BUDGER BUDGER BUDGER BUDGER **Prayer for Our People Pt.1**

Remember Who we are Praying to – Psalm 8

"LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory in the heavens.² Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger.³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,⁴ what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them? ⁵ You have made them a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.⁶ You made them rulers over the works of your hands; you put everything under their feet:⁷ all flocks and herds, and the animals of the wild,⁸ the birds in the sky, and the fish in the sea, all that swim the paths of the seas.⁹ LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!"

Remember the Invitation to Come and Ask

- reconciled to God through Christ
- invited to ask

- 1 John 5:14 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God that you may know that you have eternal life. ¹⁴ And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. ¹⁵ And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him."

- Matthew 7:7-8 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened"

Remember God Responds – Exodus 32:9-14

- And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. ¹⁰ Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."
- ¹¹ But Moses implored the LORD his God and said.....

And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people."

1. Those with the Equipping Gifts

- Eph. 4:11-13 "¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, ¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes."

- those serving the Bride – equipping, maturing

- International workers, denominational leaders, pastors, elders

2. Important Truths

a) In a Spiritual Battle – Eph. 6:12-13

^{"12} For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³ Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."

- serving gets you noticed
- targeted by the enemy
- targeted by others

b) Prayer Moves the Hand of God - Matt. 18:18-20

- "¹⁸ Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

- given the authority in Jesus to ask protection
- given the authority in Jesus to ask advance
- power in the people of God praying

c) Depending on one Another

Rom. 15:30-31... "I appeal to you, brothers, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God on my behalf, ³¹ that I may be delivered from the unbelievers in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, ³² so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company."

3. What Paul Asks Prayer for...

- Rom. 15

- delivered from unbelievers (protected)

- accepted by those who believe

- 2 Thess. 3:1-4 "Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, ² and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. ³ But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. ⁴ And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command."

- **Col. 4:2-4** "Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. ³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak."

- Eph. 6:18-22 "¹⁸ praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints, ¹⁹ and also for me, that words may be given to me in opening my mouth boldly to proclaim the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains, that I may declare it boldly, as I ought to speak."

So What?

- 1. We are in a Spiritual Battle
 - prayer matters called to support & pray
- 2. Our participation and care is counted on by others
 - go on our behalf
 - family members who are willing to serve
- 3. Pray together for:
 - International Workers
 - Denominational Leaders
 - Elders and Pastors