

Father I pray for wisdom, understanding and discernment for all who hear this message. I pray you touch every heart and mind and soul of the listeners and give them ears to hear what you would have them hear Lord. I pray you mend broken hearts and confused minds and set the captives free. I pray for the Holy Spirit fire to be upon this message. May your will be done Lord God over each of us. We ask you to anoint each of us to overcome the flesh and live to you God with a pure heart.

Hebrews 4:1-2 **1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* of entering into his rest, any of you should seem to come short of it. **2** For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard *it*.

Psalm 111:10 The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.

1Timothy 1:5 Now the end of the commandment is love out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

Why are we told to fear? Is fear not of the devil? Well Godly fear is not of the devil but of wisdom out of respect for Gods word. We are told to fear lest we fail to enter Gods rest. Why must we enter the rest? Because if we are not resting we are trying to work out our own salvation which would be to deny that Jesus has already provided everything we need for our salvation! We would fall from grace and it puts us under the law(self works). And the only way to access what Jesus has provided for our salvation is by faith. Without faith it is impossible to please God. So if we do not move into that faith/ which is RESTING IN HIS WORKS then we are told to fear. Because if we try to make another way other than to rest in Jesus provision then we display our arrogance and pride in that we think we can provide our own way by our own works. If we try to fix ourselves apart from Gods promises by faith (by believing them) we prove that we do not really believe that Jesus has provided all our needs and has set us free. When we stop believing we then try to work out how to fix up what is lacking in our own effort. We are then not resting -- but working. We are not trusting God.

Phillipians 4:19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

John 10 **1** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. **2** But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. **3** To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. **4** And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice.

5 And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. **6** This parable spake Jesus unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them. **7** Then said Jesus unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. **8** All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. **9** I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.

We know Jesus is the door and the shepherd so why does he say to fear lest we fall short of entering into his rest? (resting in Him) He is saying this ---- if we fail to rest in his promises by striving to become holy in our own effort, then we prove that we don't really believe he has made the way FOR US. We are making another door(our own). We are trying to become holy by being good in **our own effort**. We are showing that we do not believe. We may believe in our minds but if it is not mixed with faith then it is not pleasing to God and is of no value where faith is concerned and it is a door that we have made on our own to get to God or Heaven. We are trying to climb up to God our own way. People that do not even believe in God can try to become good, but it is NOT THE WAY to God! Jesus is the only way. We must rest in Jesus and resting is to believe in his promises.

Hebrews 11 **6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

James 2:18 Yea, a man may say, Thou hast faith, and I have works: shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works.

So God is interested only in works of faith, not self works. So to have works of faith we need to believe in His promises. Such as "God will supply all your **need** according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus". Note it is a promise for "needs" and not "wants". God knows what we **need** and won't always give us what we **want** because he wants us to die to the lusts (idols) of this world and not promote them. So what is a work of faith? It is to read such a promise and pray and ask God for it and to believe it will come to pass. All that then remains is to enter into the rest of that promise, believing it is done. To rest is to know that God is true and to have no further worry or anxiety concerning that thing even if it is not yet made real. It is by faith not by sight. So we rest knowing it is done and **with patience** we wait for it to manifest in our lives. God wants us to now **rest in His promise** and not go back to try to bring it to pass ourself which would be **unbelief**. (a work of the flesh). Remember it is by FAITH and not by sight. Prayers do not always come to pass straight away. We must stay in faith until we see it come to pass. We must not go into **unbelief** or be double minded which would be to **stop resting** in the promise. We must enter and remain in the **rest** which is to **keep believing** until it comes to pass and not become double minded or doubt. God teaches patience so if we go into unbelief we have not exercised patience. Unbelief destroys the rest. Entering the rest means we pray and then rest knowing that it is done -- by faith until we see it manifest. We rest till we see it.

2Corinthians 5:7 (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

We must remember what God wants. If we have our hearts right before God and we ask for things that we know he will answer and wants to give us, we will have confidence. If we do this our faith will grow quickly because all our prayers will be granted. Remember God gives us our needs and not necessarily our wants because many times our wants are the very things God wants OUT of our life. Many times what we want is an idol or something we covet or lust after. It is what the flesh wants. God wants us to love HIM with ALL of our hearts and **then** he will **give us the desires of our hearts.** (the ones that won't destroy us).

God wants sons of God made in the image of his only begotten Son Jesus Christ. Our heart and mind and desire should be set to this end first. If our prayers are focused on this and our heart is given to God then he says HE WILL GIVE us the desires of our heart. Remember the first commandment is to love God with all our heart, mind, soul, and strength. We need to have this first in our prayers and to do this we have to die to self worship or thinking of our self. Love thinks of others. Love God first with a pure heart.

Mark 12 **29** And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments *is*, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: **30** And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this *is* the first commandment. **31** And the second *is* like, *namely* this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Hebrews 10 **19** Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, **20** By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; **21** And *having* an high priest over the house of God; **22** Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. **23** Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; (for he *is* faithful that promised;)

How do we enter into the throne room to make requests with “full assurance” unless we have a pure heart for God. One that is seeking after God and not the things of this world? God has provided salvation and justification and sanctification to bring us into his image. He wants us to **leave** the image of the world, not stay in it. If our prayers are self centered (centered on our wants) how are we going to rest in the promise without falling into unbelief? Will we not be wondering whether God will grant it to us? Will not the devil bring us to doubt and thus pull us out of faith and make shipwreck of our walk with God.

1 Timothy 1:19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

How do we have a good conscience toward God? By putting God first in our hearts and by wanting and praying for things that guide us to him and not away from him and to His ways and away from the worlds ways.....**Putting off** the anger and lust and coveting and unforgiveness and gossip and hate and pride and then putting on patience and temperance and meekness and humility and gentleness and love. Putting off the world and the things in the world and seeking God with all our heart. If our heart is for God then our prayers will then follow that desire. And we will have **confidence in those prayers** so our **faith will grow quickly.** We have a good conscience toward

God when we pray exactly what we know he wants for us. We can then pray in faith and believe and **rest** in the promise knowing that God will answer if we wait with patience. If we pray out of selfishness and toward what our flesh wants then we can be easily pulled out of that rest and into unbelief and into shipwreck. Because our desire is still **for the world and not for God**. God doesn't want our desire to be for the world! If our heart is right and seeking first Gods kingdom, then we will have full assurance and confidence and our faith will grow quickly.

1John 1:5 **14** And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: **15** And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him.

Colossians 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Hebrews 4:1-2 **1** Let us therefore fear, lest, a promise being left *us* **of entering into his rest**, any of you should seem to come short of it. **2** For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard *it*.

We are told to fear lest we fail to enter the rest that Jesus provided. Lest a promise be left out. How can we enter the rest unless we know what we are praying for -- is Gods will? If our heart desires God and not the world then our prayers will be for God and not the world and we will have confidence toward God without doubt, unbelief or fear. Not only will we have confidence in our faith and be able to rest knowing God will answer but we will also be drawing closer to being made into the likeness of Jesus. Being made into a son of God. A son of God cares for Gods kingdom which is in heaven where that son is destined to go, -- where his Father is. He cares little for satans kingdom(the world) accept for the souls he may bring to the light and salvation of Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:19 For the earnest expectation of the creation waiteth for the revealing of the sons of God.

The world is not our hope, God is our hope and becoming his son is our hope. If we want to move into his rest we must be wanting what Jesus died to give us. We no longer want what satan wants to give us, we've tasted that throughout our lives. The world and the things in the world (the things of the flesh) the things the flesh loves will, and can only bring corruption and death. How will we rest if we are asking for the things of the world (the things that are seen) and not for the things of God? (the unseen things by faith)

Galatians 6 **8** For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Matthew 6:23 But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me: for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but **those that be of men**.

Phillipians 3:19 Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, **who mind earthly things.**)

So our hearts desire is God and the things of God so that we may have confidence in our prayers toward Him and his promises. We must have our hope set on Him and not on the world and if we do this will begin to move into his rest. Unbelief and doubt will fall away. Whatever part of us is still bound up to this world we must ask God to free us from and set our hope firmly on what God has laid up for us in eternity, HIM. Our hope is totally in Jesus and his promises and what we are to become. The things of this world must fall away from our hearts because they do not compare with what is ahead of us. Then wrong prayer will wither and die and we will see all our prayers being answered in due season.

Romans 8 **21** Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. **22** For we know that the whole creation groaneth and travaileth in pain together until now. **23** And not only *they*, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, *to wit*, the redemption of our body.

24 For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? **25** But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.

26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

27 And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what *is* the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to *the will of* God.

So we find that to rest in God, to enter into that rest is to simply believe God and to enter into the promises of his word. It is to believe that he has provided everything that we need for salvation and to enter into that provision **by faith** and not by works of the flesh. We enter by trusting that he will do it and that we simply need to believe and rest with patience until God has brought it to pass. It is asking God to bring something into our life that He wants for us (such as forgiving someone) or to take something that is ungodly out of our life (such as self pity). We ask by faith and believe he will do it and do not add to it by trying to bring it to pass our selves with the flesh. We **choose** to obey the Holy Spirit and make the choices he leads us to make in order that we come into Jesus image. We choose to obey then rest knowing that He will bring it to pass. If we try to do it ourself **without resting** then we fall from grace and come back under the law. We are climbing up another way. The Holy Spirit even intercedes for us. We make choices but the Holy Spirit brings it to pass. If our heart is right, **if we love God** all things will work for our good if we **stay under Gods grace**. If we rest. We rest by believing **we can't** but **God can**. We rest by ceasing to help God out. We stay under grace by resting **in Gods grace**.

Romans 8 **28** And we know that all things work together for good to **them that love God**, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose. **29** For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. **30** Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.

Romans 3:28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith **without the deeds of the law**.

Notice, he predestinates, he calls, he justifies, and he glorifies. We rest and believe and cease from our own works. We do not try to make our own way by **fixing ourselves** through the condemnation of the devil who **wants to make us feel like we can help God**. If we think we can fix ourself apart from Gods grace and provision then we fall from grace(because the work is no longer of grace but of our self effort). If we fall from grace then we come back under the law and into condemnation. This is why we must **cease from our works**. Repent of trying to fix ourself. Ask God and then rest. But we must remember to be asking for things that edify the body of Christ and our relationship with God. Don't try to please the flesh. Die to self.

James 4:3 Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts. **4**Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God

1Timothy 1:19 Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck:

James 4 **7** Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. **8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you**. Cleanse *your* hands, *ye* sinners; and **purify your hearts**, *ye* double minded. **9** Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness. **10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord**, and he shall lift you up.

Praying to please the old nature, the old man (the flesh) is shortsighted. God says there will be fiery trials and afflictions and the world will hate us. Our hope is not in the world so when we love God with all our hearts the world has no longer anything to offer us. We are just sojourners passing through, our life is an eternal life in heaven, this world and this flesh will pass away. Our soul and spirit though, -- are of great value to God so much so that he showed us that value by sending Jesus to redeem us. Why please the flesh? devils dwell in the flesh, why serve them? Starve them out, deny them, deny the flesh. Fast and pray and afflict ourselves and overcome the devil. The flesh is of this world and we are to die to the flesh life which will vanish away.

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but *how* to perform that which is good I find not.

James 4 14 Whereas ye know not what *shall be* on the morrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

James 4 9 Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and *your* joy to heaviness. **10** Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up

Joel 2 12 Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: **13** And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil. **14** Who knoweth *if* he will return and repent, and leave a blessing

behind him; *even* a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God? **15** Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

Joel 2 18 Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people. **19** Yea, the LORD will answer and say unto his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:

When we afflict the flesh and turn to God with a pure heart, -- as we overpower the enemy within and starve them of what they want (to appease their lusts through our flesh), we show our faith and overcome the devil and the flesh. We must resist the devil and he will flee! When we do these things we are able to rest because we begin to be able to **believe** totally that God hears us and will answer our prayer because we know we are dead to self and alive to God. Our hope is not in the flesh! We are able to move into and stay in that rest without doubt or fear or unbelief. Our faith becomes strong and our belief is firmly planted on the rock of salvation, Jesus Christ.

Psalm 62 5 My soul, wait thou only upon God; for my expectation *is* from him. **6** He only *is* my rock and my salvation: *he is* my defence; I shall not be moved. **7** In God *is* my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, *and* my refuge, *is* in God. **8** Trust in him at all times; ye people, pour out your heart before him: God *is* a refuge for us. Selah.

2Samuel 22:47 The LORD liveth; and blessed *be* my rock; and exalted be the God of the rock of my salvation.

Psalm 89:26 He shall cry unto me, Thou *art* my father, my God, and the rock of my salvation.

If our heart is right we will then pray correctly, not for the things of this world but for the things of God. When we afflict our flesh and die to this world and turn with all our hearts to God and away from what seems so important in this fleshly life, -- we will see our faith rise. When we pray we will have confidence and full assurance that not only will God hear our prayers but also will answer them. We will remove doubt, fear and unbelief and operate in faith through grace unto a believing heart which is steadfast in God. We will have **entered into the rest of God**. Not by striving in the flesh but by faith in Jesus Christ alone.

Romans 8 31 What shall we then say to these things? If God *be* for us, who *can be* against us? **32** He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things? **33** Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? *It is* God that justifieth. **34** Who *is* he that condemneth? *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. **35** Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? **36** As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. **37** Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. **38** For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, **39** Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

We have all the help we need in the Holy Spirit and we have all the power we need to take dominion over the flesh and the devil to live for God. If our hope is in God then our goal is clear and we are lead easily to our cross(death to the old flesh nature) by the Holy Spirit. If we live to please the flesh then we can easily be lead to destruction and perdition. Remember we have the Spirit of God to guide us and lead us to eternal life, which is our life found in Jesus Body the church.

Romans 8 9 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. **10** And if Christ *be* in you, the **body is dead** because of sin; but the **Spirit is life because of righteousness.** **11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

12 Therefore, brethren, **we are debtors, not to the flesh**, to live after the flesh. **13 For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die:** but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.** **14** For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. **15** For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. **16** The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: **17** And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; **if so be that we suffer with him**, that we may be also glorified together.

We must understand what God wants so that we can have confidence and believe and move into the rest of all His promises. We are not saved for the sake of our flesh but for the sake of our souls. The flesh profits nothing. The flesh is a temporary home, -- but our soul is eternal.

Philippians 2:12 Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

John 6:63 It is the spirit that giveth life; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I have spoken unto you are spirit, and are life.

Father I pray for wisdom, understanding and discernment for all who hear this message. I pray you touch every heart and mind and soul of the listeners and give them ears to hear what you would have them hear Lord. I pray you mend broken hearts and confused minds and set the captives free. I pray for the Holy Spirit fire to be upon this message. May your will be done Lord God over each of us. We ask you to anoint each of us to overcome the flesh and live to you God with a pure heart.