

# A Man of Prayer

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"And it came to pass in those days, that **He (Jesus) went out unto a mountain to pray, and He continued all night in prayer to God.** And when it was day, He called unto Himself His disciples: and of them He chose twelve, whom also He named apostles; Simon, whom He also named Peter, and Andrew his brother, James and John, Philip and Bartholomew, Matthew and Thomas, James the son of Alphæus, and Simon called Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James, and Judas Iscariot, who also was the traitor." (Luke 6:12-16)

"And in the morning, **rising up a great while before daylight, He went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there He prayed.** And Simon and those who were with Him followed after Him. And when they had found Him, they said unto Him, 'All men are seeking for You.' And He said unto them, 'Let us go into the next towns, so that I may preach there also; for that is why I have come forth.'" (Mark 1:35-38)

"But so much the more there went abroad a fame of Him (of Jesus): and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by Him of their infirmities. **And He withdrew Himself into the wilderness, and prayed.** And it came to pass on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, and Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them (the multitudes)." (Luke 5:15-17)

"And straightway Jesus constrained His disciples to get into a boat, and to go before Him unto the other side, while He sent the multitudes away. And when He had sent the multitudes away, **He went up into a mountain by Himself to pray:** and when the evening had come, **He was there alone (praying).** (Matthew 14:22-24) (Mark 6:46)

And it came to pass about eight days after these sayings, that He (Jesus) took Peter and John and James, **and went up onto a mountain to pray.** And as He prayed, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and His clothing was white and glistening. And, behold, there talked with Him two men, who were Moses and Elijah; who appeared in glory, and spake of His decease which He should accomplish at Jerusalem. " (Luke 9:28-31)

"And it came to pass, that, **as He was praying in a certain place,** and when He ceased (praying), one of His disciples said unto Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray as John (the Baptist) also taught his disciples.' And He said unto them, '**When you pray,** say, 'Our Father who is in heaven, Your name be holy. Your Kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins; as we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.'" (Like 11:1-4)

**Pray:** from the Greek word **proseuchesthe** a verb which means: to pray; properly, to exchange desires or wishes; literally; to interact with the Lord by switching human desires for His desires as He imparts faith. Thus direct discourse with God, via the words of the prayer(s). **Praying:** from the Greek word **proseuchomenon**, which means: praying.

**Prayer:** from the Greek word **prosecute**, a noun which means: a prayer; properly, the words, (expressions, or exchanges), of desires or wishes, directed towards God. (note: the original Greek word **prosecute** does not have the same meaning as our current English word 'prosecute' which means 'to institute legal proceedings against someone')

Although the phrase, "A Man of Prayer" is not used in the New Testament; it is clearly evident from within the scriptures that Jesus the Son of Man was definitely a Man devoted to Prayer. The above quoted verses show that Jesus, in the days of His physical humanity, often went into remote unpopulated areas to find the alone time and solitude that He desired, and needed for His intimate times of prayer and two-way conversation with His Father.

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Jesus, also prayed in the presence of people in various situations; some of which have been recorded in the Gospel accounts, and some which were not recorded. But most of which involved milestone events in the ministry of Jesus! Consider the following:

A two-way exchange of prayer between the Son of Man and the Father at the time Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist:

“Now when all the people were baptized, it came to pass, that Jesus also being baptized, **and praying**, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon Him, and a voice came from heaven (from the Father), which said, '**You are My Beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.**' " (Luke 3:21-22)

After when Jesus denounce the cities whose people did not repent, and where most of His miracles were performed:

“But I say unto you, that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for you. And at that time Jesus answered and said (prayed to the Father), '**I thank You, Father, the Lord of heaven and earth, because You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent, and have revealed them unto babes. Even so, Father; for so it seemed good in Your sight.**' All things have been delivered unto Me by My Father; and no man knows the Son but the Father; nor does any man know the Father except the Son, and he (those of us) to whomever the Son will reveal Him (the Father).” (Matthew 11:25-26)

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (see in context John 11:35-44):

“And Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said unto Him, 'Lord, by this time he stinks, for he has been dead four days.' But Jesus said unto her, 'Did I not say unto you, that, if you would believe, you should see the glory of God?' Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, "**Father, I thank You that You have heard Me** (i.e. His previous unrecorded private prayers with the Father). **And I know that You hear Me always; but because of the people who stand by I said it, that they may believe that You have sent Me.**' And when He had thus spoken (prayed), He cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come forth.' And he who was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with grave-clothes; and his face was bound about with a cloth."

A short but amazing audible two-way exchange between the Son of Man and the Father, when Jesus announced that the hour of His glorification had arrived:

“And Jesus answered them, saying, 'The hour has come, that the Son of Man should be glorified. Truly, truly, I say unto you, 'Except a Grain of Wheat fall into the ground and dies, it abides alone: but if it dies, it will bring forth much fruit.' He who loves his life shall lose it; and he who hates his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serves Me, **let him follow Me**; and where I am, there shall also My servant be. If any man serve Me, him will My Father honor. Now My soul is troubled; and what shall I say? 'Father, save Me from this hour;' but for this cause came I unto this hour. **Father, glorify Your Name.**' Then there came a voice from heaven, saying, '**I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again.**' " (John 12:23-28)

When Jesus foretells Simon Peter's denial of even knowing Jesus (Luke 22:31-34):

“And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon, behold, Satan has desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat. **But I have prayed for you, that your faith may not fail**; and when You are turned again, strengthen your brethren.' And he (Peter) said unto Him, 'Lord, I am ready to go with You, both into prison, and to death.' And He said, 'I tell you, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before you shall three time deny that you even know Me.' “

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In His great closing prayer in the upper room with the eleven apostles (John 17:1-26):

**“Father, the hour has come; glorify Your Son, so that Your Son may also glorify You.** As You have given Him (Jesus) power over all flesh, so that He may give Eternal Life to as many as You have given to Him. And this is Life Eternal, that they might know You the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth: I have finished the work which You gave Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me with Your own Self with the glory which I had with You before the world existed. ....” (read all)

When in great trouble of heart Jesus prayed in Gethsemane (Luke 22: 41-45):

“And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed, Saying, '**Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours be done.**' And there appeared an angel unto Him from heaven, strengthening Him. And being in an agony He prayed even more earnestly: and His sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground. And when He rose up from prayer, and had come to His disciples, He found them sleeping for sorrow,”

When dying on the Cross, Jesus forgave those who crucified Him:

“And when they had come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on the right hand, and the other on the left. Then said Jesus, '**Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.**' ” (Luke 23:33-34)

His last anguished prayers before Jesus died on the Cross are recorder as follows:

“And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, '**Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?**' that is to say, '**My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?**' ” (Matthew 27:46)

“And it was about the sixth hour, and there was a darkness over all the earth until the ninth hour. And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the Temple was torn in the midst. And when Jesus had cried with a loud voice, He said, '**Father, into Your hands I commend My spirit:**' and having said thus, He breathed His last.” (Luke 23:44-46)

Thus, Jesus was glorified both in His death on the Cross for the forgiveness of our sins, and also in His final recorded prayers! Finally consider the Following:

“So also Christ did not glorify Himself to be made a high priest; but He (the Father) who said unto Him, '**You are My Son, today I have begotten You.**' And He also says in another place, 'You are a Priest forever after the order of Melchisedec;' **who (Jesus) in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications with strong crying and tears** unto Him (the Father) who was able to save Him from death, and was heard in that He feared; though He were a Son, yet He learned obedience through the things which He suffered; and being made perfect, He became the Author of Eternal Salvation unto all those who obey Him.” (Hebrews 5:5-9)

## Jesus is A Man of Prayer

**Jesus was and is a Righteous Man, and a Man of fervent praying;  
who accomplished all that the Father entrusted to Him;  
even obedience to the death of the Cross – for the Salvation of the world,  
for those believe on His Name !!!**

**Lord Jesus You are now seated at the Right Hand of the Father Most High;  
where now You are interceding for us before our Father in heaven!**

**Truly, truly - Come soon Lord Jesus!!**