

**Duewel, Wesley L.**

Mighty Prevailing Prayer: Experiencing the Power of Answered Prayer

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## **12. Chapter 9: The Dynamic of Desire**

This chapter argues that deep, holy desire is the driving force behind prevailing prayer. God responds to sincere longing of the soul, not polished or repeated words. The bulk of the chapter shows how to cultivate and guard that desire so the Holy Spirit can pray powerfully through you.

### **Key takeaways**

- The stronger your desire to see God act, the more powerfully the Spirit prays through you. Desire itself is a form of prayer God hears.
- God rejects lukewarm, insincere, habitual praying. Repetition is good only when it is a real heart-cry, as in Jesus at Gethsemane.
- Desire makes prayer specific, personal, and urgent — Paul could say salvation for Israel was truly 'my prayer.'
- Four ways to deepen desire: welcome God-given desires, don't quench them, surrender your own will to God's, and trust and praise Him for the answer.
- Surrender matters: self-willed praying can be granted and then regretted (as with Israel). Pray 'Your will be done.'

- Guard your hunger. The Korean evangelist who lost his passion to 'secular things' lost his power; the great intercessors kept the heartbeat of Jesus.

## Passages worth keeping

*“Desire is the soul of prayer, and the cause of insufficient or unsuccessful prayer is very much to be found in the lack or feebleness of desire.”*

Andrew Murray, summing up the chapter's central claim

*“Give me Scotland or I die!”*

John Knox's cry, held up as the model of consuming, prevailing desire

## Scripture referenced

- **Ps. 10:17** -- God hears the desire of the afflicted — desire as prayer
- **Rom. 9:1-4** -- Paul's unceasing anguish for Israel
- **Rom. 10:1** -- 'My heart's desire and prayer' — desire makes prayer personal
- **Matt. 6:10** -- 'Your will be done' — surrendering our own desire
- **Rev. 3:15-16** -- God's rejection of lukewarmness
- **Gen. 32:26** -- Jacob's 'I will not let you go' — holy importunity