

Hello! This is Dorothy -

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Isn't it wonderful?

Psalm 23:6. Just take that little thought today and think about the first priority of my life, which is to pray. Let us worship the Lord and let us praise Him together, but let us see we have access to pray.

In **Isaiah 51:6**, we read - . . . **but my salvation shall be for ever, and my righteousness shall not be abolished.** What we have in Christ Jesus will be for ever and ever.

Amos 9:1 - I saw the Lord standing upon the altar . . . Now this is a very interesting aspect there in **Amos**. The position of ***the Lord standing upon the altar*** is significant. You see, the altar speaks of the mercy of God, because judgment was executed upon the altar, upon the interposed sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, we can come to the Lord. We can come today because of Jesus Christ. However, when the altar and the sacrifice are despised . . . "Oh," you say, "I don't want anything to do with all this - about the Lord and the Bible!" Listen to what happens: that same altar becomes a place of judgment! Sadly, in my lifetime, I have seen those who have despised the things of the Lord; those who have trampled underfoot that which

was precious perhaps to their parent and, suddenly, what was mercy to one becomes judgment to another. When we ask the Lord into our hearts and lives, we have access to a Great High Priest, who is our Intercessor. He has chosen not to remember our sins and He has chosen to stand on our behalf and to pray for us. He loves us. Therefore, when we understand what mercy does, why would we choose the path of judgment? In **Romans 5:8**, we read - **But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.** The believer's sins were judged upon the Cross of Christ. We now have an Intercessor, our Great High Priest, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is praying for us.

In **Luke 18:1**, Jesus said to those who loved and knew Him, . . . **that men ought always to pray. and not to faint.** There is a message at this hour for those of us who are overwhelmed with what is going on. He is telling us to pray. He wants us to turn every situation around for His glory. Whether it is a good situation or a bad situation, just let it count for His glory. Let us understand what believing prayer is all about. Sadly, we are living in a day such as **Amos 8** depicts.

11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread. . . , - *although some of you might be very aware of such a famine - . . . nor a thirst for water . . . - and some of you might be thirsty and water is in short supply - . . . but of hearing the words of the Lord:*

12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it.

The priority is to understand God has given us the Word of God. The Word of God is the basis by which we come in prayer to the Holy God. The priority of my day must be communion through prayer. This is the most important thing of the day. It is not just, “I will fit in a minute here and there.” It is a continual action through the day, bringing everything to Him. Jesus is the only One who can successfully live in my life. Therefore, prayer originates from the heart of God and the Father Himself and it is a continuous action. We are bringing everything to Him as we are available to Him. As His child, my heavenly Father implants His prayer right now upon my heart by His Holy Spirit. Then when I pray in the Name of Jesus, He presents that prayer to the Father at the throne of grace.

I love it! In **James** we are told in **5:16 . . . The effectual fervent prayer of the righteous man availeth much.** For you and me, if we love Jesus say, “I have no time to pray,” we are very foolish. Have we time to take a breath or do we run without breathing? When I am in tune with the Almighty God and walking in fellowship with Him, I find that my heart is going up in praise, prayer, praise and prayer.

What about you? Are you in the position today to say, *Lord Jesus,*

forgive my prayerlessness. Forgive those sins which have come between You and me. At this moment, I want to get right with You. I want to understand what it is to know the priority of the day: to talk to You, to be in Your Word, to receive from You that You get all the glory.

In Jesus' Name. Amen.