**Monday 2/8**

***Related Ve******rses***

**Mark 11:17**

**17** And He taught and said to them, Is it not written, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations"? But you have made it a den of robbers.

**Acts 2:36**

**36** Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made Him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you have crucified.

**Eph. 5:30**

**30** Because we are members of His Body.

**Rom. 14:19**

**19** So then let us pursue the things of peace and the things for building up one another.

**Matt. 28:18-20**

**18** And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

**19** Go therefore and disciple all the nations, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

**20** Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you all the days until the consummation of the age.

**Luke 10:19**

**19** Behold, I have given you the authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

***Suggested Reading***

We will…consider the prevailing prayer of the church. This prayer is the prayer of the age….As Christians we may know something concerning prayer, but in the Scriptures, especially in the New Testament, there is one kind of prayer that is far beyond our human concept. To enter into this kind of prayer, we need a heavenly vision. (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age,” p. 159)

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First, the ascension of Christ indicates that the Lord's redemptive work is fully complete. After the Lord ascended to the heavens, He sat down at the right hand of God (Heb. 1:3; 10:12)….When someone sits down, it means that everything that he had to do has been finished and accomplished….The Lord has accomplished everything related to the work of redemption in a full way.

Second, the ascension of Christ indicates that the lordship of Christ has been established. The lordship of Christ was established by the ascension of Christ….We need to realize that today the Lord Christ is not merely the Lord who created the universe. The Lord Christ today is also God who was incarnated to be a man. Today there is a man in the heavens who has been exalted and established to be the Lord of the universe.

Moreover, Ephesians 1:22 tells us that Christ was given to be Head over all things “to the church.” Everything that the Lord has obtained and attained is not only for Himself but is also to the church. This means that everything that He has obtained and attained is being transmitted to the church. We need to see a heavenly vision of this heavenly fact.

The third main point…concerns the authority of the Body….The authority of the Body is the authority of the Head exercised by the Body. Thus, the authority of the Body is the authority of the Head. Although the Body has this authority, this authority is not merely objective but is very subjective. This means that this authority must be assumed and exercised by the Body. To assume something means to take something upon oneself. As the church, the Body of Christ, we need to assume the authority of Christ. After His resurrection the Lord told the disciples that all authority in heaven and on earth had been given to Him. Then He commanded them to preach the glad tidings to all the nations. The Lord said, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and disciple all the nations” (Matt. 28:18b-19a). Having received all authority, the Lord commanded us to go with this authority and preach the gospel….The Lord also told us clearly that He has given us the authority to overcome the power of the enemy (Luke 10:19). The enemy has power, but the Body has authority. Authority is much stronger than power. Christ as the Head has the authority, and as His Body, we automatically have this authority also.

The fourth main point…is the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ. This kind of prayer is not the prayer of individual believers but the prayer of the church as the Body of Christ….This is prayer that is based on the fact that we have the position and authority of Christ. In this kind of prayer we do not beg the Lord to do something for us. Instead, we claim what the Lord has obtained and attained. However, to pray in this way, we must have some realization of what the Lord has obtained and attained. Christ has obtained the lordship and the headship; He is the Lord, the Head over all things. The lordship and the headship are the most important aspects of what the Lord has obtained. (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age,” pp. 159-162)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 1*

**Corporate Reading of *“The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures”* Chapter 1 – Sections:** *God’s Plan; God’s Good Pleasure—His Heart’s Desire*

**Tuesday 2/9**

***Related Verses***

**Eph. 1:19-21**

**19** And what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the operation of the might of His strength,

**20** Which He caused to operate in Christ in raising Him from the dead and seating Him at His right hand in the heavenlies,

**21** Far above all rule and authority and power and lordship and every name that is named not only in this age but also in that which is to come;

**Col. 1:18**

**18** And He is the Head of the Body, the church; He is the beginning, the Firstborn from the dead, that He Himself might have the first place in all things;

**Col. 2:19**

**19** And not holding the Head, out from whom all the Body, being richly supplied and knit together by means of the joints and sinews, grows with the growth of God.

**Heb. 1:3**

**3** Who, being the effulgence of His glory and the impress of His substance and upholding and bearing all things by the word of His power, having made purification of sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

**1 Cor. 12:12-13**

**12** For even as the body is one and has many members, yet all the members of the body, being many, are one body, so also is the Christ.

**13** For also in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and were all given to drink one Spirit.

***Suggested Reading***

Actually, it is very simple to exercise the lordship and the headship of Christ. Suppose you meet a brother who is in a poor condition. When you meet him, you may sense that his condition and position are not right with the Lord….In this situation there are two ways you can pray. One way is the general way, the way taken by most believers when praying for others. In this general way you may go to the Lord and tell Him, “Lord, this brother is in a poor condition. Lord, be merciful to him. Do something with him. Work within his spirit.” This is the general way to pray for someone. However, there is another way to pray….In this way of prayer you are bold with the Lord. You may go to the Lord and say, “Lord, here is a brother who is still not under Your headship. I do not agree with this. I do not go along with this kind of situation. Lord, I am standing up to proclaim Your lordship and to claim it over this situation.” We can pray in this same way for a sinner: “Lord, Your lordship must be exercised over this person. Lord, I claim this.” (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age,” pp. 162-163)

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In this second way of prayer we touch the authority of Christ. We must see, however, that we can never pray in this way by ourselves. This does not mean that we must always physically gather together with a few other brothers. Physically, you may be praying in your room by yourself, but spiritually, you are one with the Body. When you are alone in your room, sometimes you may choose not to use the pronoun I; instead, you may use the pronoun we, praying, “Lord, we do not go along with the present situation. As Your Body, we take the ground of Your ascension and claim Your lordship over the present situation.” This is a different kind of prayer. This is not prayer that begs the Lord to do something for you; this is prayer that claims what the Lord has obtained.

We also need to learn how to exercise what the Lord has attained, because the Lord has not only obtained to the highest extent; He has also attained to the highest height. Suppose, for example, that you become ill. If you have the vision of what the Lord has obtained and attained, when you are in this situation, you will pray, “Lord, You are the transcendent One. You have been exalted to the heaven of heavens. Lord, we are Your Body. We are sitting with You in the heavenlies. All things have been subjected under Your feet, and therefore all things are also under our feet. This little sickness is included in ‘all things,’ so this little sickness also must be under my feet. I am now transcendent with You.”…Nearly every time we become sick, we go to the Lord and beg, “Lord, heal me. Lord, be merciful to me. Lord, be gracious to me.” This is to pray like a beggar. If we have the vision that we are the Body of the Head and that the Head has ascended to the heavens and is now transcendent, we will take the ground and claim what the Lord has attained. We will simply claim, proclaim, and declare to the sickness, “Do not trouble me; you are under my feet!” We can deal with sins, weakness, and worldliness in the same way. We should not deal with these things like a beggar. We can tell all these negative things, “Do not bother me. Go to the lake of fire! I am transcendent. You cannot touch me. You are under my feet.” Whenever the devil hears this kind of prayer, he runs away. We should simply declare who we are and where we are. We are in the Body, the Body is in the Head, and the Head is transcendent. (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age,” pp. 163-164)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 2*

## **Corporate Reading of *“The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures”* Chapter 1 – Sections:** *God’s Purpose—His Plan; God’s Economy—His Administrative Arrangement; His Dispensation*

**Wednesday 2/10**

***Related Verses***

**1 Cor. 12:27**

**27** Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

**Matt. 16:16-19**

**16** And Simon Peter answered and said, You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.

**17** And Jesus answered and said to him, Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in the heavens.

**18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**19** I will give to you the keys of the kingdom of the heavens, and whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in the heavens, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in the heavens.

**Rom. 12:5**

**5** So we who are many are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

**Eph. 4:24**

**24** And put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

**Rev. 8:3-6**

**3** And another Angel came and stood at the altar, having a golden censer, and much incense was given to Him to offer with the prayers of all the saints upon the golden altar which was before the throne.

**4** And the smoke of the incense went up with the prayers of the saints out of the hand of the Angel before God.

**5** And the Angel took the censer and filled it with the fire of the altar and cast it to the earth; and there were thunders and voices and lightnings and an earthquake.

**6** And the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared themselves to trumpet.

***Suggested Reading***

We must pray, taking the ground of Christ’s ascension but, we must realize that this ground is not for individuals. Rather, this ground is for the Body. Christ is the Head, and we are the Body (Col. 1:18). Today as the Body of Christ, we need to claim the ground of the ascension of Christ. I believe that this was the way the disciples prayed before the day of Pentecost. I believe that by the help of the Holy Spirit they prayed that the Lord will verify His ascension to the people on the earth. We should not cry to God as poor sinners. Rather, we must take the ground of Christ’s ascension and claim, “Lord, we are Your Body. We are in You. You are the Head and we are the Body. You are the Head over all things to us as the Body; therefore, we claim all that You have obtained and all that You have attained.” We simply need to claim this ground and tell the Lord that we do not agree with certain things that are happening on this earth. We also need to tell Him that we are not satisfied with the present condition, situation, and state of His people. We need to forget about all our personal problems and declare, “Hallelujah! I am a member of the Body, the Body is in the Head, and the Head, who is over all things, is in the heavens.” (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, p. 156)

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Since the Body shares the authority of the Head, the Lord told His disciples that whatever they bound on earth would have been bound in heaven, and whatever they loosed on earth would have been loosed in heaven (Matt. 16:19; 18:18). When we pray with the authority of the Body, anything that we loose on the earth will be something that has already been loosed in the heavens, and anything that we bind on the earth will be something that has already been bound in the heavens. Because the Body is one with the Head in the heavens, the Body has the authority to bind or loose what has already been bound or loosed in the heavens.

The church is built upon a rock, and this rock is the ascended Christ. As a result, the gates of Hades cannot prevail against the church (16:18). We have the ground over Hades. Thus, we must learn to pray, exercising the authority that has been assigned to the Body by the Head.

To fully enter into this kind of prayer, there are two additional things that we must realize. First, we must realize that we are members of the Body, and we must live, act, and move in the Body. Second, in our daily life we must always put on the new man (Eph. 4:24). The new man is composed of the Head with the Body, Christ with the church (2:15-16). On the negative side, we need to put off the old man, and on the positive side, we need to put on the new man. By living in the Body and putting on the new man, we will be able to exercise the authority given to the Body by the Head.

We need to see the vision of the ascended Christ and learn to pray the prayer of authority. For two thousand years these matters have been neglected, but we believe that in these last days the Lord is going to recover them. Too often we do not take the ground of Christ’s ascension and claim what He has obtained and attained. Nevertheless, we believe that the Lord will recover this lost ground. This is the highest peak, the highest mountain of the good land. In these last days the Lord will recover this highest peak, this highest mountain. We must realize the facts, take the ground, and claim what the Head has obtained and attained. This is the prevailing prayer of the church. This is the prayer of the age. (*CWWL, 1963*, vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age,” pp. 164-165)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 3*

## **Corporate Reading of *“The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures”* Chapter 1 – Sections:** *His Dispensing; God’s Selection*

**Thursday 2/11**

***Related Verses***

**1 Kings 8:48**

**48** And if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies, who have carried them captive, and they pray to You toward their land that You have given to their fathers, the city that You have chosen, and the house that I have built for Your name;

**John 14:13-14**

**13** And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

**14** If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

**Isa. 56:7**

**7** Even these will I cause to come to My holy mountain And to rejoice in My house of prayer; Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be acceptable upon My altar; For My house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

**Heb. 3:6**

**6** But Christ was faithful as a Son over His house, whose house we are if indeed we hold fast the boldness and the boast of hope firm to the end.

**Dan. 6:10**

**10** Now when Daniel came to know that the writing had been signed, he went to his house (in his upper room he had windows open toward Jerusalem) and three times daily he knelt on his knees and prayed and gave thanks before his God, because he had always done so previously.

**Matt. 6:9-10**

**9** You then pray in this way: Our Father who is in the heavens, Your name be sanctified;

**10** Your kingdom come; Your will be done, as in heaven, so also on earth.

**John 15:16**

**16** You did not choose Me, but I chose you, and I set you that you should go forth and bear fruit and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He may give you.

**Rom. 8:26**

**26** Moreover, in like manner the Spirit also joins in to help us in our weakness, for we do not know for what we should pray as is fitting, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

**Col. 4:2**

**2** Persevere in prayer, watching in it with thanksgiving,

***Suggested Reading***

The Bible shows us what prayer is. First, God has a need; He has a purpose. Second, He puts this purpose within man through the Holy Spirit so that man feels this need as well. Third, man responds by uttering this purpose back to God through prayer. Fourth, God does His work and accomplishes this purpose. This is the meaning of prayer.

All proper prayers issue from God's heart and express God's desire. Prayer implies that God has a desire. He wants to fulfill such a desire, yet He does not want to do it directly; He wants man to cooperate with Him on earth. For this reason He unveils His desire to man and charges man to pray. Only after man prays will He fulfill His desire.  (CWWN, vol. 44, pp. 735-736)

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[In 1 Kings 8:46-53 Solomon] prayed that in the [future] captivity of His people Jehovah would hear His people's prayer and maintain their cause when they would return to Him with all their heart and with all their soul and pray to Him toward the land,…the city,…and toward the house.

Concerning God's listening to the prayers of His elect, three things are stressed [in] verse 48: the holy land, typifying Christ as God's allotted portion to the believers (Col. 1:12); the holy city, signifying the kingdom of God in Christ; and the holy temple, signifying God's house, the church, on the earth. These three things—the holy land, the holy city, and the holy temple—are the three crucial things regarding God's economy. During the Babylonian captivity Daniel prayed for the holy land, the holy city, and the holy temple three times a day by opening his window toward Jerusalem (Dan. 6:10). This indicates that God will listen to our prayer in the way that our prayer to God must be toward Christ, the kingdom of God, and the house of God as the goal in God's eternal economy.

The holy land, the holy city, and the holy temple are all types of Christ. Christ is our good land; Christ is our city, our kingdom; and Christ is the temple, God's dwelling place. Today, our prayers should be aimed at the holy land, the holy city, and the holy temple. This means that our prayers should be aimed at the interest of God, that is, at Christ and the church as God's interest on earth.

The spiritual significance of God's interest is Christ Himself. This indicates that no matter for whom we are praying, our prayer must be aimed at Christ as God's interest. We need to pray for the saints, but we should not aim our prayers at them. On the one hand we pray for them, but on the other hand we pray for them because of God's interest. If in our prayer we aim at the one for whom we pray, this will bring in the enemy's attack. This is a spiritual strategy in the spiritual warfare.

We need to remember that prayer involves three parties: we, God, and Satan. Sometimes when we pray for a certain person, Satan comes to attack him, and his situation becomes worse. The reason for this is that our interest is in that person, not in God's economy. No matter for whom we are praying, we should aim our prayer at God's Christ, who is God's interest in His economy.

To pray properly, we must pray to God in the name of the Lord Jesus (John 16:24), aiming at God's interest for His economy. By the expression "in the name of the Lord Jesus" I do not mean any traditional form of prayer. To pray in the name of Jesus is to pray for the interest of God on earth, which is Christ as God's portion to us, as God's kingdom, and as God's dwelling place. Our prayer should be altogether for God's interest to fulfill God's economy. (*Life-study of 1 & 2 Kings*, pp. 38-40)

**Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 4*

## **Corporate Reading of *“The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures”* Chapter 1 – Sections:***His Predestination; God’s Creation; The Council of the Divine Trinity; The Creation of Man in God’s Image, according to God’s Likeness*

**Friday 2/5**

***Related Verses***

1. **Col. 3:1**
2. **1** If therefore you were raised together with Christ, seek the things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.
3. **Eph. 1:22-23**
4. **22** And He subjected all things under His feet and gave Him to be Head over all things to the church,
5. **23** Which is His Body, the fullness of the One who fills all in all.
6. **Eph. 2:6**
7. **6** And raised us up together with Him and seated us together with Him in the heavenlies in Christ Jesus,
8. **Heb. 7:24-25**
9. **24** But He, because He abides forever, has His priesthood unalterable.
10. **25** Hence also He is able to save to the uttermost those who come forward to God through Him, since He lives always to intercede for them.
11. **Heb. 8:1**
12. **1** Now in the things which are being said the chief point is this: We have such a High Priest, who sat down on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,
13. **Isa. 45:11**
14. **11** Thus says Jehovah, The Holy One of Israel and the One who formed him, Ask Me about the things to come concerning My sons, And concerning the work of My hands, command Me.
15. **Col. 3:17**
16. **17** And whatever you do in word or in deed, do all things in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
17. **Phil. 4:6-7**
18. **6** In nothing be anxious, but in everything, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
19. **7** And the peace of God, which surpasses every man's understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

***Suggested Reading***

We need to see that ascension is a position, and with such a position there is the corresponding authority. The spiritual life of a Christian is not only a matter of life but also a matter of position. Hence, it is not only a matter of power but also a matter of authority. Life brings in power, whereas position brings in authority. Resurrection is a matter of power, whereas ascension is a matter of authority. In order to have a certain measure or kind of authority, you need to be in a certain position. If you are in the heavenly realm, you will spontaneously have the heavenly authority. All our genuine prayers are the exercising of heavenly authority in the heavenly position.

The position of prayer is the position of ascension. You can pray only in the heavenly sphere. Whenever you leave the heavenly realm, you lose the position of prayer. You may pray, but that prayer does not count before God. (*CWWL, 1959*, vol. 4, “Lessons on Prayer,” p. 182)

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1. All prayers in ascension are prayers of authority. We know that prayer in ascension is a command to God. Our prayer is not begging but commanding….In Isaiah 45:11, God says, “Command Me.” Sometimes this commanding is a direct command to God, and sometimes it is an indirect command to the environment. Examples are: Moses standing on the shore of the Red Sea commanding the water to be divided, the Lord Jesus in the boat commanding the wind and the sea to be still, and the Lord commanding sickness to leave men. If you have learned to pray by standing in the realm of ascension, you can even command poverty to leave you.
2. If you really wish to have some worthwhile prayers before God, you need to be able to give out some authoritative commands before God. Standing before God, I can tell you that in the past years in some places, as we encountered some problems in the work or in the church, we prayed this kind of commanding prayer. We expressed ourselves boldly before God, saying, “God, we cannot allow this matter.” If your position is wrong and your condition is not in the heavenly realm, such prayer would be an insult to God. But if your position is right and your state is in the heavenly sphere, then such prayer would be a real pleasure to Him. The words you pray are equal to God’s administration; they are equivalent to executing His commands. I can testify that God answers such prayers.
3. When you come to the point where you have the heavenly position and the heavenly authority and are thus able to utter forth authoritative prayers, you are one who is on the throne, standing in the ruling position together with the Lord. Just as He reigns at the right hand of God, so you also reign together with Him in the heavenly realm. At this time your prayer is not only an authoritative prayer but also a reigning prayer. Your prayer is to rule with authority, executing God’s orders. So at this time all your prayers become God’s administration, the execution of God’s rule.
4. In summary, there is only one position for prayer—the heavenly sphere. Once you leave this sphere, you lose the position of prayer. Prayer is not only concerned with certain matters, but much more, it is concerned with a certain position. You need to be in the heavenly sphere. Then you have the position to pray, you are able to pray with authority, and you are one sitting on the throne, uttering forth prayers of the throne. (*CWWL, 1959*, vol. 4, “Lessons on Prayer,” pp. 186-188)
5. **Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 5*

## **Corporate Reading of *“The Basic Revelation in the Holy Scriptures”* Chapter 1 – Sections:** *For God’s Expression; Of Three Parts*

**Saturday 2/13**

1. ***Related Verses***
2. **Matt. 18:18-19**
3. **18** Truly I say to you, Whatever you bind on the earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on the earth shall have been loosed in heaven.
4. **19** Again, truly I say to you that if two of you are in harmony on earth concerning any matter for which they ask, it will be done for them from My Father who is in the heavens.
5. **Eph. 6:18**
6. **18** By means of all prayer and petition, praying at every time in spirit and watching unto this in all perseverance and petition concerning all the saints,
7. **Acts 12:5, 11-12**
8. **5** So then Peter was kept in the prison; but prayer was being made fervently by the church to God concerning him.

**11** And Peter came to himself and said, Now I know truly that the Lord has sent forth His angel and rescued me out of Herod's hand and from all the expectation of the Jewish people.

**12** And when he became aware of this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John, who was surnamed Mark, where there was a considerable number assembled together and praying.

1. **1 Thes. 5:16-18**
2. **16** Always rejoice,
3. **17** Unceasingly pray,
4. **18** In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
5. **Eph. 3:20-21**
6. **20** But to Him who is able to do superabundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power which operates in us,
7. **21** To Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all the generations forever and ever. Amen.
8.

***Suggested Reading***

The special thing [about Matthew 18:18] is that there must be a move on earth before there is a move in heaven. It is not heaven that binds first but the earth that binds first. It is not heaven that looses first but the earth that looses first. After the earth binds, heaven binds; after the earth looses, heaven looses. The move in heaven is controlled by the move on earth. Everything contrary to God has to be bound, and everything in harmony with God has to be released. Everything, whether it is something to be bound or loosed, should have its binding or its loosing originate from the earth. The move on the earth precedes the move in heaven. The earth controls heaven. (*CWWN, vol. 22*, “The Prayer Ministry of the Church,” p. 138)

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We can see how the earth controls heaven from a few cases in the Old Testament. When Moses was on the mountain, the Israelites won every time he raised his hands, and the Amalekites won every time he lowered his hands (Exo. 17:9-11). Who decided the victory at the bottom of the mountain? Did God decide or did Moses decide?...We have to see God’s principle of work and the key to His move. God cannot do what He wants to do unless man wants it. We cannot make God do what He does not want to do, yet we can stop God from doing what He wants to do. The victory was decided by God in heaven, but the victory was decided by Moses before men. Truly, God in heaven wanted the Israelites to win, but if Moses had not raised his hands on earth, the Israelites would have lost. When he raised his hands, the Israelites won. The earth controls heaven.

God has a purpose to increase the number of the house of Israel so that the Israelites would increase like a flock. Those who do not know God will say, “If God wants to increase the number of the Israelites like a flock, He could go ahead and do it. Who could stop Him?” But this verse says that God must be inquired of first before He will accomplish it for them. This is a clear principle: Even though God decides on a matter, He will not do it immediately. He would increase the house of Israel only after they inquired of Him. He wants the earth to control heaven.

Although the church has a free will, it submits this will to God’s authority as if no other will existed. This allows God to do whatever He wants to do. When the church places its will under God’s will today, He will move in the same way that He will in eternity; He will move as if no other will were opposing Him. This is a glory to God!

We cannot make the church so low by suggesting that it is merely a meeting. No, the church is a group of people who have been redeemed by the blood, who have been regenerated by the Holy Spirit, who have committed themselves to God’s hand, and who are willing to take God’s will, do His will, and stand for God on earth for the sake of maintaining His testimony.

We have to see that God works according to a law. Since there is free will on earth, God will not annul man by His own will….This is a fact. God is in heaven. Yet all His works on earth can be accomplished only when there is a will on earth that agrees with and decides to do the works. He will not put aside man’s will on earth. He will not usurp man’s will on earth and act independently. Everything related to Him can be accomplished only when there is a will on earth that cooperates with Him. When the earth works, God works. When the earth decides, God acts. God must have man’s will in harmony with His will. This harmony in will is a great glory to God! (*CWWN, vol. 22*, “The Prayer Ministry of the Church,” pp. 138-139, 142)

1. **Further Reading:** *HWMR The Christian Life, the Church Life, the Consummation of the Age, and the Coming of the Lord - Week 5, Day 6*

**Hymns, #779**

**1**

Pray with one accord in spirit,

Not according to our thought,

But alone by the anointing,

As the Lord has ever sought.

Chorus

Pray with one accord in spirit,

Not according to our thought,

But alone by the anointing,

As the Lord has ever sought.

**2**

Pray with one accord in spirit,

By the cross deny the soul;

All desires and all intentions

Let the Spirit now control.

**3**

Pray with one accord in spirit,

Pray as in the heavenlies;

All the earthly interests treading,

Fight the principalities.

**4**

Pray with one accord in spirit,

Supplicate relatedly;

Seek the Lord, His mind, His leading,

In the Spirit’s harmony.

**5**

Pray with one accord in spirit,

Pray and watch persistently;

For God’s kingdom and His glory,

Pray and watch in harmony.

**6**

Pray with one accord in spirit

Seeking God in unity;

In the Spirit of the Body

 Ever pray in harmony.

**Lord’s Day 2/14**

1. ***Related Verses***
2. **Acts 4:23-31**
3. **23** And when they had been released, they went to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them.
4. **24** And when they heard this, they lifted up their voice with one accord to God and said, Sovereign Master, You are the One who has made heaven and earth and the sea and all things in them,
5. **25** Who, through the Holy Spirit, through the mouth of our father David Your servant, has said, "Why did the Gentiles rage, and the peoples devise vain things?
6. **26** The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord and against His Christ."
7. **27** For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel,
8. **28** To do what Your hand and Your counsel predestined to take place.
9. **29** And now, Lord, look upon their threatenings and grant Your slaves to speak Your word with all boldness,
10. **30** While stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may take place through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.
11. **31** And when they had so besought, the place in which they were gathered was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.
12.
13. **Further Reading**
14. *CWWL, 1963,* vol. 1, “The Prayer of the Age”, pp. 153-165
15. *Life- Study of 1 & 2 Kings,* msg. 6
16. *CWWL, 1959,* vol. 4, “Lessons on Prayer,” ch. 17
17. *CWWN,* vol. 22, “The Prayer Ministry of the Church,” ch. 1.