

PRAYER AND INTERCESSION

or

[Whom May We Pray For?]

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. Prayer is by no means to be a selfish thing -- we must pray for and in behalf of others!
 - 1. Discuss the primary and technical meaning of the word intercession.
 - 2. Generally speaking, the word involves the idea of pleading or entreating in behalf of another or others.
- B. The Bible speaks of the following intercessions:
 - 1. The intercession of Christ -- Isa.53:12; Rom.8:34; Heb.7:25; 9:24; I Tim.2:5-6.
 - 2. The intercession of the Holy Spirit -- Rom.8:26-27.
 - 3. The intercession of men for other men -- I Timothy 2:1.
- C. The intercession of men for other men will be our concern in this lesson -- i.e. For Whom May We Pray?

II. DISCUSSION:

I Timothy 2:1--"*I exhort therefore, first of all, that supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgivings, be made for all men ...*"---

- A. "For kings and all that are in high place;" -- I Tim.2:1.
 - 1. Their origin and purpose -- Rom.13:1-7; I Pet.2:13-14.
 - 2. Pray for a "*tranquil and quiet life...*".
- B. "For all the saints" -- Eph.6:18; Rom.1:9; I Thes.1:2.
 - 1. For their physical welfare -- 3 John 2.
 - 2. For their spiritual welfare -- 2 Cor.13:7; Phil.1:9-11; Eph.1:16-19; 3:14-19; Col.1:9-11; 4:12.
- C. "For those who proclaim the Gospel" -- Acts 4:29; 12:5; 13:3; Eph.6:19-20; Col.4:2-4; 2 Thes.3:1-2.
- D. "For the lost or unsaved" -- Rom.10:1; Luke 16:27; Matt.9:36-38.

[Please note also in this connection the prayers for the proclaimers of the gospel, the prayers for opportunities to teach and preach and the prayers for the success of the gospel. See preceding point and point C. 2. of discussion in Lesson Four.]
- E. "For the sick" -- James 5:13-16; Acts 28:8.
- F. "For our enemies" -- Matt.5:43-48; Luke 6:28.

CONCLUSION:

It is a great privilege to come into the presence of God in prayer and a great privilege and responsibility to intercede for one another. Interceding for others is just another way of seeking their highest good or expressing our love towards them. Let's pray for one another, as well as others!