Daily Devotion #59

We Can Pray

***Philippians 4:6 (NASB)*** *6  “Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God*.”

These are trying times. With the effects of COVID people have been on high alert. Many have been fearful of catching the dreaded virus and/or passing it on to others, causing great anxiety. Now with our country once again feeling the effects of hate and ill toward one another, people are asking what is next? But the question we should be asking is, “What can we do?”

Admittedly it is hard to know what we or any person can do in times like this. Often any attempt and doing something feels so small or insignificant that there seems to be no point in trying. But there is something we, God’s people, can do. We can pray.

But when prayer is the subject, even God’s people take the attitude that prayer won’t help. And the reason people feel that way is because prayers don’t seem to be answered quickly, if answered at all. So, people don’t pray but instead try to do something more tangible.

But prayer is what God has given us to communicate with Him. God, the Creator, has said for us to pray. In fact, Paul makes it clear when he says, “Don’t worry about anything. Don’t worry about what you can and can’t do or what you have or don’t have or anything else; just pray. Let God know your heart, and God will respond.” Notice what God said to the Hebrews years ago when He told them to pray. ***2 Chronicles 7:13-14 (NASB)*** *13  "If I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or if I command the locust to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among My people, 14  and My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land.”*

Some have said that was for Israel alone, for a certain time, and it doesn’t apply to us today. If that were the case, the Apostle Paul would not have written this verse. Better yet, God would not have had Paul write this verse. And He wouldn’t have had him write other verses on prayer like, [*Eph 6:18*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=70321682) *— “With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints.” Or*[*1Ti 2:1*](http://www.crossbooks.com/book.asp?pub=0&book=-101&sec=70648321) *“First of all, then, I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men.”* And our Lord would not have spent time in prayer if prayer were just for Israel or if prayer were pointless.

God will hear us when we pray. God wants us to pray. God has given to us the privilege to pray. And He has said that He will heal. He will fix what is wrong. He will make all things right. Our job is to pray, and let Him do His work.

Beloved, you and I have been given a great gift, a great privilege. We have been given the right and joy of communicating with our God personally. When Jesus died, the last thing that happened was the veil of the Temple was torn it two. Meaning God had removed the barrier between Himself and us so that we could have access to Him without a priest or mediator.

Let’s take advantage of what God has given us and pray. Let us pray for our leaders; pray for our nation. Let us pray for our world and then stand back and watch God work to heal and fix what is broken. The Lord Himself said, ***James 4:2 (NASB)*** *2  “You do not have because you do not ask*.”