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Mighty Prevailing Prayer: Experiencing the Power of Answered Prayer

10. Why Is Prevailing Necessary?

This chapter explains why some prayers require 'prevailing' — persistent, determined intercession — while others come easily. It names the things you must overcome to break through: yourself, situations, people, and above all Satan. The point is that prevailing prayer is a battle, and the resistance is real but always answerable to a sovereign God.

Key takeaways

- Prevail over yourself first: your crowded schedule, weariness, laziness, doubt, and carnal reluctance to pray all fight against prolonged intercession. Practical fixes help — a nap, water, walking, prayer lists, confessing past prayerlessness.
- Prevail over situations: complex tangles of laws, structures, and habits may need a whole series of answered prayers, like falling dominoes, before God's full will is done. Never say 'impossible.'
- Prevail over people: God never overrides free will, but He can coordinate events and speak to consciences until even the most stubborn person changes or is moved aside.

- Prevail over Satan: he fears prevailing prayer more than any other work you do, so he targets your prayer time to distract, shorten, and stop it. You have not truly prevailed until he is defeated.
- Prevailing prayer links you to God's kingdom power and the ministry of His angels — which is exactly why the enemy opposes it so fiercely.

Passages worth keeping

“Satan would rather have you do anything but pray. He would rather have you busy working for God than praying to God.”

Names the core reason prevailing is hard — the enemy diverts you into activity.

“We have not prevailed until Satan is defeated. The defeat begins in the unseen world of spirit but becomes visible as prayer is answered for us.”

Defines what 'prevailing' actually means.

How it connects

The conquest of Canaan is used as the picture: God's answers often come as a process of victories, not one instant miracle — so persistence, not a single request, is what wins the ground.

Scripture referenced

- **Exod. 23:27-28** -- God driving out Canaan's nations — model for prevailing over obstinate people over time
- **1 Chron. 21:15; Isa. 37:36; Dan. 6:22** -- the power of God's angels that prevailing prayer brings into action