

# P.U.L.L. : SUPPLICATION AND PETITION

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Ebenezer Baptist Church

Fruit of the Spirit Women's Ministry

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# Definitions

## Definition of Prayer

- Any communication with God.

## Definition of Petition

- A ***request*** made to God for something desired to fulfill a need; asking for God's help by placing your need before God, One who is in authority.
- The word "Petition" is found 13 times in the Bible.

## The Question is...

- Why do we pray a prayer of "Supplication"?

## Definition of Supplication

- To ***plead*** humbly; a ***call*** to God for help; to ***beg*** for grace; it's an entreaty to God.
- The word "Supplication" is from the Latin word- "Supplicare" which means "to plead humbly"; the word "Supplication" is also mentioned sixty times in the Bible.

# Three Biblical Reasons Why We Pray in Supplication

- **1 Peter 5:7** – “Casting all your *cares* upon him; for he careth for you.”
- **Philippians 4:6-7** – 6) “Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. 7) And the *peace* of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds though Christ Jesus.”
- **Ephesians 6:10-18** – 10) “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the *power* of his might... 18) Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;”

# Examples of Prayers of Supplication/Petition

- **Psalm 4:1** – “Hear me when I call, O God of my righteousness: thou hast enlarged me when I was in distress; have mercy upon me, and hear my prayer.”
- **Psalm 7:1-2** – “1) O Lord my God, in thee do I put my trust: save me from all them that persecute me, deliver me: 2) Lest he tear my soul like a lion, rending it in pieces, while there is none to deliver.”

# David's Cry for Forgiveness

- **Psalm 51:1-13** - 1) "Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. 2) Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. 3) For I acknowledge my transgressions: and my sin is ever before me. 4) Against thee, thee only, have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight: that thou mightest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest. 5) Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me. 6) Behold, thou desirest truth in the inward parts: and in the hidden part thou shalt make me to know wisdom. 7) Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean: wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. 8) Make me to hear joy and gladness; that the bones which thou hast broken may rejoice. 9) Hide my face from my sins, and blot out all mine iniquities. 10) Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11) Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12) Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. 13) Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

# Supplication/Petition (cont')

- David was godly sorry for his rebellious and sinful actions of getting a married woman, Bathsheba, pregnant and arranging to have her husband killed in battle. He recognized his sin and that it was against God.
- He prayed this prayer of supplication begging God for mercy and forgiveness because he knew that when he was forgiven by God, he would again experience joy, gladness, and have a pure heart so that he could then share it and teach others.
- David's guilt was eating him up and he wanted to be free in his spirit.

# Hezekiah's Prayer for Healing

- **2 Kings 20: 1-7** - 1) "In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death, And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live. 2) Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the Lord, saying, 3) I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore. 4) And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying, 5) Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord. 6) And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake. 7) And Isaiah said, Take a lump of figs. And they took and laid it on the boil, and he recovered."

# Supplication/Petition (cont')

- Hezekiah was the 13<sup>th</sup> successor of David the king of Judah at Jerusalem.
- He was 39 years old when he found out he was going to die.
- He turned his face toward the wall in prayer and supplication.
- God honored his prayer of supplication/petition and gave Hezekiah two gifts: 1) Fifteen years added on to his life; and 2) He delivered him and the entire city out of the hand of the Assyrians.
- Our God is a Healer and a Deliverer. He keeps covenant and mercy with them that love him and keep his commandments to 1,000 generations (Deuteronomy 7:9).



# The Lord's Supplication/Petition in the Garden of Gethsemane

- **Matthew 26:36-46** -36) "Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. 37) And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. 38) Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. 39) And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, ***O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*** 40) And he cometh unto the disciples, and findeth them asleep, and saith unto Peter, What could ye not watch with me one hour? 41) Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but then flesh is weak. 42) He went away again a second time, and prayed saying, ***O my Father, if this cup may not pass away from me, except I drink it, thy will be done.*** 43) And he came and found them asleep again: for their eyes were heavy. 44) And he left them, and went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. 45) Then cometh he to his disciples, and saith unto them, Sleep on now, and take your rest: behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. 46) Rise, let us be going: behold, he is at hand that doth betray me."

# Supplication/Petition (cont')

- Lukes account in Luke 22:39-46 described Jesus' prayer with "agony"; more intensity, as a "lament". Verse 42-44) says, 42) "Saying, ***Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.*** 43) And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him. 44) And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly: ***and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground ."***
- Even Jesus prayed prayers of petition/supplication to God. As human, he knew the importance of going to God in prayer at all times, and in all situations. Even as God in the flesh, He reminded us that we can submit to God all our needs and He will hear us and answer prayer according to His will and His plan.
- There is nothing too hard for God nor anything greater than Jesus' sacrifice on the cross to save mankind from our sins, dying, being buried, but rising on the third day with all power of heaven and earth in His hands; seated now on the right hand of God making intercession for you and me until He comes again.

# Conclusion

- This is evidence that God hears our supplications/petitions; attends to our call and answers prayer. He renews, restores, and heals; in His time, in His season, according to His will, and His plan.
- Jesus asks us to place our needs before our loving God in prayer; like He did in his supplication/petition to God.
- **1 John 5:14-15** – 14) “And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing *according to his will*, he heareth us: 15) And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.”
- We should **HUMBLY** submit our prayers, of petition and supplication, unto God.
- We should entrust our problems and concerns to Him because He knows and He cares.
- **Truth is:** We are dependent on God for everything; so it is important that we have a relationship with Him, and also learn how to pray and petition the Lord in supplication for our needs and the needs of others.

## So, The Question Is...

- What are **YOU** petitioning God for today?