

GREAT PRAYERS OF THE BIBLE



Solomon's Prayer

"What a Difference a Preposition Makes!"
1 Kings 8:27-30

"Toward and in"

Solomon's Temple in 1005BC
The Prayer of Dedication
What do we learn about God?
What do we learn about prayer?

Interaction Notes

What makes the Temple sacred?

God cannot literally be contained there (8:27)

God puts His name there (8:29, 9:3)

God's name is short hand for His personal presence

The benefit of the Temple is two-fold:

One: it acted like an *microphone*

Amplifying the prayer of a right heart to the right God

Result: God hearing (30, 32, 34, 36, 39, 43, 45, 49, 52)

Two: it acted like a *spotlight* (41-43)

To pray "through the temple" and receive an answer links such to God

God's actions often go unnoticed or attributed elsewhere

Preceding prayer lights up God's subsequent action!

The goal that all might know: (40,43,60)

The deficit of the Temple

The preposition "toward" (29,30,35,38,42,44,48)

Limitations for the ordinary Joe

The Holy Place and the Most Holy Place

Always outside looking in

Prayer as mediated, transferred, or bounced

Fast forward to the time of Jesus

He declares Himself to be the true Temple (John 2:18-21)

In the death of Christ the Temple veil was torn in two (Matthew 27:51)

Invited "in" by Jesus: John 14:20

Direct access granted! (John 16:23-27)

Praying in Jesus' Name: John 14:13,14

I am an approved representative

I bear His authority

I represent His wishes/manner

I am honored along with Him

Power and privilege

We don't always pray for what Jesus would, or as He would

When we do, we will have the request as we have asked it (1 Jn 5:14,15)

But hearing, He will respond to every prayer

More than yes, no, maybe

Responding with good gifts (Luke 11:11; James 1:17)

Invitation to pray more boldly!