

A Christian('s) Prayer - Psalm 27

Michael Elliott • March 5, 2023 • Omaha, NE

Introduction - Prayer is the privilege of those who truly know the One True God.

1. Prayer arises in the context of humility, vv1-6

- A. A humble heart prepares to speak with and hear from God
 - “The LORD *is* far from the wicked, But He hears the prayer of the righteous.” (Pro 15.29)
 - “[] without faith *it is* impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and *that* He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.” (Heb 11.6)
- B. A humble heart meets God in prayer no matter the circumstances
 - the LORD is his light and his salvation, v1a
 - the LORD is his strength, v1b (implied, the LORD defeats these enemies)
 - desire the LORD, v4a
 - seek the LORD, v4b
 - long to behold the LORD’S beauty, v4c (which is to say, seeing his glory)
 - aspire to get to know the LORD, v4d

2. Prayer is a statement of faith about God, vv7-12

- A. Who I believe God to be is very clearly evident in how I pray.
 - the LORD hears, meaning he is alive, v7
 - he is merciful, displaying grace, v7b
 - he initiates relationship with us (David replied to the invitation), v8
 - he has made himself known (not hidden), v9
 - he comes along side us, v9b
 - he saves, v9b
 - he is eternal, v10
 - he is a protective leader, v11
 - he is just, v12
- B. Other prayers in the Bible inform us about God
 - The Lord’s Prayer, Mt 6.9-13
 - Gethsemane Prayer, Mt 26.26-42

3. Prayer is an expression of who we are in relation to God, vv7-12

- A. Christian pray-ers are humble, confident, and bold
 - teach me, v11a
 - lead me, v11b
 - hear me, v7a
 - extend mercy to me, v7b
 - keep me, v9
 - “in [Christ] we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him.” (Eph 3.12)
- B. Jesus’ prayers are humble, confident, bold
 - he addresses his Father, a title which speaks of deference and respect, Jn 17.1
 - the father is the giver of authority, 17.2
 - the father comes first in 17.3, as to who is known unto saving life
 - the father is the first to be glorified, 17.4
 - he asked for himself to be glorified, 17.5
 - for eternal life to be given to all to whom it was promised
 - For inter-trinitarian-like oneness, 17.20

4. Prayer gives expectant patience, vv13-14

- temporal (not only eternal) future, “in the land of the living” v13b
- patient anticipation, “wait on the LORD” v14

Conclusion - Prayer is the process of those who want to be closer to the One True God.

- Seek to learn who God is... and pray accordingly
- Be humble about yourself... and pray accordingly
- Be hopeful and patient as you wait on Him