jeremiah 17:5; Psalms 118:8-9**].

How tragic is this!

Even in the face of an ominously darkening world situation, humans are still too trusting in human prowess to fall on our knees and supplicate the God of King David for help.

**Revelation 3:14-22** [New King James] *“And to the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write, ‘These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: “I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth. Because you say, ‘I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing,’ and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked, I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.’””*

**In this last era of God's Church it is prophesied that even those called by God to be His people will fall victim to this tragic short-sightedness.**

**A blindness that pushes God's awesome power to the back of the mind.**

Many Christians today, especially in the Western World, are now blessed with incredible affluence compared with the world average.

Yet God calls such people blind fools.

**Proverbs 1:32** [King James] *“For the turning away of the simple shall slay them, and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them.”*

No wonder the Eternal God allows trials and tests to befall His people.

**Psalms 34:19** [New King James] *“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD delivers him out of them all.”*

This is so that they will turn to the Eternal God for protection, to avoid the soon-coming harsh trials that the godless world will have to face, for them to repent and turn to Him, [Matthew 24:21-22].

## **How can we recapture King David's fervency in prayer?**

**1 Peter 5:6-10** [New King James] *“Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you. Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world. But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.”*

This humbling may involve fasting to help us realise our dependence on our Creator God.

**This humbling will certainly involve being re-educated by an active indwelling Holy Spirit.**

**John 16:13** [New King James] *“However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”*

Note the last part of this re-educating by the Holy Spirit, make us fully aware of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, this time to rule with total power on this earth.

**Romans 12:1-3** [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will. For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you.”*

**Seek then to be used by God to prepare a people for Jesus Christ's Second Coming, as John the Baptist did for His First Coming as our Saviour, [Romans 12:4-18].**

**Philippians 2:1-4** [New King James] *“Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfil my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.”*

This will be a powerful witness that God may use to draw more people towards His True Church.

This dying civilisation's **only** hope is the Good News of the New World Tomorrow that starts after the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

**Matthew 24:14** [New King James] *“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”*

This website is seeking to be a small part of this final “wake-up” message to this world that is asleep and blinded by Satan, the present ruler of this world, [2 **Corinthians 4:4**; 1 **John 5:19**; **John 8:44**; 2 **Corinthians 11:14-15**].

Perhaps now we can understand why God's people have to suffer, [2 **Timothy 3:12**], it is a “wake-up” call to do our personal part to prepare for the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

**Revelation 12:9-12** [New King James] *“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, ‘Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death. Therefore rejoice, O heavens, and you who dwell in them! Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and the sea! For the devil has come down to you, having great wrath, because he knows that he has a short time.’”*

**Notice we can overcome the blinding influence of Satan by preaching salvation through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God [John 1:29, 36] and our own personal example, [Matthew 5:14-16], even if it brings added persecution, or death.**

God's word, through His True Church, of those who are empowered by the active indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ, [**Romans 8:9**], can be hindered by our lack of fervent prayer!

**2 Peter 3:10-13** [New King James] *“But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, **looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God**, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.”*

**It is through our prayers that the Second Coming can be “hastened.” How can I say this?**

**Ezekiel 9:4** [New King James] *“and the LORD said to him, ‘Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.’”*

**Are we sighing and crying out to God in prayer for the return of Jesus Christ to this earth, to bring an end to all the evil that is being committed in society today?**

## **God's servants have always prayed fervently**

The servants of God whose lives are recorded in His Word, the Christian Bible, would condemn our “laid-back,” “stay-cool,” “do your own thing” non-involved generation.

The great heroes of the Christian Bible were anything but “cool” or “detached”!

They were men and women of magnificently deep feelings and emotions and splendidly unafraid to show them.

It is recorded seven times that Joseph wept.

Moses fasted 40 days and nights, so wrapped up was he in receiving God's revelations, [**Exodus 34:28**].

Joshua fell to the dust and lay on his face all day to depict his horror when Israel had lost God's favour, [**Joshua 7:6-10**].

Ruth left her homeland to follow Naomi and would **not** hear of turning her back on the God of Israel, [**Ruth 1:14-17**].

Samuel cried out to God all night at the news that God had rejected King Saul, [**1 Samuel 15:11**].

David fasted for men who had opposed him because, even in opposition, David saw their potential, [**2 Samuel 1:12; 2 Samuel 3:32**].

Anna the prophetess stayed at her post and served God with fastings when she was more than 100 years of age, [**Luke 2:36-38**].

Jesus Christ petitioned God the Father all night before He chose His 12 apostles, [**Luke 6:12-13**].

While the apostle Paul dictated corrective letters to young churches tears streamed down his face, [**2 Corinthians 2:4**].

## **The kind of prayer that God's work needs**

**Hebrews 4:14-16** [New King James] *“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”*

**We are able to boldly approach God the Father in prayer, through our High Priest, Jesus Christ.**

With the assurance of finding forgiveness [part of God's grace], when we confess our sins to Him and trust in His Word, both Jesus Christ and the printed Word of God, the Christian Bible, [**Proverbs 28:13**].

**Regretfully true friendship and openness are rare today, people seem to be shut off from each other.**

**We can feel too out of touch with our emotions to even open up with our Heavenly Father.**

**1 John 1:9** [New King James] *“If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*

**Yet we have this firm promise.**

We must be specific in our confession of our sins. We will not sense the relief [peace of mind, **John 14:27**] that can be ours until we openly lay our cares and hopes before God the Father, [**1 Peter 5:7**].

**David was specific, open and honest in his prayers, he knew he could not hide anything from God, not his thoughts, attitude or actions, even his motivations.**

**Psalms 139:1-16** [New King James] *“O LORD, You have searched me and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. You comprehend my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. You have hedged me behind and before, and laid Your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high, I cannot attain it. Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; if I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness shall fall on me,’ even the night shall be light about me; indeed, the darkness shall not hide from You, but the night shines as the day; the darkness and the light are both alike to You. For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother’s womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvellous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skilfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them.”*

**This is the all-knowing God we are praying to and worshipping.**

**Psalms 139:17-24** [New King James] *“How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How great is the sum of them! If I should count them, they would be more in number than the sand; when I awake, I am still with You. Oh, that You would slay the wicked, O God! Depart from me, therefore, you bloodthirsty men. For they speak against You wickedly; Your enemies take Your name in vain. Do I not hate them, O LORD, who hate You? And do I not loathe those who rise up against You? I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, and know my anxieties; and see if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.”*

This is David’s sincere love for God, finding it offensive when people do not honour Him. David used what we might call strong language, *“slay the wicked.”* David *“loathed”* those who did **not** respect the God he loved, even to the extent of *“perfect hatred.”*

David finishes this psalm/prayer seeking a closer relationship with God and His continual guidance.

**We need to meditate on such prayer/psalms of David and use them as guidelines to our own relationship with God.**

**James 5:16** [New King James] *“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.”*

Such prayers will bring a powerful loving response from God.