

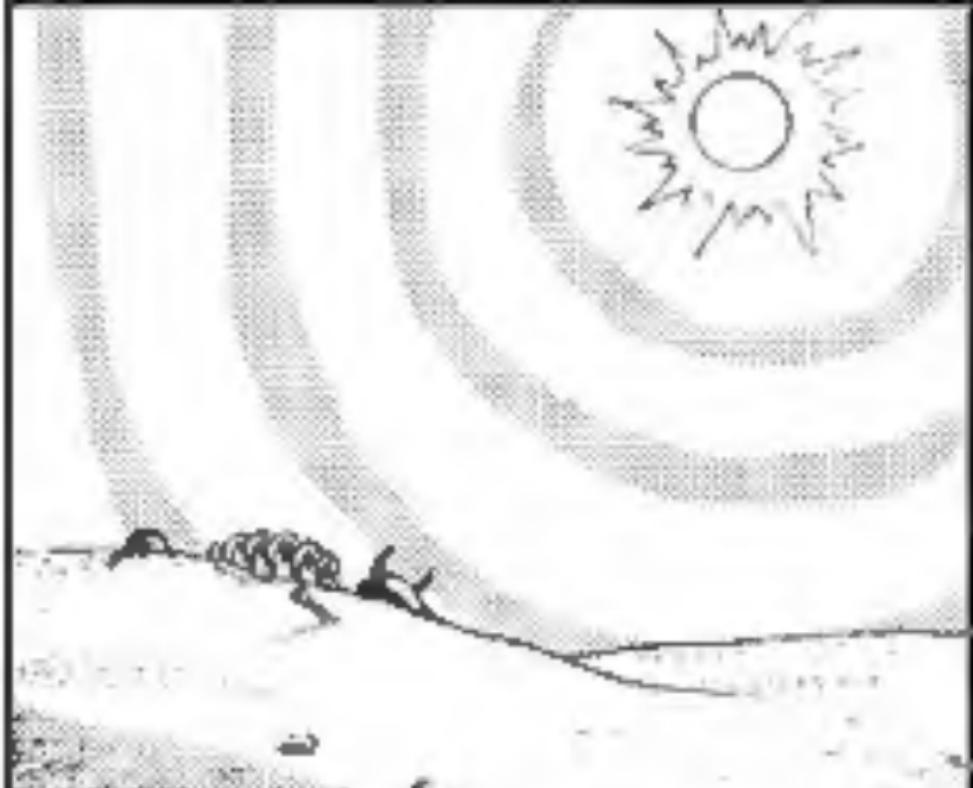


THE SECRET OF PRAYER

J.T.C.



Elijah prayed down fire from heaven. (1 Kings 18:38)



His prayers held back rain for three years - because of Israel's wickedness. (James 5:17)



Elijah prayed for rains to come
- and the land was refreshed.
(James 5:18)

“...The effectual
fervent prayer of
a righteous man
availleth much.”
James 5:16



Because Daniel dared to pray –
he was put into a den of lions.



God heard his prayers
and saved him.

Daniel served under these three men.



NEBUCHADNEZZAR



BELSHAZZAR



DARIUS

Daniel was Governor over the whole province of Babylon.

Daniel Became the third ruler of his kingdom.

Daniel became one of his three presidents.

With all this responsibility, Daniel took time to pray 3 times daily.
– Do you?

We now move
into the New
Testament and
see the Lord
Jesus Christ pray
to His Father in
Heaven.



¶ He would rise up a great while before day to commune in prayer (Jesus is the master of prayer).

(Mark 1:35)

Lord, teach us to pray!



"After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen." (Matt. 6:9-13)

The Lord gave us an example of how to pray - but to pray this prayer constantly is vain repetition. (Matthew 6:7)

This is the pattern he taught us!

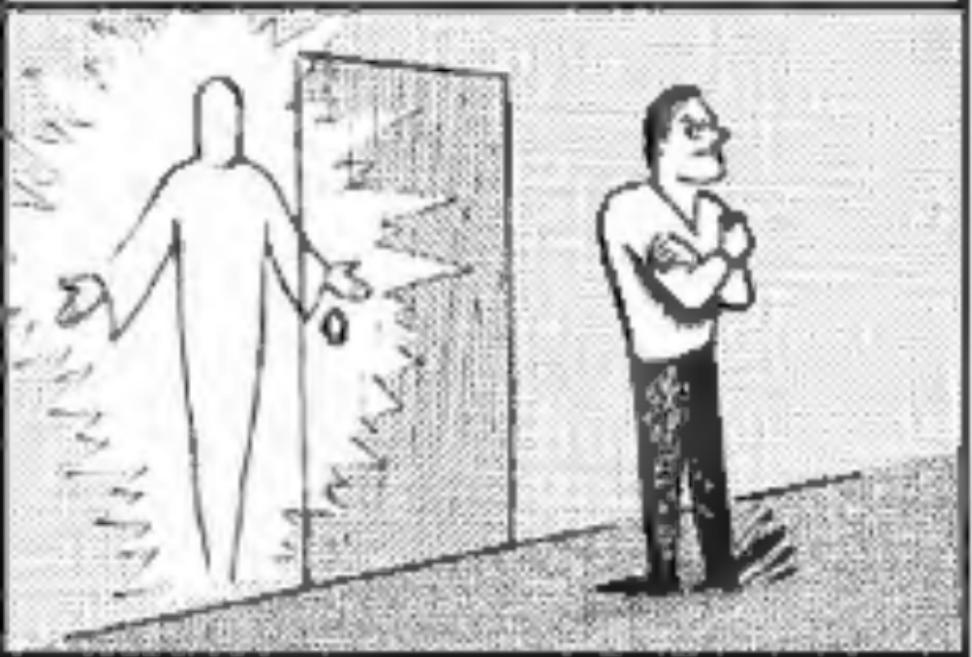
1. You are to exalt the Father.
2. Thy kingdom come – refers to His 2nd coming to set up His millennial reign.
3. Ask for your necessities daily.
4. We ask for forgiveness. We must forgive others.
(Ephesians 4:32)
5. Pray for protection from the Devil, and not be overcome by temptation. (1 Corinthians 10:13)
6. We are to give to the Lord – glory, power and honor.
7. Praise Him and make your request known.
8. You end your prayer in the name of The Lord Jesus Christ.
(John 14:13-14)

The first public teaching on prayer was given by Jesus in the sermon on the mount.

“But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.” (Matthew 6:6)



You must daily have a time of prayer alone with the Father...



Because your heavenly Father is waiting to talk to you.

Even though your heart is cold and prayerless - go into the presence of your loving Father.

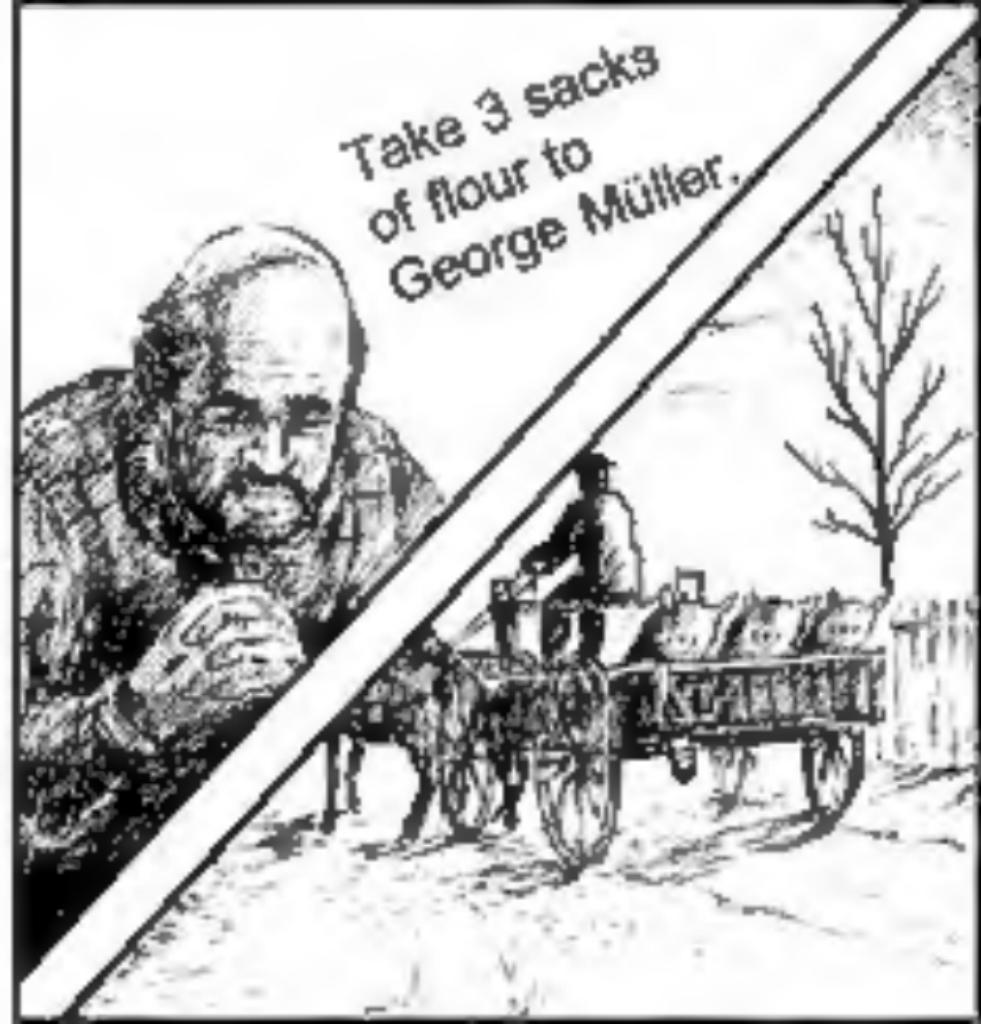


Do not think of how little you have to bring God, but how much He wants to give you.
(Remember - He loves you!)

"Your father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him." Matthew 6:8

The fascinating story* of George Müller illustrates this point.

*See: The Diary of George Müller, Great Man of Prayer, Compiled by A. J. Rendle Short, Zondervan, 1972.



George Müller prays -

Father I need 3
sacks of flour!

Request
Need 3 sacks
of flour

LEDGER

Answer

Knock . . . Knock

Request
Need 3 sacks
of flour.

LEDGER

Answer
Late that
same night



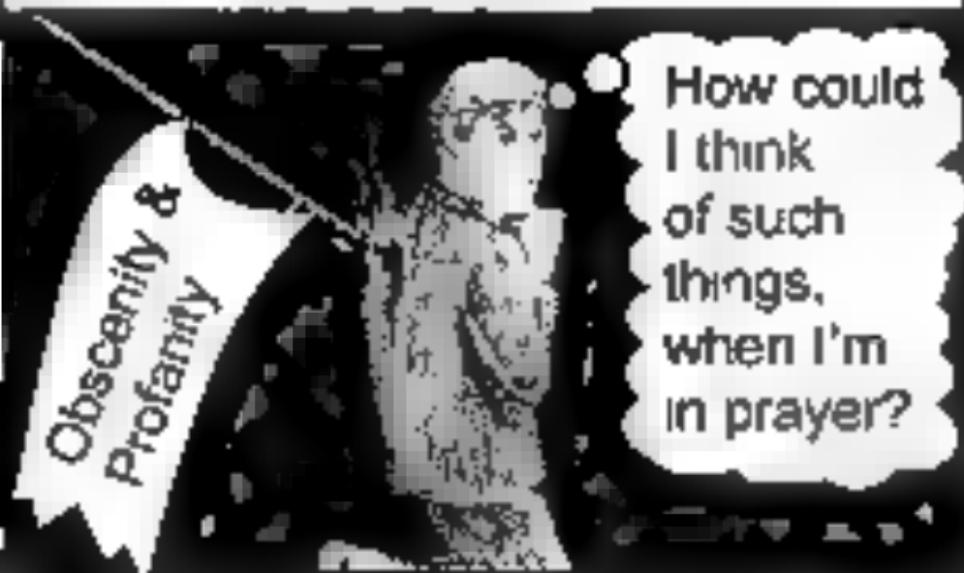
On the day of Pentecost - The
Holy Spirit came to dwell in the
believers.



When a person receives Jesus
Christ as his personal Saviour he
is born again, his sins are washed
away, and his body has entered the
kingdom of the Holy Spirit

Matthew 18:19-20; John 3:1-8

Almost immediately the enemy attacks the new Christian's prayer life



Whenever this occurs, plead the blood of Jesus and demand Satan to leave in Jesus name.



zzzz

In a little while he becomes too busy to pray

If he goes to prayer meetings, he becomes bored listening to long prayers - sometimes he falls asleep anyway, why should God even listen to his prayers?

If he reads about the great men of prayer like David Brainerd



The new Christian will feel inadequate - but the secret was, David Brainerd prayed In Spirit and Truth.

The apostle John writes to his "little children" (Christian believers) - "If we say that we have no sin we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" 1 John 1:8

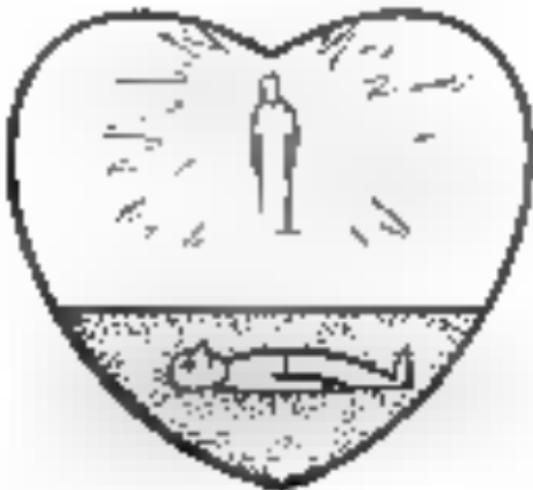
' Christ in you, the hope of glory Colossians 1:27



The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9

For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit and the Spirit against the flesh and these are contrary the one to the other so that ye cannot do the things that ye would" Galatians 5:17

We must bury the old man
(the flesh) daily!



Surrender all to Christ
(sometimes 5 or 6 times a day).



We must confess
we can't worship
God in a way that is
pleasing to Him.

So we turn the job
over to the Lord,
and the Holy Spirit
prays with us in
Spirit and truth.

A present to the
the Lord



Please read the following text
to see just how the power of prayer

In a church meeting last month,
a missionary leader wept. He
begged us to pray to the Lord
of harvest to send laborers



In India, over
50,000 villages
have never heard
the name of
Jesus!

He said caravans leave Nepal for
China and Tibet, that could be
carrying Bibles and gospel tracts.



But they go
away empty,
because no
one is there!

Beloved, pray for the lost!
Pray - Pray - Pray



You have my word
I will never do it again



Now you know you're safe
You guess I never play you again

3 weeks later

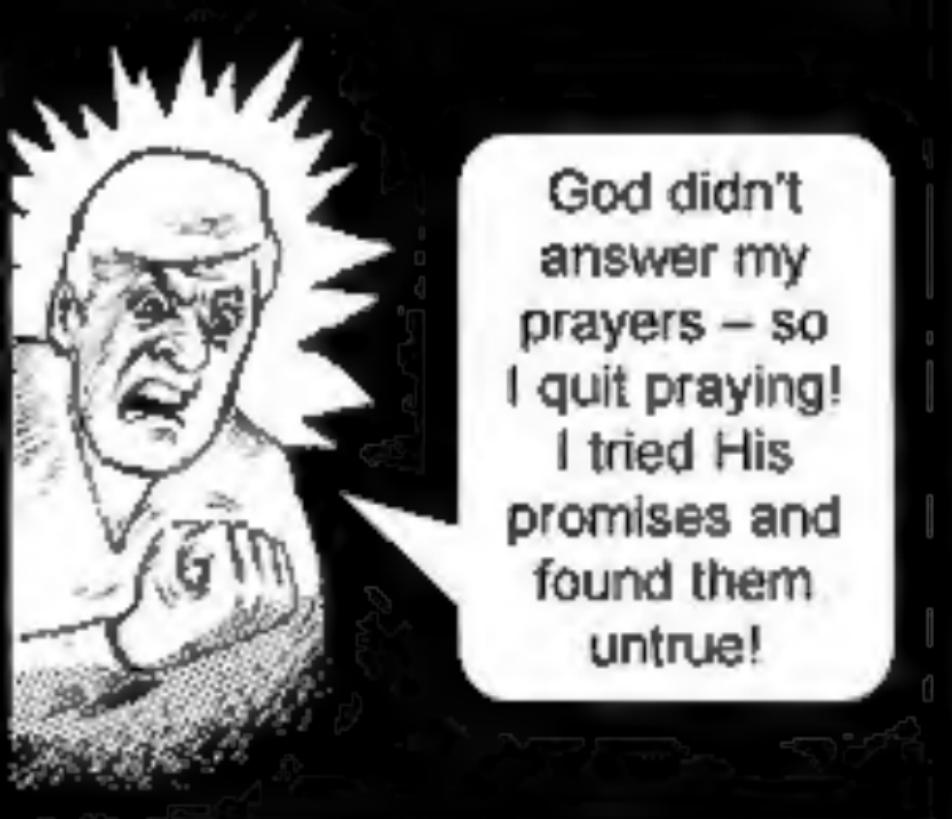


That man and his girlfriend
plunged to a needless grave

that when you stand on the
edge which is high above the ground where
nothing but hell shall a man where were
you and where has he run to now but he
was in heaven in the form which the sea
Matthew 18:8

Jesus said
Pray for those who despitefully
use you, & it is easy to you to
overlook.

My friend forgot to pray for
that man to protect him from
God's judgment



God didn't answer my prayers – so I quit praying! I tried His promises and found them untrue!

Lets read the fine print in the contract.

"And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."

1 John 3:22



OOOPS! I
didn't see that!

**Remember, God is watching
us day and night.**



**Is everything we do
pleasing in His sight?**

**Beloved, pray that the Lord
reveals all obstacles to our
prayer life... so then we can
become effective in our prayers.**



**"Ask, and it shall be given you; seek,
and ye shall find; knock, and it shall
be opened unto you:" Matthew 7:7**

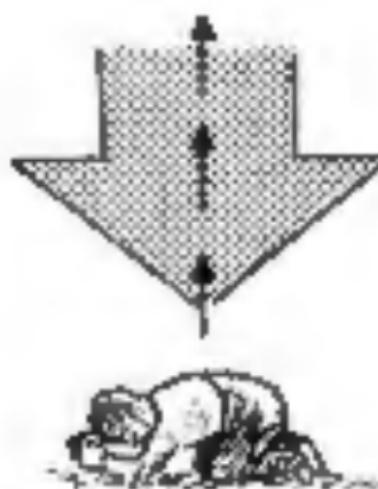
Remember

Prayers can
be uttered by
a little child.



Also it is the holiest and highest
work to which man can rise.

It's the channel of all blessings,
the secret of power and life.



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