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Mighty Prevailing Prayer: Experiencing the Power of Answered Prayer

46. How to Plead Before God

Chapter 43 lays out seven 'holy pleas'—arguments a believer can bring to God in bold, prevailing prayer. It stresses first checking your heart, making sure your request aligns with God's will and glory, and then pressing your case using biblical grounds.

Key takeaways

- Prayer isn't to inform God (He already knows) but because He chose to work through it. Presenting your case fully pleases Him and sharpens your own compassion and resolve.
- Plea 1: God's honor and glory—His name and reputation are at stake in most needs, so make His glory (not self-interest) your prime motive.
- Plea 2: God's relationships to you—He is your Creator, Helper, Redeemer, and Father, and each role obligates His care.
- Plea 3: God's attributes—appeal to His justice, righteousness, faithfulness, mercy, and love; Spurgeon called each attribute a 'battering-ram' at heaven's gates.
- Plea 4: The sorrows and needs of the people—identify with human suffering as Jeremiah, Daniel, and Nehemiah did.

- Plea 5: Past answers to prayer—remind God of all He has already invested; the task is unfinished, so He won't stop now.
- Plea 6: God's Word and promises—quote His promises reverently back to Him and hold Him to them, as Jacob, Moses, David, and Solomon did.
- Plea 7: The blood of Jesus—the greatest, most unanswerable plea; not prayer technique but Christ's sacrifice is what prevails.

Passages worth keeping

“Do not reckon you have prayed until you have pleaded.”

Spurgeon—prayer means bringing real arguments before God, not just asking.

“There is no greater plea in heaven or earth than the blood of Jesus.”

Names the chapter's climax: Christ's sacrifice is the supreme argument in prayer.

How it connects

The seven pleas all rest on one principle: prevailing prayer argues from who God is and what He has said, never from the pray-er's own merit—culminating in the name and blood of Jesus.

Scripture referenced

- **Isa. 41:21** -- God invites us to present our case and set forth arguments
- **Matt. 6:9** -- The Lord's Prayer begins by hallowing God's name—glory as prime motive
- **Gen. 18:25** -- Abraham pleads God's justice for Sodom
- **Gen. 32:9,12** -- Jacob holds God to His spoken promise and prevails
- **Exod. 33:12-18** -- Moses presses God's own words and gains his full answer
- **Phil. 2:9-11** -- The supreme name of Jesus, at which every knee bows