

CITY OF THE LIVING GOD

THE PRAYER COVERING

43

SERIES

In dedication to all the soul-winners that need a Bible study on the essentiality of maintaining a prayer covering over yourself and family.

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City of ^{the} Living God



“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:6-7).

Life is filled with many different events in our lives—some good, some not so good, and some just bad. As the Bible says, the “rain falls on the just and the unjust” (Matt. 5:45). Some things will happen just because we are humans and are all under the curse of Adam and Eve’s sin and its repercussions. Some things we cannot avoid. Christians aren’t promised that they will never face any adversity or conflict. It’s going to happen to all of us.

However, there are somethings that we can avoid and other events we can protect ourselves from just by making sure we are under the protections of God through being faithful to him. However, even with this general protection that God gives to his people, we can still avoid other evil by prayer. The Apostle Paul states in the above verses that prayer produces the “peace of God” and provides us the means to “guard” our hearts and minds. This lets us know that prayer plays a very important role in God’s covering over us and our families.

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OUR ENEMY

Ever since the creation of man and woman, mankind has been the target of the devil. From the outstart of man and woman's standing in the garden, there has been this envy and vengeance. Before man and woman were created, the devil had the domain of earth. There was a rebellion up in heaven and God cast him and his angels to the earth.

Isaiah 41:10

"And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him."

After being cast down to earth, he roamed the earth as "the god of this world." In other words, he dominated the earth.

2 Corinthians 4:4

"In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them."

When Satan came before the Lord to accuse Job, God asks him where he came from and notice his response.

Job 1:7

"And the Lord said to Satan, "From where do you come?" So Satan answered the Lord and said, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking back and forth on it."

It shows Satan's role as the predator of man's soul. He roams the earth with his devils to attack man and woman. It is no coincidence that after

God made man and woman and gave them dominion over the earth and everything within it, that the serpent attacked Eve.

Genesis 1:28

“Then God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.”

In the beginning of man and woman, God describes the devil as our “enemy.”

Genesis 3:15

“And I will put enmity between you (serpent) and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.”

SATAN’S AGENDA

It is no wonder why the devil hates mankind. God gave to us what the devil thought was his domain. That is the whole reason why he is against us with such a vengeance. That is why the agenda of the enemy has been to “steal, kill, and destroy.”

John 10:10

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

It makes everything much clearer to understand why the devil targets man and woman. He hates us since he sees us as competitors for the domain of earth and everything within it. That’s why the Bible depicts the devil as a hunter and mankind as the hunted.

1 Peter 5:8

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.”

The Lord warns Peter about Satan’s hatred and vengeance for him. He hates the apostle because he will be instrumental in the salvation of millions of souls.

Luke 22:31

“And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat.”

Notice in the following scripture how the Apostle Paul speaks of how the devil schemes against us. In other words, he has strategies of plans to attack us.

Ephesians 6:11

“Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.”

COMPLETE DOMINION

This does not mean we cannot overcome him. It just means that we are his target. When the born-again believer understands his identity and his power to resist, the devil actually fears us. The roles become reversed, and we become devil-chasers.

1 John 4:3-4

“And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world. You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.”

Luke 10:18-19

“And He said to them, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.””

Mark 16:17

“And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues.”

We have nothing to be afraid of if we are living for God and under his protection. The problem is when we get out from under the protection of God. This is one of the keys to living a victorious life in Christ!

A COVERING OF PRAYER

This brings us back to the first scripture in this study. Notice that our prayers to God are what guards our hearts and minds.

Philippians 4:6-7

“Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.”

It’s interesting how the Lord includes in his prayer model for us how to ask for God’s protection. It should be our daily prayer for protection.

Matthew 6:13

“And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

Prayer works. It is our covering for us and our families. Prayer and supplication which is intercession for others are vital for the protection of the saints. The Apostle Paul says:

Ephesians 6:18

“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints.”

Don't think that your prayers are not reaching heaven. God hears those prayers. The Bible tells us of the power of prayer.

James 5:16

“Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails (works) much.”

Are you praying every day? Pray for your marriage, your family, your loved ones, and pray for your church.

We need God's covering over us.

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