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Mighty Prevailing Prayer: Experiencing the Power of Answered Prayer

27. God's Will and Prevailing Prayer

This chapter argues that the key to powerful, prevailing prayer is knowing you are praying inside God's will. The Holy Spirit is the Counselor who always prays according to the Father's will, and He gives us confidence when our will unites with God's. The chapter lays out five practical steps to get there.

Key takeaways

- Prevailing prayer rests on the inner assurance that you are asking in line with God's will.
- Step 1 — Make a total, permanent surrender of your whole self, plans, and future to God, so He can do anything with you without protest.
- Step 2 — Stay actively surrendered: don't go passive, but militantly seek and enforce God's will through prayer and obedience.
- Step 3 — Expect the Spirit to reveal God's will step by step; you can know it firsthand, plainly.
- Step 4 — Make God's priorities your prayer priorities; keep a listening ear and pray for whatever He lays vividly on your heart.

- Step 5 — Once you know His will, pray it militantly: resist Satan's delays, stand on God's promises, and deliberately will God's will.
- Warning: insisting on your own way over God's can bring 'second best' or real grief — shown by the two stories of parents who demanded healing.
- Self-will is the thickest veil between us and knowing God's will.

Passages worth keeping

“To know the will of God we must will the will of God.”

McConkey's summary of the whole chapter's aim.

“He would have us realize that everything also depends on us.”

Our active willing frees God to work His will.

How it connects

The chapter turns the Lord's Prayer petition 'Your will be done' into an active practice: surrender, listen, then pray it boldly.

Scripture referenced

- **Rom. 8:26-27** -- The Spirit helps us pray according to God's will.
- **Matt. 6:10** -- 'Your will be done on earth' — the model prayer for uniting our will with God's.
- **Rom. 12:2** -- Test and approve God's good, pleasing, perfect will.

- **Eph. 5:17** -- God wants us to understand His will.
- **James 4:7** -- Resist the devil in prayer.
- **John 14:26** -- Jesus names the Spirit as our Counselor (parakl?tos).